

**UCLA** Institute of American Cultures

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2024–2025**



**American Indian Studies Center  
Asian American Studies Center  
Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies  
Chicano Studies Research Center**

## Message from the Vice Provost



To say that these times are unprecedented for UCLA and American higher education is an understatement. And yet, the underlying patterns, especially for the communities represented in our centers and for the field of Indigenous and ethnic studies, are unfortunately not new. What provides a measure of hope is the work represented in this brief annual report (we encourage you to visit the center websites for more details) and our on-going projects and commitments. We especially appreciate your support and partnership now.

Sincerely,

David K. Yoo  
Vice Provost & Professor

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## Institute of American Cultures - [iac.ucla.edu](https://iac.ucla.edu)

- The IAC and the ethnic studies centers continued to administer [UC Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowships](#), in partnership with the [Office of Research and Creative Activities](#) (ORCA) as well as part of the [Rising to the Challenge](#), [Hispanic Serving Institution Infrastructure](#), and the [Bruins Rising](#) initiatives. The IAC and the Chicano Studies Research Center have further benefitted from the support and leadership of ORCA on UCLA research seed grant programs focused on racial and social justice and Latinx studies.
- IAC partnered with [Gold Shield Alumnae](#) in sponsoring four undergraduate student summer internships that involved working with community partners in advancing inclusive excellence. The Gold Shield Summer 2024 interns were Anjelique Pinn (AISC), Vivian Nguyen (AASC), Divine Oludimu (Bunche), and Anthony Cornejo (CSRC).
- The IAC Fall Forum on October 22, 2024, featured 2024–25 IAC Postdoctoral Scholars, Pablo Millalen Lepin, Randeep Singh Hothi, Audrey Devost, and Bernardette Pinetta. Topics included, “*Forestry and its Environmental Impacts in Chile: Experiences from the Mapuche Community*,” “*Sikh Media: Sovereignty, Religion, and Race*,” “*Creating Pathways for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education: The Role of Undergraduate Research*,” and “*Cultivating Learning Environments for Adolescents’ Critical Race Consciousness*.”
- On May 14, 2025, Professor William Gow (CSU Sacramento) had a discussion with filmmaker and professor Renee Tajima-Peña from UCLA's Asian American Studies Department about his new book, ***Performing Chinatown*** (Stanford University Press, 2024). The event was held at the Charles E. Young Research Library and generously supported by the Stanley Kwok Lau and Dora Wong Lau Endowment in Chinese American Studies at the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. **(Picture right)**
- [View a complete list](#) of the 2024–25 IAC Visiting Scholars, Graduate/Predoctoral Fellows, Research Grant Awardees, and the Shirley Hune Awardee.





## American Indian Studies Center - [aisc.ucla.edu](https://aisc.ucla.edu)

### Events and Programming

This year, the AISC offered a vibrant collection of events covering a wide range of timely and poignant topics, including California tribal culture, Indigenous historical narratives, and anti-colonial perspectives on borderlands. We provided assistance to the UCLA American Indian Student Association (AISA) by contributing to the organization of the 40th annual UCLA Pow Wow and UCLA Native Graduation Ceremony. Some of our most notable events of the year are highlighted below:

- **Native Graduation Class of 2025:** On June 13, 2025, we celebrated the achievements of more than 25 undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students. We were thrilled to have the Honorable Deb Haaland (*image right*), enrolled member of the Laguna Pueblo and the former Secretary of the Interior give the keynote address as well as receive the Chancellor's Medal of Honor in recognition of her impactful career and achievements. We were so proud to be able to celebrate this truly exceptional Native Bruin, who, in addition to her long list of impressive accomplishments, may become the next Governor of New Mexico (our fingers are crossed for you, Deb!).



Native Graduating Class of 2025

- **40th Annual UCLA Pow Wow:** AISC supported the UCLA Pow Wow again this year. Organized by Tatiana Crow and Coral Galvan-Bradley, the Pow Wow included Master of Ceremonies Walter Ahhaitty, Arena Director Adam Loya, Head Man Dancer Sam Sierra, Head Woman Dancer Alicia Lambarena, Head Young Man Dancer Julius Phoenix, Head Young Woman Dancer Jocelynn Phoenix, Head Gourd Steve Bohay, and the Golden State Gourd Society Color Guard. The Host Northern Drum was Sharp Shooter, and the Host Southern Drum was Hale & Company, The Outgoing Pow Wow Princess was Maritza Barley.
- **What Side Are You On?: Presentation and Q&A with authors Michael Steven Wilson and José Antonio Lucero.** On April 17, 2025, the AISC hosted a well-attended book talk with renowned human rights activist Michael Wilson and coauthor José Antonio Lucero. In this collaboratively written memoir, Wilson brings his experiences to life and Lucero adds political and historical context. Together they offer a highly original portrait of O'odham life across borders that sheds light on the struggles and resilience of Native peoples across the Americas. This was a successful event packed with attendees, who participated in a lively and timely discussion with the authors.

### BRAID (Books & Resources for American Indians in Detention)

The BRAID program continues to draw on the \$10,000 in donations it received in 2023, funding a work-study student and the purchase of requested books. AISC's Deputy Director, Chloe Badze, and BRAID Coordinator Andrea Hernández, work together on the program's daily operations. We have also been cultivating new community connections, specifically through our prison justice work with BRAID, in order to bolster our fundraising efforts and impact. In May, BRAID was invited to host a table at a Book Drive for LA County Jails. This grassroots event generated 500 book donations and fundraised \$1,555 to be shared among the participating prison justice organizations. These community connections and grassroots efforts are especially important given the current challenges and remain a priority for AISC moving forward.

Additionally, we debuted an updated mission statement for BRAID to reflect the ongoing development and refinement of the program's goals: "BRAID (Books & Resources for American Indians in Detention) supports incarcerated Indigenous peoples by providing access to culturally relevant and tribally specific books and materials. The goal is to ensure that Indigenous populations in prison can engage with their histories, languages, and traditions. BRAID is a decolonial intervention, challenging the ongoing violence of the carceral system by nurturing indigenous knowledge, identity, and tradition."

### **American Indian Culture and Research Journal**

In print since 1971, the *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* is an internationally renowned multidisciplinary journal designed for scholars, community members, and the general public. One of the premier journals in Native American and Indigenous Studies, it publishes reviews of recent works and articles in the fields of history, anthropology, geography, sociology, political science, health, literature, law, education, and the arts.

Three issues of the Journal were published this year.

- Volume 47, Number 3 is a special issue titled ***“Still Bad Indians,”*** featuring articles spotlighting the influence of Deborah Miranda’s field-shifting book, ***Bad Indians: A Tribal Memoir***, in the decade since its first publication. The issue is curated and guest edited by Mark Minch-de Leon, with contributions by Caitlin Keliiaa, William J. Bauer, Stephanie Lumsden, Melissa Leal, Amrah Salomón, Michelle Napoli, Cj Jackson, and Miranda herself.
- Volume 48, Number 1 is another special issue entitled ***“Language Lives in Unexpected Places,”*** guest-edited by Georgia Ennis and Erin Debenport. The contributing essayists detail the strides made against cultural disappearance through the continued reclamation of Indigenous languages. They include Barbra A. Meek, Joseph Marks, Cesar A. Barreras, Paul V. Kroskrity, Karl Swinehart, Christina Laree Newhall, and Bernard C. Perley.
- Volume 48, Number 2 examines topics such as the effects of self-compassion on Indigenous well-being; how community development financial institutions have gained for the Native community financial access to capital and credit; a dissection of the rhetorical obfuscation in the language of public apologies for residential schools in Canada; and the fundamental values and principles that guide the leadership of Native Hawaiian school leaders in Hawaiian-focused charter schools. Authors include Sydney Beckmann, Nichaela Garvey, Ashley J. W. Daniels, and Mylène Yannick Gamache.



### **Race in the Global Past through Indigenous Perspectives**

Fiscal year 2024-25 was the second year of the three-year, \$1 million Mellon Foundation Grant, which began July 1, 2023 and runs until June 30, 2026. Zrinka Stahuljak and Shannon Speed are the project’s co-PIs, and the grant is a partnership with the Center for Early Global Studies. This project initiated a substantive collaboration between UCLA and California Native and Indigenous communities in service of creating disciplinary pathways and improving the institutional climate that will counter the lack of Native epistemes in academic disciplines and buttress conditions for recruitment and retention of Indigenous faculty in the University. It is inspired by the belief that an effective challenge to epistemic and institutional exclusion needs to be informed by the knowledge of how we have a racialized past. On the side of the epistemic, collaborative cohorts composed of Native American and Indigenous community scholars-in-residence, UCLA faculty and students, and postdoctoral fellows, in consultation with a Community Advisory Council, are working to compare and co-learn the historical articulations of “race” in different parts of the globe in the period broadly defined as “premodern” or “pre-/early colonial.” On the institutional side, which attends to race through Native lenses in the global comparative context, we will embed Native and Indigenous community scholars into the institutional knowledge production and content creation via yearlong residencies at UCLA. At the same time, researchers affiliated with this project are embarking on a substantive institutional reflection on ancestral knowledge and knowledge-bearing practices in the implementation of NAGPRA and CalNAGPRA (California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act), with the aim to transform the University’s relationship with California Native and Indigenous communities (from extraction to collaboration, from curation to care, from domination of artifacts and objects to sovereignty over things, knowledge, and land).

Notably, this year we produced two successful community-based workshops under the umbrella of this project that continued the conversation about how to center Native and Indigenous historical narratives in order to change how the history of humanity is conceived, written, and transmitted in institutions of higher education such as UCLA, and more broadly in the world.

## **Asian American Studies Center - [aasc.ucla.edu](https://aasc.ucla.edu)**

The Asian American Studies Center (AASC) accomplished major breakthroughs in the 2024-25 academic year. The hard work and dedication of the staff along with support from faculty, students, donors, and the many constituencies associated with the AASC deserves much recognition. The three—The Native American and Pacific Islander Bruins Rising, AAPI Policy, the AAPI Multimedia Textbook Project—reached many milestones this year. Here are the highlights:

### ***Native American and Pacific Islander Bruins Rising Initiative (BRI)***

Professor Keith Camacho was appointed Associate Director of the AASC to oversee the initiative. The AASC began implementation with three successive rounds of faculty searches starting with the hire of Associate Professor Lisa Uperesa in the Asian American Studies Department in 2023, followed by Angela Robinson (Theater), Kyle Yoshida (Mechanical Engineering) and Rebecca Delafield (Community Health Sciences) in 2024. We hired Kekoa Taparra, Ph.D. and M.D. in the Department of Health Policy and Management and Radiation Oncology. 2025-26 searches were not pursued due to a UCLA-wide pause on hiring. The AASC continues to participate on the BRI Implementation Committee.

### ***AAPI Policy Initiative***

The aim of the AAPI Policy Initiative is to support and produce research in collaboration with community organizations and policy makers to uplift AAPI perspectives in civic life and public decision making in California and U.S. It includes over 20 faculty advisory committee members and researchers who conduct public-facing, policy-oriented, and applied research and is led by Professor Natalie Masuoka. The initiative focused on: 1) Producing policy reports to address the needs of Asian Americans (e.g. “Asian American Voter Access in L.A. County” and “Asian American Language Needs in L.A. Wildfires”); 2) Organizing content for the Center’s website to improve; 3) Developing curriculum for a policy focused Asian American studies class; 4) Strengthening relations with community partners and elected officials; and 5) Creating a faculty executive committee for the policy initiative.

### ***AAPI Multimedia Textbook***

In June 2022, the California State Legislature allocated \$10 million to the AASC for the creation of an online multimedia textbook, entitled ***Foundations and Futures***. The focus in 2024-2025 has been on editing, production, licensing and ingestion of the materials submitted by authors along with fundraising. We are on track to complete the most of the 50 textbook chapters by the end of the calendar year, with a public launch anticipated for Winter 2026. Fundraising efforts in FY 2025 yielded \$424,125, and we held four donor cultivation events in Los Angeles and New York. Chapters were beta tested by 100 teachers and over 4,000 students, a number of improvements were made, and new features added. Outreach expanded and our team was present at 24 local, regional, and national conferences and convenings where we presented on panels, ran workshops, and hosted tables to network with attendees.

### ***Events Programming***

AASC hosted and co-hosted 52 events with more than 3,574 people in attendance, including a book talk with Mae Ngai for Corky Lee’s *Asian America: Fifty Years of Photographic Justice*, Pasifika Community Reception for new Pacific Islander Studies faculty and staff, David Nishida and Tina Yamano Nishida Distinguished Lecture and Panel featuring keynote speaker Helen Zia, Julie Ha, and Amber Phung. We also hosted a celebration to install Professor Lisa Uperesa as the new endowed chair holder for the Morgan and Helen Chu Endowed Chair in Asian American Studies.

### ***Grant, Fellowship, Scholarship, Internship and Academic Prize Awards program***

The AASC funded 32 awards for both graduate and undergraduate students for a total amount of \$98,426. In addition, the AASC awarded \$60,000 through the IAC predoctoral, graduate student fellowship, and research grants programs for faculty, post-docs, and students. The Center also hosted two ORCA-IAC Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellows.





**UCLA Pasifika Community Reception**

Welcome Celebration for newly hired Pacific Islander Studies faculty and staff on October 19, 2025, at Calgary Apostolic Tabernacle. These historic hirings are part of UCLA's commitment to support the success of the Pasifika community through the Native American and Pacific Islander Bruins Rising Initiative. This gathering offered an opportunity to come together as community leaders and strengthen campus and community partnerships.



**Professor Lisa Uperesa Appointed to Morgan and Helen Chu Endowed Chair in Asian American Studies**

Celebration to install Asian American Studies Professor Lisa Uperesa as the new endowed chair holder for the Morgan and Helen Chu Endowed Chair in Asian American Studies on November 20, 2024, at Palomar Hotel.

**L to R:** Juliann Anesi (UCLA Gender Studies), Jerry Kang (UCLA Law), Fele Uperesa (Lisa's sister), Keith Camacho (UCLA Asian American Studies), Karen Umemoto (AASC Director), Morgan Chu (UCLA Alumni & Donor), Helen Chu (UCLA Alumni & Donor), Lisa Uperesa (Asian American Studies), Avienda Uperesa Raygoza (Lisa's daughter), Abel Valenzuela (Dean, College of Social Sciences), Natalie Masuoka (Political Science/Asian American Studies), Santana Uperesa Raygoza (Lisa's daughter), Melany De La Cruz-Viesca (AASC Deputy Director), John C. Fossum (UCLA Donor), David Yoo (Vice Provost, Institute of American Cultures)



**Nishida Distinguished Lecture & Panel: An Asian American Writer's Notebook: Past, Present, and Future Tense**

David Nishida and Tina Yamano Nishida Distinguished Lecture and Panel on May 29, 2025, at UCLA Harry and Yvonne Lenart Auditorium featuring keynote speaker Helen Zia, activist, journalist and author, in conversation with Julie Ha, Journalist & co-director of "Free Chol Soo Lee" documentary and Amber Phung, Journalist with *Pacific Ties* newsmagazine.

**L to R:** Pic 1: Helen Zia, Pic 2: Karen Umemoto (AASC Director), Helen Zia (Journalist, Author, Activist), Amber Phung (UCLA Student/Pacific Ties Journalist), Julie Ha (Filmmaker, Journalist), Melany De La Cruz-Viesca (AASC Deputy Director), Pic 3: Suzi Wong (UCLA Alumni)



Foundations and Futures Asian American and Pacific Islander Multimedia Textbook hosted a one-day teacher training workshop on July 3, 2025, at UCLA Extension as part of our Foundations and Futures Teaching Fellowship that was facilitated by Darlene Lee and supported by Eunice Ho. This program was offered as part of the UCLA Ethnic Studies Certificate Program for K-12 Educators, a collaboration of UCLA Center X, the UCLA Institute for American Culture, and UCLA Extension. Photos are from the training and feature fellows and instructor Darlene Lee (**Center, top picture**).

## Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies - [bunchecenter.ucla.edu](https://bunchecenter.ucla.edu)

- Retained ongoing annual funding of \$3 million in the California State budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Since 2018, state funding has supported faculty-led initiatives such as Black Policy Project, Million Dollar Hoods, Bunche Fellows Program, Hip Hop Initiative, Department of African American Studies, Arthur Ashe Legacy Project, Prison Education Project, and Ethnic Studies Certificate Program. In AY 2024-25, state funding also supported initiatives such as the Collaborative Multiracial Post-election Survey, Sawyer Summer Institute, Academic Advancement Program as well as Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. We have also co-sponsored a host of UCLA and local community events.
- The Collaborative Multiracial Post-election Survey (CMPS) was fielded in 2025 – a non-partisan, cooperative, multiracial/ethnic, multilingual, post-Presidential election online survey in the United States promoting better understanding of civic health and socio-political life. With its 5th cycle, the survey builds on the highly successful, pioneering 2016 and 2020 cooperative survey projects to further broaden the scope of access to high-quality national survey data with large samples of racial, ethnic, and other identity groups in the United States. To date, over 100 academic research articles, books and monographs feature data from the CMPS.
- The Hip Hop Initiative (HHI) released the documentary film *In the Hour of Chaos: Hip Hop Art & Activism with Public Enemy's Chuck D* highlighting Chuck D's time at UCLA as HHI's inaugural artist-in-residence. The film put a spotlight on the transformative power of Hip Hop with some of the nation's most insightful thinkers on the art form's social, cultural, and political significance.
- HHI's Hip Hop Studies Book Series continued to produce cutting-edge work on Hip Hop Culture, with two new manuscripts appearing this year: *"Nairobi Hip Hop Flow: Diasporic Blackness and Embodied Performance in the Underground"* by RaShelle R. Peck and *"Values That Pay: Complicity, Sincerity, and Hip Hop in Contemporary Moroccan Life"* by Kendra Salois."
- Million Dollar Hoods deepened relationships with community partners and supported the Los Angeles and National criminal justice community through various participatory research projects over the years. This included hosting focus groups and analyzing survey data from the participatory budgeting process of the People's Budget LA which culminated in presenting to several decision-making bodies, including the LAUSD school board, LA City Council, LA County Board of Supervisors, and California State Legislature in Sacramento.



*In the Hour of Chaos: Hip Hop & Activism with Public Enemy's Chuck D* Documentary Screening on June 2, 2025, Hammer Museum.

**L to R:** Dr. H Samy Alim, Joan Morgan, Chuck D, and Jeff Chang. (Photo credit: Leroy Hamilton)



**Bunche Fellows Program 5th Anniversary Celebration, Honoring Founding Director, Dr. Walter Allen and Past/Current Fellows**, May 29, 2025, Luskin Conference Center.

Photo includes Bunche Fellows, teaching assistants as well as program past and current faculty/staff leadership. (Photo credit: Leroy Hamilton)

University in topics ranging from microbiology to anthropology. The Center has now supported nearly 100 undergraduate and graduate fellows combined.

- The Black Policy Project (BPP) worked with the Los Angeles Mayor's Office to design, develop, and implement a research and community engagement process to determine current perspectives, needs, and visions for community safety in city neighborhoods while fostering meaningful community dialogue. The findings from this project will guide multi-disciplinary policies and programmatic initiatives for the Mayor's Office. As part of this effort, BPP conducted a series of (15) community listening sessions with over 200 residents across the city, developed and implemented a representative survey with over



5,000 respondents, and documented research findings from these efforts, which were presented to Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and members of her administration.

- Over the 2024-25 academic year, the Black Policy Project secured over \$2.5 million in private and public grant funding.
- In AY 2024-2025, the Arthur Ashe Legacy Project celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Arthur Ashe's Wimbledon victory with educational initiatives, historical preservation projects, and fundraising efforts. This included launching the Global Youth Leadership Academy (GYLA), aimed at cultivating a new generation of ethical and globally minded leaders inspired by Ashe's values and vision, and developing a comprehensive year-long program of instruction based on AAL's oral history project.
- The Mark Q. Sawyer Summer Institute, funded by the UC Office of the President's, the UC-Historically Black College and University (HBCU) initiative hosted HBCU students to provide training in research methods and mentorship opportunities to successfully promote more students of color pursuing post-undergraduate degrees at UCLA. Fellows participated in research rigorous course curriculum, writing groups, cultural activities, scholarly workshops, and graduate application packet preparation sessions. The students presented their academic research at the National McNair Summer Research conference on July 26, 2025, and the National Conference of Black Political Scientists on March 21, 2025.
- The Bunche Center hosted and co-sponsored the 40th Anniversary of the Making of *We Are the World* and the Creation of United Support of Artists for Africa (USA for Africa) on April 14, 2025. This commemoration event included a reception, private documentary screening of *Stand Together As One: The Famine, The Music, The Impact* and Q&A Discussion Panel following the screening.
- The Bunche Center launched a new partnership with The Blackbird House to provide 14 Academic Writing Fellowships to Faculty and Postdoctoral Scholars. These fellowships support UCLA Faculty who are members of the Bunche Center Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) to promote academic writing, scholarship, networking and professional development opportunities that broaden the networks and reach of academic research on Black life.
- The Bunche Community Fund awarded over \$108,000 in (15) small grants to support faculty-led events and activities that enhance the cultural and intellectual community for Black studies at UCLA and within Los Angeles.
- The Bunche Center awarded over \$150,000 in scholarships and awards to UCLA Graduate and Undergraduate Students.
- The Bunche Center continued to administer several programs as part of the Rising to the Challenge (RTC) initiative, including selecting (3) recent PhDs as Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellows.
- The Bunche Center library hired two library assistants and a digital archivist assistant, supporting work to take in, catalog, and preserve current and future digital materials held by the Bunche Library. Key deliverables of the library included supporting the *Archiving the Age of Mass Incarceration* LAPD Files, a Reading Library, and other cataloging based activities.



#### 2024-2025 Bunche Fellows Program (BFP) 5th Cohort

**Top Row L-R:** Anthony Yahya, Ebba Tefera; **3rd Row:** Jordan Felder, Mysaiah Duke, Savannah Hunt, Laila Wheeler; **2nd Row:** Isaiah Lytle-Hernandez, Aannarah Gage, Zhara Caple, Katarina Schroeter, Sydney Shepherd, Khadijat Solebo; **1st Row:** Asha Fletcher, Dr. Ketema Paul, Dr. Courtney Thomas Tobin, Passion Lord, Dr. Lorrie Frasure. (Photo credit: Sedgwick McCray)



#### 40th Anniversary of the Making of *We Are the World* and the Creation of United Support of Artists for Africa (USA for Africa), April 14, 2025, Luskin Conference Center.

**Top L to R:** Dr. Walter Allen, Edward Rada, Chip Duncan, Salim Amin, Dr. Menna Demessie, Dr. Akwasi Aidoo, Mark Randazzo  
**Below L to R:** Dr. Lorrie Frasure, Gina Belafonte, Marcia Thomas



## Chicano Studies Research Center - [chicano.ucla.edu](http://chicano.ucla.edu)

### HSI Infrastructure Initiative

- CSRC welcomed Osvaldo Gutierrez, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, as the inaugural Senior HSI STEM Faculty Director. In June, Gutierrez launched a “Cafecito con STEM” series, co-organized by CSRC and Physical Sciences, to improve STEM student success.
- CSRC Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) members participated in 4 successful recruitments of faculty with strong academic records related to Latinx experiences and the academic success of first-generation and low-income students. New faculty will enter chemistry and biochemistry, family medicine, political science, and Spanish and Portuguese in 2025-26.
- CSRC FAC participated in the recruitment and mentorship of the fourth and final cohort of UCLA Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellows as part of the HSI initiative. The incoming 5 fellows will be hosted in anthropology, chemistry and biochemistry, Chicana/o and Central American studies, communications, and political science. A sixth fellow will join the department of history, supported by the Office for Research and Creative Activities (ORCA) in partnership with the Institute of American Cultures (IAC).



**L to R:** Miguel García-Garibay, dean of the Division of Physical Sciences; Osvaldo Gutierrez, inaugural HSI STEM faculty director; and Veronica Terriquez, CSRC director, at a welcome event for Professor Gutierrez, March 10, 2025.

### External Affairs

- CSRC received \$632,296 in new grants and contracts and \$75,061 from 128 individual gifts for CSRC projects, programs, and student support.
- CSRC launched the development program “CSRC Arts Books for HSIs” to provide greater accessibility within the HSI community to award-winning CSRC Press arts publications.
- CSRC was mentioned in 73 earned media features, previews, and blogs.

### Research

- CSRC’s [Thriving Youth Study \(TYS\)](#) concluded. This mixed-methods research initiative focused on transitions to adulthood launched in Oxnard in 2022 and then expanded to Northern Santa Barbara County and East Coachella Valley in 2023, and Imperial Valley and Santa Cruz County in 2024. Researchers synthesized data to inform health, education, labor, and civic interventions to help young residents and their communities thrive. Thirteen reports were published in 2024-25 and released at community events in Imperial Valley, Oxnard, and Santa Cruz. Five additional reports from the East Coachella Valley will be published in November 2025.
- CSRC continued its youth-centered research project [California Freedom Summer \(CFS\)](#), which trained and placed students ages 16-21 as Summer 2024 interns and action researchers in 501(c)3 non-profit organizations throughout California. In 2024–25, the focus turned to the Central Valley and the Central Coast, where students selected from UCs, community colleges, and high school communities throughout the state analyzed youth civic knowledge, gender dynamics, and political efficacy. CFS informs academic discourse and community-based strategies to strengthen democracy and promote youth leadership.



CSRC director Veronica Terriquez (front row, second from L) and CSRC senior officer of community-engaged research Chantiri Abarca (front row, far R) pose with commissioner and USC distinguished professor of sociology Manuel Pastor (front row, far left), Imperial Valley College students and faculty, and local community leaders at a Thriving Youth Study presentation on March 19, 2025.

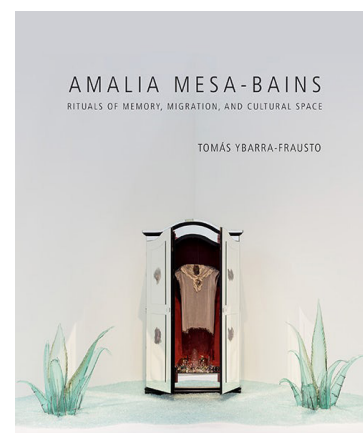
- The [Latina Futures 2050 Lab \(LFL\)](#), led by the CSRC in partnership with the UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Institute (LPPI) and supported by a \$15 million state budget allocation, entered its third year of advancing research and programming that highlights the multidimensional histories, voices, and contributions of Latinas. CSRC finalized infrastructure; organized and co-sponsored groundbreaking public events; processed Latina-focused archival collections at the CSRC Library; hosted an Op-Ed bootcamp (“Our Unsilencing”); published original research on Latina labor, wage gaps, and wellbeing; and strengthened partnerships internal and external to UCLA. For a second year in a row, Latina Futures also supported teachers in receiving training in Ethnic Studies through the IAC and Center X to help ensure Latina voices are represented in the roll out of the California high school Ethnic Studies requirement.

### Library

- CSRC Library received 78 archival research applications from 56 unique patrons. In addition, the Library received over 450 general research requests via email.
- The Latina Futures 2050 Lab supported the processing of 49 linear feet of archival material, with another 29 linear feet currently in progress.
- CSRC archival materials were used in a combined 11 books, articles, television specials, and documentaries, including **Asco: Without Permission** (2025), the opening night feature at the 2025 Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival (LALIFF).
- CSRC Library maintained service learning and extracurricular training and internship programs, accepting 2 graduate students from the School of Education and Information Studies to help process and preserve collections as part of two major grant initiatives: **Developing a Spanish-language Homosaurus** and **Latina Futures 2050 Lab**.

### Press

- CSRC Press won 3 international book awards: In the 2025 Independent Publisher Book Awards, [Amalia Mesa-Bains: Rituals of Memory, Migration, and Cultural Space](#), by Tomás Ybarra-Frausto, received the Gold Medal in the History category and [“There Are No Hispanic Stars!” Collected Writings of a Latino Film Critic in Hollywood, 1921–1939](#), edited and translated by Colin Gunckel and Laura Isabel Serna, received the Bronze Medal in the Popular Culture category. In the 2024 International Latino Book Awards, [“There Are No Hispanic Stars!”](#) won a Bronze Medal for Best History Book.



### Community Relations

- CSRC expanded its community outreach and formed new partnerships statewide for collaborative research and funding opportunities focused on young people, immigrants, women, and BIPOC communities. New partners include Central Coast Labor Council, Hmong Innovating Politics, Little Manila Rising, Asian American and Pacific Islanders for Civic Empowerment Education Fund, United American Indian Movement, and CLINICAS del Camino Real.
- CSRC organized or co-sponsored 67 online and in-person public events and lent materials to 9 external museum and community partner exhibitions in the U.S., which combined were seen by approximately 225,000 people. Major events organized by the CSRC were [“Latina Futures and Environment: A Día de los Muertos Tribute to Cindy Montañez and Unfinished Struggles for Justice”](#) and the exhibition [On the Side of Angels: Latina Lesbian Activism](#) at the Vincent Price Art Museum and curated by CSRC staff.



An altar at the CSRC event, “Latina Futures and Environment: A Día de los Muertos Tribute to Cindy Montañez and Unfinished Struggles for Justice,” November 1, 2024.



The UCLA logo, consisting of the letters "UCLA" in white, bold, sans-serif font, set against a solid blue rectangular background.

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