MULTI CULTURAL CENTER

UCSB fall 2021 event calendar
MCC STATEMENT CONDEMNING ANTI-ASIAN HATE, MISOGYNY, AND VIOLENCE

On Tuesday, March 16, 2021, a horrific act of violence targeted the Asian/Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, specifically Asian women in Atlanta, Georgia. This assault on the AAPI community is rooted in white supremacy, misogyny, white-male dominance, and intense anti-Asian bigotry. Moreover, the recent verbal and physical attacks on AAPI communities are not isolated incidents, but part of a larger history of racialized violence against Asians stemming back to the 19th century in the United States. In the present day, vile, senseless, and inhumane acts of terror are being fueled and encouraged by extreme right-wing politicians and key leaders and are stridently repeated and perpetuated by powerful media figures under the guise of 1st Amendment freedoms. This most recently includes ignorant, misogynistic, and supremacist beliefs that attempt to blame people of Asian descent for the COVID-19 pandemic.

The MultiCultural Center at UC Santa Barbara stands steadfastly in solidarity with our AAPI-identified community members here and throughout the world. We condemn these horrific, cowardly, and devastating attacks and the racist, sexist rhetoric that fuels them. We share their heartache and offer our prayers and unyielding support for the AAPI community and all those impacted by such appalling violence. Although there are some who attempt to dismiss these acts of racial and gendered violence, we affirm the long and hard-fought understanding that this is about race, misogyny, and hatred. The intersectionality of oppressions are a reality as witnessed in this incident of violence against women, anti-Asian hatred, and the use of religious extremism as a means to castigate and dehumanize members of the human family.

The MultiCultural Center reaffirms our long-standing commitment to combating these and all systems of oppression within ourselves, in our communities, our nation, and our world. This is the foundational mission of the MultiCultural Center, our home of over thirty years of collectivism, interconnectedness, hope, and healing. We recognize that racism, sexism, and other forms of violence and oppression against the Queer & Trans, Black, Indigenous and other People of Color (QTBIPOC) community, the impoverished, the houseless, those with disabilities, and other marginalized communities are woven into the very fabric of this society. As such, we resolutely and unflinchingly stand in solidarity with our diverse community of social justice change agents.

The MultiCultural Center will continue to play a pivotal role in providing a safe space for our community while being a vanguard for equity, transformation, and liberation. Together we will work to bring about peace, reconciliation, and true equality as we help forge a world where historically and currently marginalized individuals throughout all communities no longer live in fear.

(Please see also the message from the UCSB Campus Community Council in support of our AAPI community - https://t.e2ma.net/webview/oe589f/fffb62d98757c7de26353a98bc098622f)

UCSB MULTICULTURAL CENTER
In 2013, #BlackLivesMatter was created as a Black-centered movement in response to the senseless murder of Trayvon Martin and the trial that resulted in his murderer’s acquittal. Its founders–Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, and Opal Tometi–envisioned the movement as “an ideological and political intervention in a world where Black lives are systematically and intentionally targeted for demise.” With the deaths of Black women, especially Black trans women, and the lack of resources geared toward their protection, this movement centers those most vulnerable and marginalized. #BlackLivesMatter also serves as an affirmation of all Black humanity, their contributions, and resilience. The movement has grown over the years to a global network of over 40 chapters.

The MultiCultural Center (MCC) respects, affirms and supports the mission and founding principles of #BlackLivesMatter. Over 30 years ago, the MCC was founded through the leadership of Black students and their subsequent protests to combat institutional racism and provide a welcoming space for marginalized students. Through educational programming, student engagement, and community outreach, we are committed to work that will uplift and center the Black community and other marginalized community members, across intersecting categories of difference. We are here to listen, take action, and collaborate with Black students, staff, and faculty at UCSB, as well as those people and institutions invested in doing anti-racist work. As our political climate continuously shifts, so too will our approaches as advocates and as agents of change. We will always ground our approaches in the ongoing struggle to transform the cultural and social life of the university and within our larger communities.

Racism and other forms of oppression against Black, Indigenous, and People of Color have no place anywhere. Combatting systems of oppression requires a collective effort. We have to understand our worlds and our struggles as interconnected. We recognize that each one of us holds different privileges and different relationships to power. We also can cause harm. By understanding this, we can build effective, long-term transformational solidarity. All Black lives matter, and we offer our resolute support in affirming Black experiences and the right to justice and liberation, which will ultimately lead to liberation for all.
MCC MISSION

In 1987, the MultiCultural Center was created out of student demands, along with the support of the larger campus community, for a safer and inclusive community space for students of color at UCSB. With the original intent to facilitate the recruitment and retention of students of color and to combat intersecting systems of institutional oppression and racism, the center has grown, both in its mission and physical footprint, to address myriad social justice issues and take action in pursuit of a more just society.

Through its pillars of educational programming, student engagement, and community outreach, the MultiCultural Center models a mutually supportive relationship with its students, the campus at large, and serves as a bridge to the larger surrounding community. These pillars, along with the day-to-day interactions and opportunities for students and community members to foster and maintain connections, continue to ground the center as a shared community space that provides platforms for critical dialogue and serves to uphold a safer, welcoming space that validates marginalized identities.

Students have been, and remain, central to the MultiCultural Center. As a home for students who may not otherwise find such spaces on- or off-campus, the center cultivates a culture of care-work and belonging for students and student coalitions through opportunities for development and empowerment in their academic, professional, and personal pursuits.

By centering the people that find a home at the MultiCultural Center, we seek to foster meaningful relationships that uplift students, staff, faculty, and the off-campus community through shared values and experiences that will empower the individual and the collective to serve as advocates for positive change in our communities.

As cultural centers often occupy a precarious position and face challenges, the MultiCultural Center’s commitment to collective social justice work cannot and will not stop. Through the unwavering support of student lock-in fees, the center is steadfast in its commitment to materialize its mission. It is vital that the MultiCultural Center remain an autonomous site through the direct guidance of student leadership, staff, and faculty. We will continue to uplift marginalized identities and communities because these values remain at the heart of the center. Despite existing in the margins while working within an institution, we will preserve and continually improve the MultiCultural Center as a place of knowledge, resistance, empathy, advocacy, and community for future generations of students, activists, and the larger community.

A NOTE ON THE LAND WE OCCUPY

The MCC wishes to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this place and all land upon which the University is located, and pay our respects to the Chumash Elders past, present, and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions, and the culture of this area, which has become a place of learning for people from all over the world.
### Art Exhibition
**COLLECTION OF RESISTANCE: A COVID SERIES EXHIBITION**
UCSB STUDENTS
MCC Lounge

### MCC OPEN HOUSE
**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**
5 pm PST • MCC Lounge, Aura Booth

### Resilient Love
**PSALMS OF A LIVING SEA: A CHOREO POEM WITH LADY DANE**
5 pm PST • Performance/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/88562253308

### Cup of Culture
**GATHER**
6 pm PST • Film Screening/MCC Theater

### Diversity Lecture
**PLANTATION POLITICS IN STEM WITH DR. CHANDA PRESCOD-WEINSTEIN**
6 pm PST • Lecture/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/82995488081

### Conscious Conversations
**FOOD JUSTICE PANEL WITH NANCY ARAGON, DANIEL PARRA HENSEL AND CHUY VALLE**
6 pm PST • Panel Discussion/MCC Theater, Reception/MCC Lounge

### Cup of Culture
**WAVES**
6 pm PST • Film Screening/MCC Theater

### Open Mic
**OPEN MIC AND AN EVENING OF SELF-EXPRESSION WITH MC KEITH MAR**
7:30 pm PST • Performance/MCC Lounge

### Race and Literature
**INTIMACIES TO APOCALYPSE: DECOLONIAL FEMINISM & ARCHIPELAGIC RELATIONALITIES WITH DR. YOMAIRA FIGUEROA-VASQUEZ**
6 pm PST • Lecture/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/82132044949

### Conscious Conversations
**CARE OR CRIMINALIZATION?: BIPOC YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE WITH ALI GUAJARDO, CLAY WESLEY, LEVETTE MORALES, AND KAYLA MARTENSEN MODERATED BY ISABELLA RESTREPO**
6 pm PST • Panel Discussion/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/86042991648

### Children’s Event
**DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR WITH MISS ANGEL**
12 pm PST • Storytelling/MCC Lounge

### Race Matters
**ONGOING NAKBA: LESSONS FROM PALESTINE WITH DR. SHERENE SEIKALY**
12 pm PST • Lecture/MCC Theater

### Music Performance
**MIDDLE EAST ENSEMBLE**
4 pm PST • Performance/MCC Theater

### Spoken Word
**CORAZÓN A CORAZÓN: AN EVENING OF POETRY WITH YESIKA SALGADO**
7:30 pm PST • Performance/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/83463698044

### Cup of Culture
**SHOPLIFTERS**
6 pm PST • Film Screening/MCC Theater

### Closing Art Reception
**COLLECTION OF RESISTANCE: A COVID SERIES EXHIBITION**
6 pm PST • Art Reception/MCC Lounge

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**www.mcc.sa.ucsb.edu**
The MultiCultural Center plans to reopen its doors for this Fall 2021 quarter with a return to in-person/hybrid programming. For more information or links, visit our website and social media platforms. For any technical support or inquiries, contact Chawn Lemons at clemons@ucsb.edu.
Art Exhibit: A Call for Artists
COLLECTION OF RESISTANCE: A UCSB STUDENT COVID SERIES EXHIBITION
September 28 - December 10
Art Reception/MCC Lounge

Over a year and a half into the pandemic, community spaces have been impacted. To bridge the gap between the adversities caused by COVID-19, the many ongoing forms of systematic oppressions, and the human experience, the MultiCultural Center is hosting a student exhibition that emphasizes QTBIPOC experiences. This exhibition seeks to highlight and give voice to marginalized experiences as we navigate a pandemic and collectively pave the way to envision and create a new future that holistically centers community, belonging, and social justice art.

OPEN HOUSE
AURA BOOTH
Thursday October 7, 5 pm PST
MCC Lounge

Join us at the MultiCultural Center as we kick off the 2021-2022 academic school year. Come meet our team, learn about our upcoming events and programs, and meet many student organizations affiliated with the MCC. Bring a friend or two, learn about your aura, and enjoy a fun, entertaining night in our center!

Resilient Love
PSALMS OF A LIVING SEA: A CHOREO POEM WITH LADY DANE
Friday October 8, 5 pm PST
Performance/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/88562253308

Follow the story of four generations of women as the past clashes with the present and offers glimmers of a brighter future. From the kingdoms of Africa, to the war against white supremacy, to the battle for liberation, to a future free of oppression, the women of the Smith family rely on their love to craft a better world for those who will come after. Through poetic monologues and soul stirring text, Lady Dane Figueroa Edidi performs a reading of a new play centered on revolutions, revelations, and rebirth.

Cup of Culture
GATHER
Wednesday October 13, 6 pm PST
Film Screening/MCC Theater

Gather is an intimate portrait of the growing movement amongst Native Americans to reclaim their spiritual, political, and cultural identities through food sovereignty, while battling the trauma of centuries of genocide. Gather follows Nephi Craig, a chef from the White Mountain Apache Nation (Arizona), opening an indigenous café as a nutritional recovery clinic; Elsie Dubray, a young scientist from the Cheyenne River Sioux Nation (South Dakota), conducting landmark studies on bison; and the Ancestral Guard, a group of environmental activists from the Yurok Nation (Northern California), trying to save the Klamath River. 2020. 1h 14min
Diversity Lecture

PLANTATION POLITICS IN STEM
DR. CHANDA PRESCOD-WEINSTEIN
Thursday October 14, 6 pm PST
Lecture/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/82995488081
In this talk, Dr. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein will consider the history of STEM and current frameworks around diversity and inclusion in context of the history of slavery and settler colonialism in the United States and beyond. They will point out the ways in which the past lives on in our present institutional structures and identify features that might characterize an Afrofuturist STEM.

Conscious Conversation

FOOD JUSTICE PANEL
NANCY ARAGON, DANIEL PARRA HENSEL & CHUY VALLE
Monday, October 18, 6 pm PST
Panel Discussion/MCC Theater, Reception in MCC Lounge
Join the UCSB MultiCultural Center for a panel discussion on food justice in our local community that centers the experiences of local community organizers who have worked to address food insecurity, criminalization, and finding power in our neighbors, relatives, and non-human beings.

Cup of Culture

WAVES
Wednesday October 20, 6 pm PST
Film Screening/MCC Theater
Set against the vibrant landscape of South Florida, and featuring an astonishing ensemble of award-winning actors and breakout stars alike, Waves traces the epic emotional journey of a suburban African-American family - led by a well-intentioned, but domineering father - as they navigate love, forgiveness, and coming together in the aftermath of a loss. From acclaimed director, Trey Edward Shults, Waves is a heartrending story about the universal capacity for compassion and growth even in the darkest of times. 2019. 2h 15min

Open Mic

OPEN MIC AND AN EVENING OF SELF-EXPRESSION WITH MC KEITH MAR
Friday, October 22, 6pm PST
Performance/MCC Lounge
The MCC hosts a quarterly open mic for all to artistically express themselves using any creative outlets including spoken word, poetry, music, and dance. All are welcome to attend and participate! This quarter’s MC will be Keith Mar, a spoken word poet who works in images, colors, and unflinchingly honest personal stories. His poetry asks questions about race, identity, self-love, and social justice. Intensely personal, his work seeks moments of emotional connection through the depiction of universal experiences.
Race and Literature
INTIMACIES TO APOCALYPSO: DECOLONIAL FEMINISM & ARCHIPELAGIC RELATIONALITIES
WITH DR. YOMAIRA FIGUEROA-VASQUEZ
Thursday, October 28, 6pm PST
Lecture/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/82132044949
How do we map relations across the Afro-Atlantic? How do the diasporic cultural productions of the sole Spanish-speaking nation in Subsaharan Africa connect with works emerging from Afro-Cuban, Afro-Puerto Rico, and Afro-Dominican diasporas? What insights do we gain by reading these contemporary works alongside each other? This lecture will examine the long history of Atlantic crossings between Equatorial Guinea and the Latinx Caribbean and engage in a robust discussion about colonialism, diaspora, and decolonial feminisms and relationality. We will trace how themes of intimacy, witnessing, dispossession, reparations, and futurities are remapped in a series of works and will consider how Black diasporic histories are impacted by interlocking structures of oppression. By centering often-peripheralized Afro-Atlantic peoples through a set of diasporic texts, we can come to understand how they not only reveal violence, but also forms of resistance and the radical potential of archipelagic thought.

Cup of Culture
THE #1 BUS CHRONICLES
Wednesday November 3, 6pm PST
Film Screening/MCC Theater
The #1 Bus Chronicles uses a small sociological microcosm – a bus stop on an industrial highway in New Jersey – to intimately portray some of the most marginalized lives in America today – the ‘working poor’, the recently incarcerated, and immigration asylum seekers. In startlingly intimate encounters, strangers share hopes and dreams, as well as stories of resiliency, suffering, and loss. Many are in states of transition, struggle, or waiting for change. 2021. 58 min

Conscious Conversations
CARE OR CRIMINALIZATION?: BIPOC YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE WITH ALI GUAJARDO, KAYLA MARTENSEN, LEVETTE MORALES, AND CLAY WESLEY MODERATED BY ISABELLA RESTREPO
Thursday, November 4, 6 pm PST
Discussion/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/86042991648
The Foster Care system is often understood as a system of help for our most vulnerable populations, children and youth - this panel asks us to complicate this understanding to unpack the ways this system, embedded with carceral logics, impacts BIPOC youth. How can we shift our understanding of this system to center the needs of BIPOC youth? How can we understand the criminalization and pathologization of BIPOC youth within this long standing system? How can we think about the foster care system in relation to abolitionist discourse? Join the MCC for a discussion that explores the contemporary foster care system’s impacts on BIPOC youth and the ways that youth practice resistance to this system of control.
**Children’s Event**

**DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR WITH MISS ANGEL**
Saturday, November 6, 12pm PST
Youth Program/MCC Lounge
Drag Queen Story Hour is an inclusive storytime event hosted by drag queen and author, Miss Angel. The children’s books that we’ll read highlight diverse voices and authors and focus on empathy, acceptance, equity, identity, and kindness. During storytime we'll read three books together with a short activity for children and families in between each reading. These activities will be done as a community – children and adults welcomed! Join us for an afternoon of reading fun!

*Co-sponsor: RCGSD.*

**Race Matters Series**

**ONGOING NAKBA: LESSONS FROM PALESTINE WITH DR. SHERENE SEIKALY**
Tuesday, November 9, 12pm PST
Lecture/MCC Theater
This talk traces the experience of catastrophe in Palestine as an ongoing condition of dispossession and the denial of political rights. It explores the lessons Palestinians teach us about resistance, survival, and holding ground.

**Music Performance**

**UCSB MIDDLE EAST ENSEMBLE IN CONCERT PERFORMING THE UMM KULTHUM SONG, AGHADAN ALQAK**
Wednesday November 10, 4 pm PST
Performance/MCC Theater
*Umm Kulthum* (c.1904-1975) is recognized as the most famous Arab singer of the 20th century. In 1971, she premiered the song *Aghadan Alqak*, composed for her by Muhammed 'Abd al-Wahhab, the 20th century’s most famous Arab composer. In celebration of the song’s 50th anniversary, the UCSB Middle East Ensemble presents a free concert of the entire song, with a performance featuring Steven Thomson, solo vocalist. The UCSB Middle East Ensemble, founded in 1989, presents a wide variety of music and dance reflecting the great diversity of cultures found in the Middle East. *Co-sponsors: UCSB Music Dept. and the Center for Middle East Studies.*
Performance
CORAZÓN A CORAZÓN: AN EVENING OF POETRY WITH YESIKA SALGADO
Friday November 12, 7:30 pm PST
Performance/Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/83463698044
Yesika Salgado is a Los Angeles-based Salvadoran poet who writes about her family, her culture, her city, and her fat brown body. She has shared her work in venues and campuses throughout the country. Salgado is a two time National Poetry Slam finalist and the recipient of the 2020 International Latino Book Award in Poetry. Her work has been featured in the Los Angeles Times, Teen Vogue, Univision, CNN, NPR, TEDx, and many digital platforms. She is an internationally recognized body-positive activist and the writer of the column Suelta for Remezcla. Yesika is the author of the best-sellers Corazón, Tesoro, and Hermosa, published with Not a Cult.

Cup of Culture
SHOPLIFTERS
Wednesday November 17, 6 pm PST
Film Screening/MCC Theater
A Japanese family of small time thieves and cons take in a young child off the street and into their cramped apartment. When the girl is shown on the news as missing, the family must go to elaborate lengths to keep her with them, further distancing themself from legality. 2018. 2h 1min

Closing Art Reception
COLLECTION OF RESISTANCE: A COVID SERIES EXHIBITION
Thursday November 18, 6 pm PST
Art Reception/MCC Lounge
You are invited to attend the closing reception for the UCSB student exhibition. Meet the student artists, enjoy refreshments, and listen to how students are collectively paving the way to highlight injustices and envision a new future that holistically centers people and communities as we navigate the pandemic. Exhibition art sample by UCSB student Olivia Averett.
**RESILIENT LOVE SERIES**

The RESILIENT LOVE Series was launched by the UCSB Division of Student Affairs to ask how we can respond ethically and honorably to hate and violence. Featuring visiting artists and academics, it seeks to promote conversation and creative work that will forge a love-driven response to hate, hurt, and fear.

**PSALMS OF A LIVING SEA:**
A CHOREO POEM WITH LADY DANE
Friday October 8, 5pm PST
Zoom link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/88562253308

**RACE MATTERS SERIES**

*Race Matters* is a series of interactive discussions that probe and explore race on a deeper level, examining its continuing impact on marginalized communities.

**ONGOING NAKBA:**
LESSONS FROM PALESTINE WITH DR. SHERENE SEIKALY
Tuesday November 9, 12 pm PST
MCC Theater
Food Justice Panel with Nancy Aragon, Daniel Parra Hensel, and Chuy Valle
Monday October 18th, 6 pm PST
MCC Theater, Reception in MCC Courtyard

Informally led, themed discussion spaces to unpack and deconstruct issues that are affecting UCSB students and communities beyond campus.

Care or Criminalization?: BIPOC Youth in Foster Care
With Ali Guajardo, Kayla Martensen, Levette Morales, and Clay Wesley
Moderated by Isabella Restrepo
Thursday November 4, 6 pm PST
MCC Theater

Multi-Cultural Center Programs are partially funded by Associated Students and the Graduate Student Association of UCSB. Due to the nature of public programming, event times and dates are subject to change. Please check www.mcc.sa.ucsb.edu for an updated schedule of events.
The MCC logo represents the unity of humankind—moving, meeting, passing, returning again to those central intersections where people and cultures share deep human values—interlaced through our common humanity and continually confronted with our need to understand one another.