

# CASA GALLINA

CULTURA • COMUNIDAD • MEDIO AMBIENTE

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Colectivo Juvenil de Pueblos Originarios A.C. teaching a workshop at the Encinos community, an annex of Guadalupe Ocotán, in La Yesca, Nayarit.

During the first four months of 2021, Casa Gallina continued its programming focused on the environment, nutrition and cuisine. The programs were put in to operation through digital platforms and social networks.

The consolidation of alliances with like-minded organizations in other territories has been a fundamental activity during this period. To strengthen these ties, the publications edited by Casa Gallina were distributed throughout the network of 56 organizations with whom we have previously worked, as well as with 13 new

organizations, aiming to maintain the growth of our collaboration network.

Please find below a more detailed summary of the work that has been undertaken during these months.

## Environment and Community



Plant exchange between the neighbors involved in the Seed Guardians project.

We started a new program, **Seed Guardians**, in which 15 neighbors will germinate seeds in their own gardens. The seeds are from the collections of the horticulturist Dante Aguilar, the Mar Redondo Vegetable Garden, and Casa Gallina. The group has received continuous advice, via WhatsApp and through monthly work sessions, from Dante himself and also from Alonso Camilo Pérez. These digital meeting spaces have fostered dialogues about the experiences of sowing and cultivation, mutual support relationships, and the exchange of raw materials, plants and seeds. Among the protected species, varieties of Mixtec cucumber, hanging tomato, forest strawberry, cape gooseberry and sorrel have



been particularly successful.

In addition to contributing to the agroecological seed pools, the program seeks to systematize the relationships of reciprocity and shared learning generated by urban agriculture. To do this, we are working on a publication that brings together both the retelling of these experiences and the management tools used.



Alonso Camilo Pérez in Casa Gallina, teaching the workshop ***Introduction to Urban Agriculture.***

Alonso Camilo Pérez gave the **Introduction to Urban Agriculture** workshop. The participants learned the theoretical and practical principles of agroecology and learned how to adapt them to the specific space, light and orientation conditions of the spot where they're going to develop their garden. According to the specific diagnosis of each case, Casa Gallina provided each participant the most appropriate materials—type of container, seeds and substrates.

## Art Projects



Still from the *Devenir* piece by artist Tania Ximena

The artist Tania Ximena finished the production of her piece *Devenir*, a video that retraces the route of the River Jamapa from its source at the top of the mountain—in the Jamapa glacier—to its mouth in Boca del Río, Veracruz, in the Gulf of Mexico.

## Educational Program



Chef Lizbeth Maximino in a video from the *Cooking Among Neighbors* series

The series **Cooking Among Neighbors** was broadcast and included video capsules by chef Lizbeth Máximino, one of our neighbors, who made several of the recipes shared in previous Casa Gallina cooking workshops taught by Álvaro Andrade, Raúl Gómez, Diego Inzunza and Niki Nakazawa. The community was invited to prepare simple, inexpensive and nutritious recipes with local and seasonal ingredients.

## Community Services





A neighbor attending his virtual class from Casa Gallina

Although Casa Gallina has not been able to fully open its doors, it maintains two active community service programs. One is the **neighborhood Prestaduría**, a tool-lending service for the residents of Santa María la Ribera. The other is aimed at children from local public schools; they are given access to computers, printers and the Internet to either take their classes online or do homework.

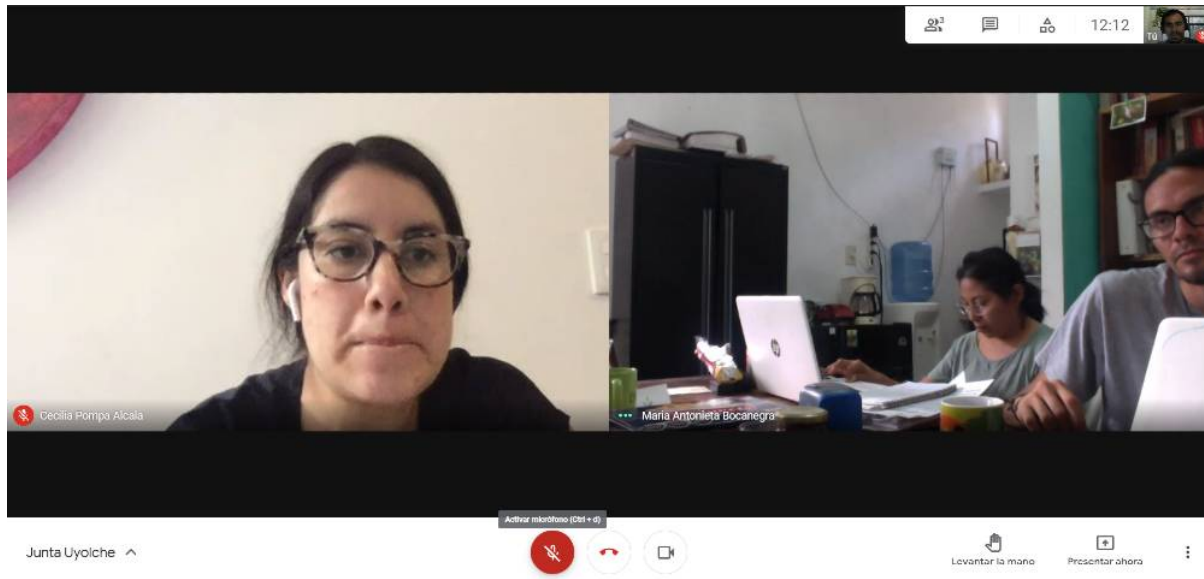
## Other Alliances



Still from the *I Recreate the City* campaign with Donadora.

In February, the first crowdfunding campaign carried out by Casa Gallina through the Donadora platform came to an end. Its purpose was to raise the funds to distribute the **I Recreate the City** board game to at least 50 public schools located in communities in various Mexican states (Guerrero, Campeche, Oaxaca and Mexico City), and implement an environmental program for educators.

**The campaign** was active for 60 days. The initial goal was \$95,000 pesos. It actually received 101 donations and \$ 108,750 pesos in funds— 14% higher than expected.



Cecilia Pompa in a follow up session with participants from the *Encounters Around Corn*.

To continue the work started at last November's **Encounters Around Corn** program, we provided consultancies aimed at concretizing the programs and materials developed and shared by Casa Gallina at those meetings. Educator Cecilia Pompa gave individualized sessions to four organizations.





*Maize, Cornfields and Biodiversity in Mexico*, exhibit at the Cancún Ka'Yok' planetarium

One of the results of this process was the community exhibition ***Maize, Cornfields and Biodiversity in Mexico***, inaugurated on March 18 at the Ka'Yok' planetarium in Cancun. The exhibition is accompanied by an educational program designed for the specific context of Quintana Roo—an example being the “Rescue and innovation of traditional recipes with underutilized products from the north of Quintana Roo” conference that was given by Dr. Alejandra Cazal Ferreira.

For more details about our programs and activities, please visit our website [www.casagallina.org.mx](http://www.casagallina.org.mx), become a friend on [Facebook Casa Gallina](#) and follow our [casa\\_gallina Instagram](#) account.