



The 2019 UC Santa Cruz Activist-in-Residence Program¹

[UC Santa Cruz's Research Center for the Americas](#) (RCA) is proud to announce a new initiative: the UC Santa Cruz's Activist-in-Residence Program during 2019 Winter quarter (with the possibility of extension through Spring). Founded in 1992, the RCA (formerly known as the Chicano Latino Research Center) supports and promotes collaborative and interdisciplinary research on Chicanx/Latinx Studies, Latin America, migration, human rights, the arts, education, culture, indigeneity, labor, and California's Latino and immigrant communities. The RCA has a commitment to bridging Santa Cruz County communities and the university through public scholarship and service. We see this residency program as an ideal new opening in which to introduce new collaborative opportunities for faculty and students with local community leaders.

Eligibility

The UC Santa Cruz Activist-in-Residence program is designed for people who have demonstrated leadership in nonprofit and community-serving organizations. Interested applicants should:

- Be 18 or older; live and/or work in the Santa Cruz, San Benito, or Monterey counties; and **not be a current UC Santa Cruz university student or employee.**
- Be available part-time during the residency period for 9-10 hours per week (which can include 1 hour of Office Hours per week).
- Currently works full-time or recently held a leadership position at a community group or government agency that works for underserved low-income, immigrant, and communities of color.
- Proven commitment to working for progressive social change and social justice.
- Be interested in building a cross-disciplinary network of leaders and scholars affiliated with UC Santa Cruz.
- Present a clearly articulated project statement about what the applicant hopes to gain from the residency and what issues the applicant would like to explore. For example, how will the residency be an opportunity for reflection and renewal, in addition to working on and addressing a complex challenges facing our community.

Expectations of the Residency

The RCA understands the identity of "activist" to be defined broadly. An activist can be an artist, a community change maker, an educator, and/or a community advocate. An activist is someone who is committed to social change, to progressive reform, and to strengthening our local community. Too often, activist work is unrecognized, tiring, and demanding. The objective of this residency is to give the selected applicant an opportunity to access university research resources, and have the time and space to engage with UC Santa Cruz students and faculty on their ongoing or future social justice oriented work in line with the RCA's mission.

Our mission is to find common ground for a vibrant exchange between people, countries, and cultures. We take a multi-disciplinary, multi-faceted approach to complex issues, and develop new solutions to wide-ranging problems. We are a hub for inquiry, exploration, and creativity. We have difficult social issues facing our community, state, country, and world. The hope is that this residency program gives a non-UC Santa Cruz

¹ Special thanks to Dr. Ananya Roy and the staff of The Institute on Inequality and Democracy of UCLA for generously sharing their fellowship materials with the RCA to launch this new initiative.

community member an opportunity to be in dialogue with prospective collaborators at the university.

Specifically, the expectations of this program are to:

- Provide the recipient an opportunity to explore or study a community issue that aligns with the mission of the RCA and ways to address the social problem(s) for the betterment of the community.
- Foster faculty and student participation through (artist/activist) workshops, class visits, community meetings or field research opportunities.
- Envision future collaborative community engagement projects that can bridge the university-community divide.
- Increase the visibility of public scholarship or service projects in the community in a wide range of interest areas to the RCA such as (but not limited to) housing affordability, first generation college students, the well-being of the Chicanx/Latinx and immigrant communities, homelessness, and the social inclusion of multiple marginalized communities.

Program Dates and Award

The 2019 residency will take place during Winter Quarter from January 4 – March 30, but Residents may extend their appointment through Spring Quarter, until June 30. The recipient will receive a UC Santa Cruz independent contractor appointment, a \$4000 stipend, and will be eligible to receive up to \$1000 in research support through either expense reimbursement or paid directly by the RCA (the type of expense will determine the method of payment). As an example, this research fund can be used to purchase materials for an art project or to host student/community workshops or organize community meetings. In addition, the recipient will receive an office space at the RCA, paid parking passes and campus access to UC Santa Cruz research libraries, including the Digital Scholarship Commons, and if applicable, art-production resources. This residency does not include benefits.

Resident Fellow Profile

Applicants should be highly self-motivated individuals seeking to expand perspectives and networks to impact progressive social change. Successful applicants will have at least five years of relevant movement-building or related work experience and a demonstrated interest in responding to the needs of underserved low-income, immigrant, and communities of color. If currently employed, applicants should secure written support from a supervisor affirming their participation in the program's activities. This program is only open to those working or residing in Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Monterey counties.

Application Process

Application materials must be submitted by November 1, 2018, 5PM PST through the [online system](#). If you have any questions regarding eligibility or the application procedure, please contact the Research Center for the Americas at rca@ucsc.edu. Applicants will be notified by early December. Before applying, please be sure you meet the criteria stated above and can fulfill the requirements of the program. Each application must include the following:

- **Personal statement:** No more than 500 words indicating the reason(s) why you are applying for this residency, what you hope to gain from the experience *or* what questions you hope to explore, and how your background is relevant to your goals. We are also interested in learning your plans on disseminating any work produced during the residency that fulfills a community service and/or public scholarship agenda.
- **Resume** with your contact information (max 2 pages).
- Contact information for **two (2) current references**. If applicable, include a letter of recommendation from the applicant's employer indicating endorsement of the residency proposal.