Starting the New Academic Year with a Celebration & a New Name!

We have some big news to share: the Research Center for the Americas is being renamed in honor of civil rights and feminist icon Dolores Huerta. Huerta has long influenced our work and values as a center and has been an inspiration to us. The Dolores Huerta Research Center for the Americas will be expanding its programs in ways that align with and honor her legacy and impact. The center has launched a crowdsource fundraising initiative to support these efforts. Please consider making a donation today.

We mark this joyous occasion with Dolores Huerta on Oct. 20, 2022, at our 30th anniversary celebration and will hear an inspiring keynote address from Cristina Jiménez, co-founder of United We Dream, the largest immigrant youth-led organization in the country. The Dolores Huerta Research Center for the Americas will continue its programming as part of the theme "Mobilities and Belonging." We look forward to continuing to create spaces for interdisciplinary dialogues that deepen our understanding of this theme. We begin with our first in-person event, an all-day international symposium with the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP) in Brazil, titled “The Far-Right and Democracy: Brazil and the Américas” on Sept. 28, from 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. in Humanities 1, Room 210.

Please be sure to follow us on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook.

Saludos,
Sylvanna M. Falcón
30th Anniversary Celebration: Sharing Futures, Speaking Truths

October 20, 2022
5:00–10:00pm
Cowell Ranch Hay Barn

Tickets on sale now: rca.ucsc.edu

30th Anniversary Celebration: Sharing Futures, Speaking Truths

Thursday, October 20
5–10 p.m.
(program begins at 6 p.m.)
Location: Cowell Ranch Hay Barn, UC Santa Cruz

You’ll be added to a wait list when tickets sell out
We are thrilled to be honoring Dolores Huerta, founder and president of the Dolores Huerta Foundation, to officially celebrate the center’s new name. Along with an inspiring keynote speech by Cristina Jiménez, community organizer and co-founder of United We Dream, tickets to this celebration includes dancing with DJ, empanadas and desserts, photo booth, and more. Purchase your ticket today, before our event sells out. Visit our 30th Anniversary Facebook event page & follow us on Instagram for more information! Thank you to our numerous campus and community sponsors: Office of the Chancellor, Division of Social Sciences, Humanities Division, Arts Division, Institute for Social Transformation, The Humanities Institute, Institute for the Arts & Sciences, John R. Lewis College, Latin American & Latino Studies Department, Baskin Endowed Chair of Feminist Studies, Bookshop Santa Cruz, and Pajarosa Floral.

Renaming the Research Center for the Americas in honor of Dolores Huerta recognizes and permanently enshrines her extraordinary legacy at a time when the current political tides—from efforts to ban books to the erosion of civil and human rights—seek to write leaders like Huerta out of history. The RCA at UC Santa Cruz is proud to bear Dolores Huerta’s name. Now we need your help: For the next few weeks leading up to a special anniversary celebration on Oct. 20, where the center will officially be renamed, we are raising funds to establish an endowment that will support the Dolores Huerta Research Center for the Americas in perpetuity. Thanks to an anonymous donor, the first $50,000 contributed to the endowment will be matched one-for-one, so give today to double your impact!

FALL EVENTS
“The Far-Right and Democracy: Brazil and the Américas”

An International Symposium in collaboration with State University of Campinas (UNICAMP) in Brazil

Wednesday, September 28,
9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Location: Humanities 1, Room 210 at the UC Santa Cruz campus

This international symposium will bring together Brazilian social scientists from the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP) and faculty and doctoral students from UC Santa Cruz to reflect on the political and cultural effects of the rise of the far-right in the Américas and its impacts on democracy. The panels will focus on: 1) Indigenous Rights and Resistance in the Américas; 2) Race, Gender, and Class in
RCA Steering Committee member and Literature professor Kirsten Silva Gruesz lead a team that has been awarded a $310,000 Mellon-funded grant from the Crossing Latinidades Initiative on the theme, “The Latinx Past: Archive, Memory, Speculation.” The Graduate Fellow for the working group is PhD candidate of Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS) and RCA award recipient Mario Gómez-Zamora.
Professor Catherine Ramírez, RCA affiliated faculty and chair of LALS, also won a $310,000 Crossing Latinidades grant on the working group “Bioprecarity: Latinx Migrants, Captivity, and Resistance.”

In addition, LALS graduate student and RCA award recipient Jennifer Figueroa, has been selected to join a Crossing Latinidades working group to further her research on how Latino parents in Ventura County have organized for equity in education.

Assistant Professor Juan Pedroza of Sociology and an RCA Steering Committee member, had an essay published in Contexts titled "Uneven Migration Enforcement" in which he discusses how deportations and immigrant population data reveals that immigration enforcement disproportionately affects immigrants from Haiti and Central America.

RCA Steering Committee member and History of Art and Visual Culture professor Jennifer Gonzalez, had a book chapter titled “After Rivera: Iconoclastic Mestizaje,” published in Diego Rivera’s America (2022), edited by James Oles.

RCA Steering Committee member and Arts professor Jennifer Maytorena Taylor produced and directed two short pieces about Doña Lorenza Martínez, an internationally renowned chef of traditional Zapotec/Oaxacan food who runs a backyard restaurant outside her house in Seaside, California and the ways in which she and her community incorporate Día de los Muertos celebrations into their daily and spiritual lives. The pieces will run as part of a nationally broadcast PBS music special this Fall.
Professor John Jota Leaños of Film and Digital Media and RCA Steering Committee member directed and edited the film *Ghostly Labor* working with farmworkers and their families through the non-profit farmworker advocacy group ALAS *(Ayudando Latinos a Soñar)* in collaboration with Vanessa Sanchez and her dance company, La Mezcla. The film, shot on a Half Moon Bay farm in collaboration with a Latino grower, has won the Best Film in the WILDSOUND Film Festival (Toronto) and has been officially accepted into several film festivals.

Professor Leaños also has a 3-Channel video installation entitled, “Prayer for Redress,” deals with the legacy of Indian residential schools throughout the Americas can be seen in the exhibition “*Contemporary Ex-Voto: Devotion Beyond Medium*” at the New Mexico State University Art Museum, September 30–December 22, 2022, curated by Dr. Emmanuel Ortega (Assistant Professor at University of Illinois, Chicago).
History Professor Matt O'Hara and RCA Steering Committee member published one piece titled "In the Shadows of Curare: Histories and pre-Histories of Pharmaceutical Research in the Amazon" in the History of Pharmacy and Pharmaceuticals and a second piece titled "How to Read the Rock Face?: Getting Old in the Archive of Postcolonial Mexico" in the Hispanic American Historical Review.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Congratulations to the 2022 Lionel Cantú Memorial Award recipients:

- **Bree Booth**, Ph.D. student in Latin American and Latino Studies
- **Rafael Franco-Flores**, Ph.D. student in Literature
- **Rosa Maria Navarro**, Ph.D. student in Sociology

IN MEMORIAM
The RCA mourns the passing of internationally-recognized scholar-activist Susanne Jonas. A long-time affiliated faculty member, Professor Jonas was a long-time educator in the Latin American and Latino Studies department. Read the moving tribute written by Professor Gabriela Arredondo, RCA Steering Committee member and associate professor of LALS, about her incredible life as a scholar-activist and the impact she had on her UC Santa Cruz students.
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

All applications are due October 31, 2021 by 5 p.m. PST

RCA Faculty Research Awards
This award supports research in areas of specialization for the RCA in Chicano, Latinx, and/or Latin American, migration, and human rights studies by UC Santa Cruz faculty. Apply here.

RCA Research Cluster Awards
Research Clusters are collaborative research groups with UC Santa Cruz faculty and/or graduate students. Clusters independently organize activities, such as reading groups, workshops, symposia, conferences, and lectures. Apply here.

RCA Graduate Student Grants
These grants help fund research expenses for UC Santa Cruz graduate students in good academic standing in Chicano, Latinx, and/or Latin American, migration, and human rights studies, such as research or conference travel, software packages, transcription, and other research supplies. Apply here.

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