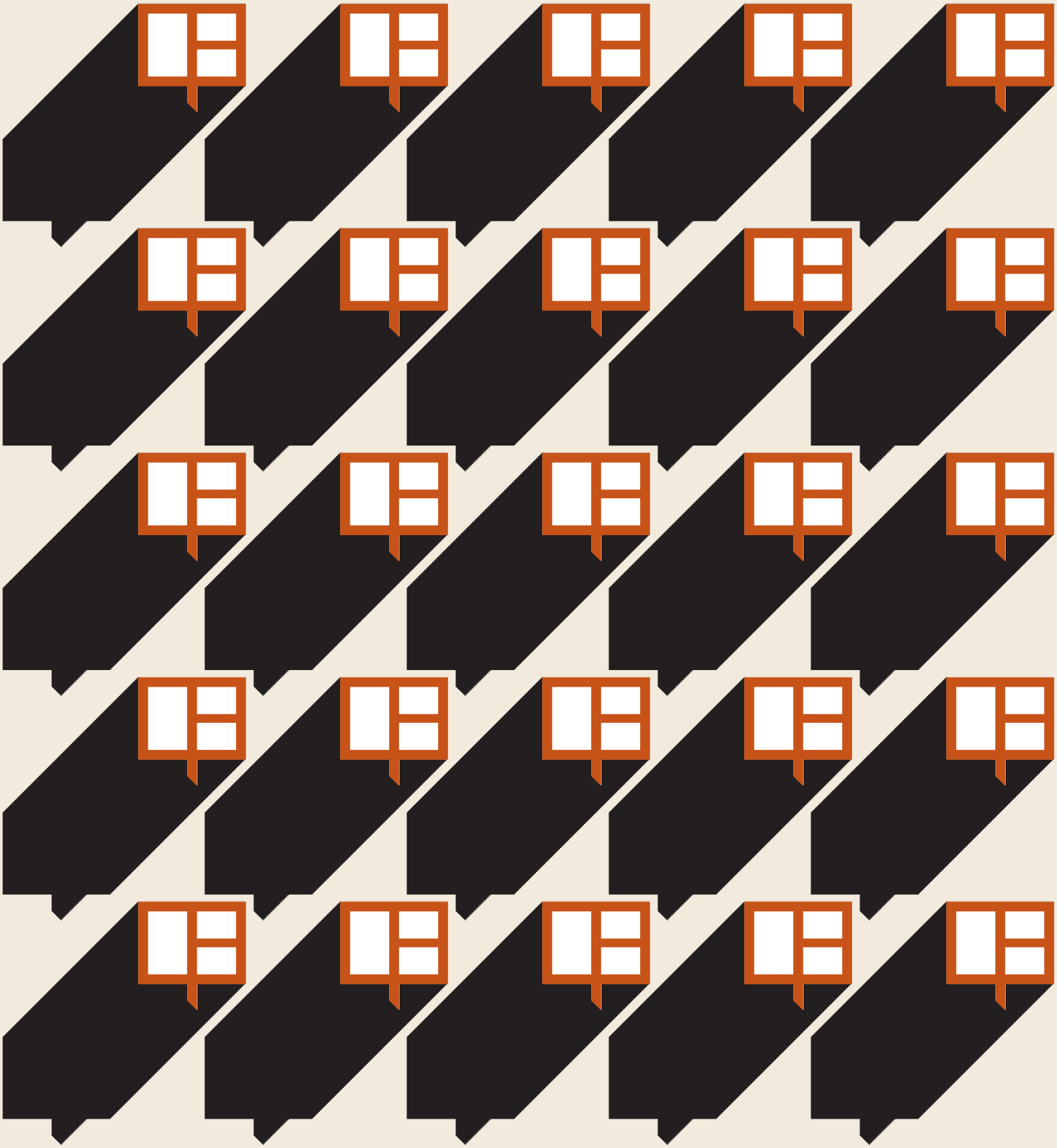

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

ANNUAL REPORT

2026

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA PRESS

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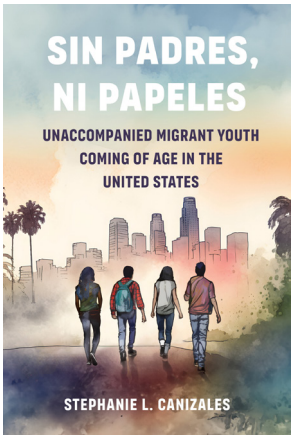
LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Dear Friend of UC Press,

I am honored to share our annual report for the 2025–26 fiscal year with you. The past 12 months have seen great turbulence in the world around us. In times like these, the University of California Press's distinctive brand of fiercely independent publishing remains vital as we seek to understand our world and drive positive change.

Our work often meets the moment in important ways. This is certainly the case with our new book series Co-Opting AI, edited by Mona Sloane. Moving beyond the hype cycle, this series seeks to address the disruptive social and cultural impacts of artificial intelligence. Professor Sloane kicks off the series with her own book, *Predicted: How AI Is Restructuring Social Life*, an opening salvo that is sure to spark conversation about these pervasive technologies.

Increasingly, the value of UC Press publishing lies in its ability to engage critical issues with authority, depth, and credibility. UC Berkeley professor Stephanie L. Canizales recently shared a moving account of her research at a UC Press Foundation event to support our FirstGen Program. Her book, *Sin Padres, Ni Papeles: Unaccompanied Migrant Youth Coming of Age in the United States*, chronicles the incredible challenges facing unaccompanied minors as they transition to life in the United States.

Our journals program also continues to push boundaries and bring scholarship to a larger public audience. This year, the editors of *Global Perspectives* are innovating in the delivery of scholarship by incorporating podcasts into the journal. This allows researchers' ideas and concepts to reach a broad audience and enables scholars to leverage them in their research.

As we embark on another year, the staff of UC Press look forward to further innovations in how we connect with our readers. In the pages of this annual report, you will see many examples of what has

made UC Press so distinctive and successful over our long history: our willingness to break new ground and drive change by engaging with the broadest possible audience. We look forward to collaborating with you as we continue our journey, and we thank you for your support.

Erich van Rijn
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
University of California Press

1 Associate Editor Enrique Ochoa-Kaup speaking at Pomona College's Humanities Studio in Claremont, California. **2** UC Press staff Ramon Smith and Joe Tobin representing the FirstGen Program at the annual UCOP Community Connections Fair. **3** Senior Acquisitions Editor Kate Marshall with author Hanna Garth (*Food Justice Undone*) at the Seeds & Culture: Rural and Urban Agriculture United conference, hosted by the Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance (UCFA) at the University of the District of Columbia. **4** Senior Acquisitions Editor Raina Polivka celebrates with authors Laura Horak (*Trans Cinema*), Alice Lovejoy (*Tales of Militant Chemistry*), and Allyson Nadia Field (*Acts of Love*) at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies 2026 annual meeting in Chicago. **5** Executive Editor Niels Hooper attending the Organization of American Historians with authors Paul Ortiz (*Emancipation Betrayed*), Christina Heatherton (*Arise!*), and Jordan T. Camp (*Incarcerating the Crisis* and forthcoming *The Southern Question*) and Jack Hill from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

PUBLISHING SERVICES @ UC PRESS

This year, UC Press has taken a major step forward in expanding support for University of California scholarship through Publishing Services @ UC Press, a collaboration between the Press and the California Digital Library. A long-term strategic vision has become an active operation with the addition of program manager Elizabeth Scarpelli and the onboarding of our first two affiliates, the Institute of East Asian Studies and the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Council, both out of UC Berkeley.

Designed to serve UC research centers, academic programs, institutes, and administrative departments, Publishing Services fills a critical need across the university system: it offers professional publishing support that allows academic units to retain editorial independence while publishing under their own names. Services include editorial development, production, fulfillment, and distribution to meet the needs of programs at different stages of growth.

In partnership with UC Berkeley's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Council, Publishing Services supported the publication of our first project, *Startup Campus: How UC Berkeley Became an Unexpected Leader in Entrepreneurship and Startups*.

Publishing Services reflects the Press's commitment to innovation during a period of significant change in higher education, while also creating new opportunities for UC affiliates to extend the reach and impact of their work.

"Having this book has made a huge difference in our outreach and in our ability to widely tell Berkeley's story."

—Laura Paxton Hassner,
executive director of UC Berkeley Innovation and Entrepreneurship

UC Berkeley Innovation and Entrepreneurship team: Darren Cooke, interim chief officer; Mike Alvarez Cohen, principal author of *Startup Campus: How UC Berkeley Became an Unexpected Leader in Entrepreneurship and Startups*; and Laura Paxton Hassner, executive director.

FIRSTGEN PROGRAM

The UC Press FirstGen Program cultivates and supports the work of first-generation scholars—those who are the first in their family to earn a degree from a four-year institution. UC Press FirstGen authors receive an outright grant and are invited to a series of staff-led brown bag events mapped onto the publishing experience. Topics of these discussions range from book cover design to copyediting, indexing to promotion. Our FirstGen authors deeply appreciate the opportunity to connect directly with publishing professionals and other first-gen scholars.

Our latest public webinar featured two UC Press FirstGen authors alongside two UC Press publishing professionals to discuss the challenges and strategies of navigating higher education. Of the more than 130 attendees, 90 percent identified as first-gen and 60 percent as early career.

Now in its fifth year, the UC Press FirstGen Program proudly celebrates many accomplishments:

Books signed: 150
First books: 91
Books published: 61
Awards won by FirstGen authors: 37
Public workshops and webinars: 15
Brown bag events: 13
Grant funds distributed: $150,000

FIRSTGEN

"Not only was my book significantly better because of the support I received through this program, but as an author, I was inspired by the enthusiasm and care of the UC Press team, I was encouraged by my connection to my cohort of FirstGen peers, and I came to trust that my questions were safe to ask and my voice was worth amplifying."

—Alyssa Michaud, author of *Automatic Artistry: Negotiating Musical Creativity in a Technological Age*

FirstGen Program webinar, "Navigating Publishing and Academia as a FirstGen Scholar," March 2026: Raina Polivka, FirstGen Program lead coordinator; Nic John Ramos, assistant professor at the University of Texas at Austin; Teresa Iafolla, marketing manager; Michelle Lipinski, senior editor; Michaela Soyer, associate professor at CUNY-Hunter College; Stephanie Summerhays, senior production editor.

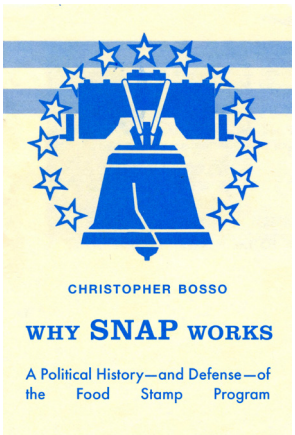
BOOKS

Book Publishing for Urgent Times

At UC Press, we publish bold, field-defining books across the arts, sciences, humanities, and social sciences. In a world shaped by rapid change, contested narratives, and urgent social challenges, our publishing program brings rigorous, deeply researched scholarship into the conversations that matter most.

When new topics dominate headlines and demand immediate understanding, UC Press authors are often already shaping the discourse. Because their books are grounded in years of careful research, UC Press authors provide essential context when we most need it.

A striking example is Christopher Bosso's *Why SNAP Works: A Political History—and Defense—of the Food Stamp Program*. Published in 2024, before renewed attacks on food assistance programs, the book positioned Bosso as a leading public voice when SNAP came under fire in 2025. Through op-eds and appearances across outlets including NPR, *Jacobin*, *Ms. Magazine*, and *Axios*, he helped bring rigorous scholarship into a fast-moving public debate.



Similarly, major media outlets called on UC Press author Marion Nestle to contextualize the "Make America Healthy Again" movement, including a major profile of her and her work in *The New York Times*, "At 88, a Nutritionist Meets Her Moment." Drawing on decades of research reflected in her many UC Press books, including the field-defining *Food Politics: How the Food Industry Influences Nutrition and Health*, Nestle helped audiences distinguish fact from misinformation during crucial public health debates.

These examples underscore a core strength of our program: We publish experts whose work stands ready to inform the public when it matters most. By investing in rigorous and forward-looking scholarship, UC Press helps position our authors to respond to a changing world.

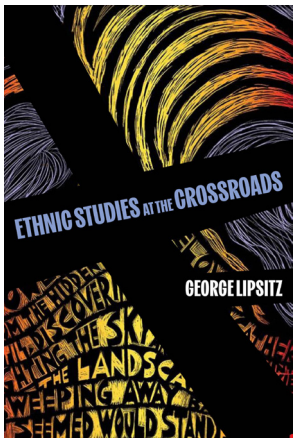
Bold Scholarship in the Fight Against Misinformation

At a time when climate science, public health, gender studies, and ethnic studies are subject to political attack, UC Press remains steadfast in publishing bold, peer-reviewed scholarship in these areas and more. UC Press authors tackle pressing issues that are core to academic inquiry and sit at the heart of public debate, including migration, gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, inequality, environment and climate, colonialism and resistance, technology and society, labor, and more. Titles like *Ethnic Studies at the Crossroads*, by George Lipsitz, exemplify this commitment. Lipsitz's work reflects on the field's contested history and evolving future, offering a deeply informed perspective when ethnic studies departments risk elimination across the country.

In an era of misinformation, peer-reviewed scholarship matters more than ever. Every UC Press book undergoes rigorous review to ensure the highest standards of scholarly integrity. Our authors use ethnography, archival research, qualitative and quantitative analysis, and other data-driven methods to build nuanced, evidence-based arguments. Sanyu Mojola's *Death by Design: Producing Racial Health Inequality in the Shadow of the Capitol*, for example, draws on archival sources, oral histories, census records, disease surveillance data, vital statistics, and historical mapping. This commitment to methodological breadth allows us to publish work grounded in discipline-specific rigor that equips scholars, students, policymakers, and general readers with tools to think critically and navigate complex issues.

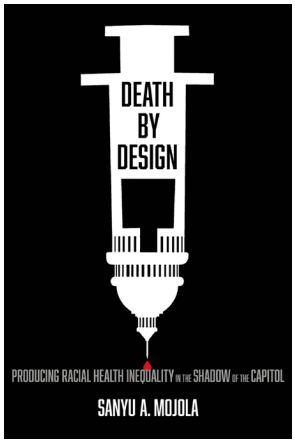
Recognition in the Academy and Beyond

In partnership with our authors, we amplify their work through media engagement, public events, and digital platforms, reaching audiences across both scholarly and mainstream channels. Leading academic journals regularly review our titles, including the *Journal of Economic*



"In these dangerous times, George Lipsitz's powerful—and cautiously hopeful—account of ethnic studies is an essential read. Combining urgency and analysis with beautiful writing, this narrative of power, knowledge, and history is unsurpassed."

—Julie Sze, author of *Environmental Justice in a Moment of Danger*



Misty L. Heggeness, author of *Swiftynomics: How Women Mastermind and Redefine Our Economy*, appears on *CBS Saturday Morning* with Adriana Diaz and Kelly O'Grady.

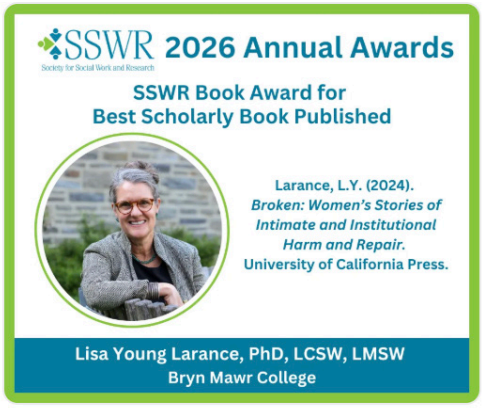
Literature, *American Anthropologist*, and the *American Journal of Sociology*, among others. At the same time, public-facing media—from NPR and *The Guardian* to *The Economist* and *The Nation*—call on our authors for their insights. This past year, Seth Berkley's *Fair Doses: An Insider's Story of the Pandemic and the Global Fight for Vaccine Equity* was reviewed in *The Lancet*, *Nature*, and *The Economist*, demonstrating its relevance across both scholarly and policy spheres. Meanwhile, Misty L. Heggeness, author of *Swiftynomics: How Women Mastermind and Redefine Our Economy*, reached a wide popular audience through coverage in *USA Today*, CBS News, *The New Republic*, and *Vox*, along with appearances on dozens of podcasts. A review in *The New Yorker* of Matthew D. C. Larsen and Mark Letteney's *Ancient Mediterranean Incarceration* highlighted UC Press's interdisciplinary strengths, bridging classical studies and contemporary debates in carceral studies.

As traditional book review coverage contracts, we continue to reach out to specialized outlets that connect with deeply engaged readerships, including podcasts, newsletters, and substacks. For example, Emily Mendenhall's *Invisible Illness: A History, from Hysteria to Long COVID* found a curious audience through events and targeted podcast appearances, while our biography of disability rights activist Ed Roberts, *An Independent Man: Ed Roberts and the Fight for Disability Rights*, by Scot Danforth, connected with readers through disability-focused and Bay Area–based programming.

Emily Mendenhall signs copies of her book, *Invisible Illness: A History, from Hysteria to Long COVID*, at Politics and Prose in Washington, DC.

Each year, UC Press titles earn awards from an array of academic societies and professional organizations, underscoring their impact across disciplines. This year's honors included several prizes for debut authors, reflecting our commitment to cultivating new voices. First-time author Lisa Young Larance won the 2026 Best Scholarly Book Award from the Society for Social Work and Research for *Broken: Women's Stories of Intimate and Institutional Harm and Repair*. Darshana

Kirsten Cather, author of *Scripting Suicide in Japan*, accepts the John Whitney Hall Book Prize from the Association of Asian Studies.



Award announcement from the Society for Social Work and Research for *Broken: Women's Stories of Intimate and Institutional Harm and Repair* by Lisa Young Larance.

Hadar Aviram celebrates after receiving the Michael J. Hindelang Outstanding Book Award from the American Society of Criminology for *Fester: Carceral Permeability and California's COVID-19 Correctional Disaster* (cowritten with Chad Goerzen).

Sreedhar Mini earned three major prizes for *Rated A: Soft-Porn Cinema and Mediations of Desire in India*, including the Outstanding Book Award from the Asian/Pacific American Division of the National Communication Association.

Our authors also receive prestigious individual recognitions, including MacArthur Fellowships, Guggenheim Fellowships, membership in the American Academy of Arts and Science, and other national awards. In 2025, UC Press author and series editor Ieva Jusionyte joined the ranks of previous UC Press MacArthur Fellows: Jason De León, Paul Farmer, Kelly Lytle Hernández, Natalia Molina, and Loretta Ross.

Ieva Jusionyte is named 2025 MacArthur Fellow for her work exploring the political and moral ambiguities of border regions and historically shifting distinctions between legal and illegal practices. Credit: John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Expanding Access

Central to the UC Press mission is expanding access to knowledge. Our open access initiatives make high-quality scholarship available worldwide, regardless of institutional affiliation or financial means, extending the reach of our authors' work—especially to underserved communities. This year, two UC Press titles received coveted Open Access Book Prizes from the American Council of Learned Societies: *Archipelago of Resettlement: Vietnamese Refugee Settlers and Decolonization across*

Beth Daley, executive editor of *The Conversation* US; Daniel Morgan, professor of film studies at the University of Chicago; and Raina Polivka, senior editor at UC Press at the 2025 ACLS Open Access Book Prize award ceremony at the New York Public Library.

Guam and Israel-Palestine, by Evyn Lê Espiritu Gandhi, and *Frame by Frame: A Materialist Aesthetics of Animated Cartoons*, by Hannah Frank, edited by Daniel Morgan.

From Scholarship to National Spotlight: A. Mechele Dickerson

Following a widely viewed interview with Jon Stewart on *The Daily Show*, A. Mechele Dickerson's *The Middle-Class New Deal: Restoring Upward Mobility and the American Dream* rose to No. 5 on *The New York Times* nonfiction paperback bestseller list. This achievement reflects both the strength of Dickerson's scholarship and the effectiveness of our efforts to connect her and her work with broad audiences. This momentum led to additional appearances on PBS's *Amanpour & Company*, Yahoo Finance, and prominent podcasts including those hosted by Chuck Todd and the *Financial Times*. Dickerson's success illustrates how UC Press authors, many of whom identify as scholar-activists, bring academic research into public discourse in ways that are both accessible and impactful.

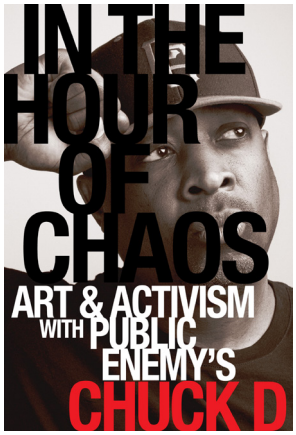
A. Mechele Dickerson, author of *The Middle-Class New Deal: Restoring Upward Mobility and the American Dream*, appears in an interview with Jon Stewart on *The Daily Show*, February 23, 2026.
Credit: *The Daily Show*, Matt Wilson.

Innovation and New Directions: Hip Hop Studies

To open fresh lines of inquiry and tackle emerging issues in a sustained way, UC Press develops innovative book series. In recent years, the Press has launched series on AI, critical refugee studies, global musicology, and antiracism in the legal profession. This year brought the sixth volume in our Hip Hop Studies series, *In the Hour of Chaos: Art and Activism with Public Enemy's Chuck D*.

Expansive Reach

We support the reach of our authors and their ideas through strategic, data-informed marketing efforts. The Press attracts nearly 2 million



annual website visitors and executes hundreds of targeted email campaigns across disciplines, reaching thousands of readers and faculty for each campaign. Across our active social media channels, we have a combined followership of 65,000, with Instagram and Bluesky continuing to have the most engaged audiences.

We also engage directly with booksellers and publishing professionals through events such as the American Booksellers Association's Winter Institute. Author Scott Kurashige joined us at Winter Institute's IGNITE: BIPOC Bookseller Pre-Con, where he signed galleys of *American Peril: The Violent History of Anti-Asian Racism* and built meaningful connections with booksellers. These interactions strengthen relationships that translate into increased discoverability and hands-on advocacy for our books in retail spaces.

Our campaigns also extend through partnerships with mission-aligned platforms and curated digital storefronts, where thematic collections, seasonal features, and targeted promotions help connect readers with books that speak to their interests, values, and curiosities. From "The History and Evolution of Film" to "Queering Academia," our curated reading lists invite readers into timely conversations and discoveries across disciplines.

Author Scott Kurashige (*American Peril: The Violent History of Anti-Asian Racism*) shares his work with indie booksellers at the ABA's Winter Institute IGNITE: BIPOC event.

Our conference presence spans many of the leading scholarly and professional associations across the humanities and social sciences, giving us broad visibility among researchers, instructors, librarians, and academic decision-makers. We regularly participate in major national meetings such as those of the American Sociological Association, American Anthropological Association, American Studies Association, and American Historical Association, along with key disciplinary gatherings in religion, law, geography, art, economics, Asian studies, Latin American studies, and media studies. Our editors and marketing staff attend author panels, meet with current and prospective authors, display our latest books and journals, and take the temperature of the latest research in the field.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

AWARDS

UC Press titles and authors continue to earn top honors across disciplines, from major book awards to prestigious recognitions.

ACJS Outstanding Book Award 2025
Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
MICHAELA SOYER
The Price of Freedom

CHOICE Outstanding Academic Award 2025
CHOICE
TAVIA NYONG'O
Black Apocalypse

ASFS First Book Award 2025
Association for the Study of Food and Society
CHRISTY SPACKMAN
The Taste of Water

William J. Goode Book Award Honorable Mention 2025
American Sociological Association Section on the Sociology of the Family
STEPHANIE L. CANIZALES
Sin Padres, Ni Papeles

Sara A. Whaley Book Prize 2025
National Women's Studies Association
HEMANGINI GUPTA
Experimental Times

SCMS Best First Book Prize 2025
Society for Cinema & Media Studies
ALIX JOHNSON
Where Cloud Is Ground

National Jewish Book Awards Gerrard and Ella Berman Memorial Award in History Finalist
Jewish Book Council
ASAF ELIA-SHALEV
Israel's Black Panthers

LASA-México Best Book in Social Sciences Award 2025
Latin American Studies Association
IEVA JUSIONYTE
Exit Wounds

MEDIA RECOGNITION

Our books continue to shape conversations far beyond the academy, earning attention in leading scholarly journals alongside major public-facing outlets.

"This book is music to my ears."—**Jon Stewart**
The Daily Show
A. MECHELE DICKERSON
The Middle-Class New Deal

"Demonstrates through vast archival evidence that Latin American radicals in fact spilled rivers of ink and held dozens of rich discussions about racial injustice—and imagined possible ways to eradicate it."
Jacobin
TONY WOOD
Radical Sovereignty

"Makes a simple but quietly radical point: you cannot understand the modern economy—or the future of work—without understanding what is happening in women's economic lives."
Inc.com
MISTY L. HEGGENESS
Swiftynomics

"Required reading for anyone dedicated to bodily autonomy and sovereignty now and into the future."
Ms. Magazine
MARLENE GERBER FRIED & LORETTA J. ROSS
Abortion and Reproductive Justice

"An authoritative reckoning of the Japanese presence in Brazil and its significance to developments well beyond. . . . A contribution of great significance in current times."
American Historical Review
SIDNEY XU LU
Collaborative Settler Colonialism

"Ambitious . . . with a bracing mix of optimism and sobriety."
Foreign Affairs
MICHAEL SCHAEFFER OMER-MAN & SARAH LEAH WHITSON
From Apartheid to Democracy

"A fascinating account of the race to distribute the [COVID-19 vaccine] around the world."
Nature
SETH BERKLEY, MD
Fair Doses

"What's at stake in this study is more than the truth or falsity of Foucault's account of modern incarceration. It is our picture of history itself."
The New Yorker
MATTHEW D. C. LARSEN & MARK LETTENEY
Ancient Mediterranean Incarceration

"Creative and deeply serious . . . a history of why we make monsters—and what might happen if we cease to."
History Today Books of the Year
SUREKHA DAVIES
Humans: A Monstrous History

"A superbly researched history of law and ideas."
Asian Affairs
SOHAIRA Z. M. SIDDIQUI
Islamic Law on Trial

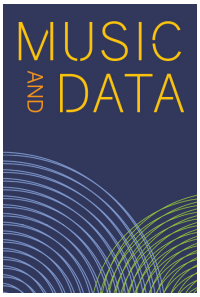
New Journals

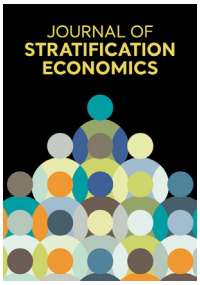
The Chemical Educator

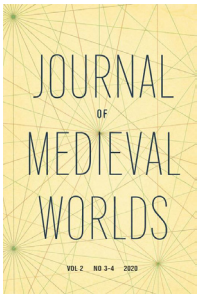
Music and Data
(launching Fall 2026)

Journal of Stratification Economics
(launching in 2027)

Journal of Medieval Worlds
(launching in 2027)







JOURNALS

UC Press remains a highly respected publisher of scholarly journals, which serve as an integral part of our publishing program. We publish 44 journals in a wide variety of subject areas and disciplines, primarily in the humanities and social sciences, and many in collaboration with respected scholarly organizations.

This year alone, our journals program published more than 1,700 articles, essays, book reviews, and other content contributed by thousands of authors, editors, and peer reviewers from around the world. This remarkable international network of partners strengthens our program—bringing diverse perspectives, deep expertise, and a truly global exchange of ideas that enriches every publication we produce.

In a year marked by conflict and the spread of misinformation that tests democratic institutions in the United States and around the world, our journals publish work that helps us better understand and address these urgent times. Examples from this year include:

- "Do People Sincerely Believe Conspiracy Theories That They Endorse?" by Robert M. Ross, et al., in *Collabra: Psychology*
- "Linking Domestic and Foreign Foes: Legitimation, Social Revolution, and Anti-Americanism During the Korean War," by Yinan He, in *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*
- "Evaluating the Impact of Communicating Science with Scientific Rigor," by Natalia González-Benítez, et al., in *The American Biology Teacher*
- "Be Careful What You Wish For: Anti-corruption and Democratic Backsliding in Wartime Ukraine," by Marina Zaloznaya, in *Sociology of Development*
- "Amplified Anger, Protest Cultures, and Digital Activism in South Asia," by Atreyee Sen, in *Current History*

Impact

- 77% of our journals are indexed in SCOPUS
- 59% of our SCOPUS indexed journals experienced an increase in their CiteScores
- *Global Perspectives* received the largest CiteScore increase
- 73% of our journals have impact factors
- 53% of our ranked journals experienced an increase in their impact factors
- *Classical Antiquity* and *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* received the largest impact factor increases
- *Latin American and Latinx Visual Culture* is now indexed in the Emerging Sources Citation Index and has received its first impact factor

Awards

Scholarly and professional organizations frequently recognize articles published in our journals for their quality and significance. Below are a few of the awards received this year:

"Olin Downes and the Soviets," by Kevin Bartig

Appeared in: *Journal of the American Musicological Society*

Awards: ASCAP Foundation Deems Taylor/Virgil Thomson Award for Outstanding Music Criticism in the concert music field and the H. Robert Cohen/RIPM Award from the American Musicological Society

Welcoming Editors to UC Press Journals

This year we welcomed the following editors:

Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies
JOSHUA JAVIER GUZMÁN
UCLA

The Chemical Educator
EUGENE T. SMITH
Florida Atlantic University

Current History
LINDSAY SHINGLER
UC San Diego

Journal of Medieval Worlds
ROLAND BETANCOURT
UC Irvine
AFRODESIA MCCANNON
New York University
MICHELLE M. SAUER
University of North Dakota

Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians
CLAIRE ZIMMERMAN
University of Toronto

Journal of Stratification Economics
MWANGI WA GĨTHĨNJI
University of Massachusetts Amherst
ANITA ALVES PENA
Colorado State University
PATRICK MASON
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Celebrating Milestones in Research and Scholarship

The UC Press journals program stewards a publishing legacy that dates back to 1914 and pairs distinguished long-running journals with exciting newer launches. We are proud to recognize the following journals celebrating milestone anniversaries this year:

Case Studies in the Environment

10 YEARS OF PUBLICATION

CASE STUDIES IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Collabra: Psychology

10 YEARS OF PUBLICATION

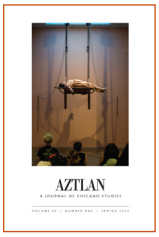
Collabra: Psychology

Journal of Vietnamese Studies

20 YEARS OF PUBLICATION

Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies

50 YEARS OF PUBLICATION



"Ukrainian Researchers in a War Documentation Project: Intertwined Experiences and Methodologies," by Natalia Otrishchenko, et al.

Appeared in: *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*

Award: American Association of Ukrainian Studies Article Prize

"'Separated, but far from alone': Forging Lesbian Networks in the 1970s–1980s," by Cameron Blevins and Annelise Heinz

Appeared in: *Pacific Historical Review*

Award: Western Association of Women Historians Barbara "Penny" Kanner Award, Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Article Prize, and Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Louis Knott Koontz Memorial Award

"Born-Again Boogie: Christian Nightclub Experiments in California, 1970–1990," by Eric Gonzaba

Appeared in: *California History*

Award: Western History Association Arrington-Prucha Prize

"Drawing and Disrupting Borders in the Wake of the US-Mexico War," by Carlos Alonso Nugent

Appeared in: *Representations*

Award: Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography Essay Prize

From Page to Podcast

This year marked an expansion of the UC Press journals program into podcasting. Through several exciting podcast

initiatives, we are excited to share scholarship, ideas, and public conversations through this dynamic medium.

- The UC Press journals program has launched a new podcast series, *Periodically*, featuring conversations with authors, editors, and publishing professionals. *Periodically* explores new research, the scholarly publishing process, and ideas shaping contemporary academic discourse.
- *Global Perspectives* has partnered with the Center for New Critical Politics and Governance at Aarhus University and Hagen Schulz-Forberg, its director and coeditor of the journal, to publish episodes of the center's new podcast, *Planetary Choices*. The journal includes these "podcast articles" as part of its curated Viewpoints collections before wider release on major podcast platforms.
- *Gastronomica: The Journal for Food Studies* has relaunched the *Gastronomica* podcast in partnership with the New Books Network and UC Press, creating a space where the academic field of food studies engages with the broader public's interest in gastronomy, culture, and the culinary arts.

California History editor Mary Ann Irwin and author Eric Gonzaba at the Western Historical Association annual meeting, October 2025.

UC Press Journals publisher David Famiano and Berthold Hoeckner (editor of *19th-Century Music*) at the American Musicological Society, November 2025.

Animal History editor Daniel Vandersommers at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, April 2026.

UC PRESS BY THE NUMBERS

FISCAL YEAR 2026 (JULY 1, 2025–JUNE 30, 2026)

PUBLICATIONS BOOKS

8,500+
active book titles

- 180–200 books published annually
- 269 active open access books (34 published in 2025–26)
- 124 book awards won

PUBLICATIONS JOURNALS

4.5M+
downloads of journal content

- 1,700+ pieces of journals content published
- 146 issues published
- 44 journals published
- 200+ open access articles

LICENSES ISSUED

194
total licenses across all formats

- 147 translations in 20 languages on 5 continents
- 13 audio licenses
- 27 English reprints for the South Asian market
- 7 film licenses

MEDIA AND EVENTS

992
media hits for UC Press publications

- 347 UC Press author talks and presentations
- 5 UC Press Foundation donor cultivation events and presentations
- 20 UC Press publishing presentations given by UC Press staff

PEOPLE

65,000 individual subscribers to UC Press eNews

- 8,000+ journal subscriptions
- 8,500+ book authors in circulation, of whom 20% are UC affiliated
- 75 UC Press staff
- 20 UC Press Faculty Editorial Committee members
- 13 UC Press Board of Directors members
- 13 UC Press Foundation Board of Trustees members
- 985 UC Press Foundation donors

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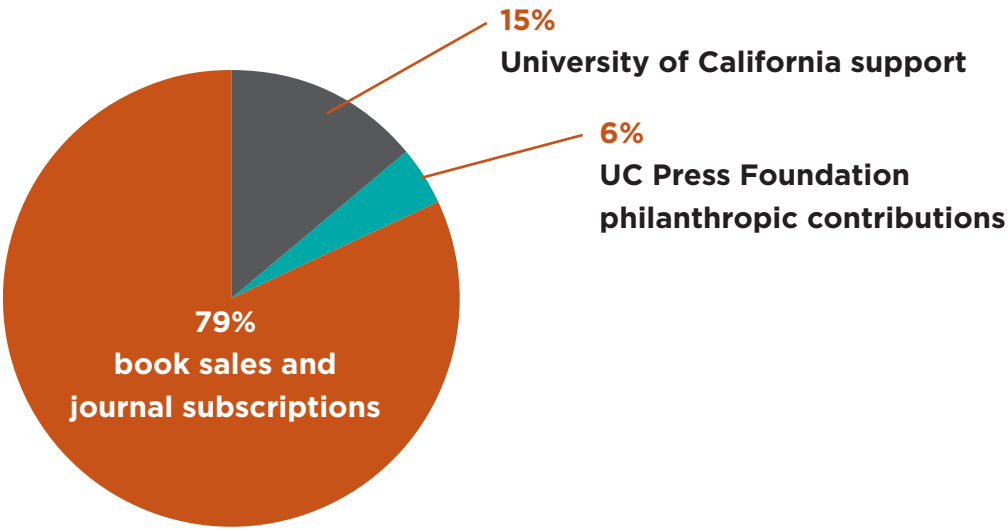

$23.5M budget

Philanthropic support is essential for UC Press as an independent publisher. Gifts and grants make it possible for us to publish the vital ideas and research of scholars, activists, and thought leaders. This support helps ensure the widest reach for our accessible, impactful, inclusive, and justice-driven work.

UC PRESS FOUNDATION

As UC Press publishes for urgent times, we continue to build a strong and engaged community. Thank you for supporting us and being the backbone of our work.

This year, UC Press Foundation donors increased their giving to help the Press publish peer-reviewed research with meaningful public impact. For example, author Fernando Racimo shared with us that the scientist-activist community has embraced his book *Science in Resistance: The Scientist Rebellion for Climate Justice*. The international scientist activist network Scientist Rebellion has adopted the book as a resource for strategizing future social and ecological justice campaigns.

"Anybody who is a reader should be supporting. Keep creative authors working!"
—Gayle Daniels, UC Press Foundation donor

Recent gifts have also helped fund journals that are accessed and referenced millions of times, helping make many of our publications open access and free to readers worldwide.

Donors also joined us in amplifying the voices of first-generation scholars—those who are the first in their family to receive a college degree—through our pioneering FirstGen Program. During our spring fundraising campaign for FirstGen, supporters not only gave more than last year but also helped us exceed our fundraising goal. To strengthen the program's future, the Foundation partnered with a generous donor to establish the Press's first endowment dedicated to FirstGen.

We also hosted a donor event at the home of Judy and Kim Maxwell for the FirstGen Program featuring UC Berkeley professor Stephanie L. Canizales, author of *Sin Padres, Ni Papeles: Unaccompanied Migrant Youth Coming of Age in the United States*.

UC Press editors Naomi Schneider and Raina Polivka interview author Stephanie L. Canizales (*Sin Padres, Ni Papeles: Unaccompanied Migrant Youth Coming of Age in the United States*) at a Foundation event hosted by Judy and Kim Maxwell, San Francisco, April 2026.

2026 Foundation Contribution to UC Press: $1,472,685

An inspiring conversation about Canizales's research, immigration advocacy, and experience as a first-generation scholar was led by UC Press editors Naomi Schneider and Raina Polivka. We were especially honored to welcome guests Monica Varsanyi, vice provost of Faculty Affairs and Academic Programs at the UC Office of the President, and former UC Press director Lynne Withey.

We invite you to consider investing further in the future of UC Press through a planned gift, an opportunity for supporters at all levels to leave a lasting legacy where critical scholarship meets the public good.

Amanda Todd
UC PRESS FOUNDATION DIRECTOR
atodd@ucpress.edu

Author Ana Muñiz (*Borderland Circuitry: Immigration Surveillance in the United States and Beyond*) discusses her research with UC Press deputy director and books publisher Kim Robinson at a Foundation event hosted by Michelle Ciccarelli Lerach and Bill Lerach, La Jolla, February 2026.

In 2026 donor support has helped the Foundation:

Provide $1,472,685 to UC Press publications, programs, and endowed funds

Achieve over 50% growth from new gifts, grants, and pledges

Welcome 800+ new donors and double the number of authors who have generously chosen to give their royalties back to UC Press in support of our mission

Make a UC Press Foundation gift online today

ALL PUBLISHING PROGRAMS

FIRSTGEN PROGRAM

UC Press Imprints, Endowments, and Planned Legacy Funds

Foundation-endowed funds are invested contributions from our donors. They are recognized at the front of selected UC Press publications in perpetuity.

- Current value of Foundation-endowed funds: $24,054,724
- Funds increased 9% in value from last year
- $965,000 was paid out in 2026 from Foundation-endowed funds in support of UC Press publications and programs
- In 2026, the Foundation was honored to establish the first endowment for the UC Press FirstGen Program, the Marjorie Randolph Endowment Fund for FirstGen Authors

Ahmanson Foundation Endowment Fund in Humanities
Ahmanson • Murphy Imprint in Fine Arts
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Sonia H. Evers Endowment Fund in Renaissance Studies
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*To be established through a planned legacy gift from UC Press author and supporter Professor Lawrence Kramer

"My parents were challenged by finances and schooling, but worked very hard to ensure their children had the tools needed for a strong education. My siblings and I are the first to attend college and receive a degree in my family. When I learned that the UC Press FirstGen Program develops resources critical for new scholars and their success, I felt that it represented my upbringing and the best example of how to provide help for authors in the publishing field. I am honored to be one of the donors for the FirstGen Program and look forward to others joining me in support of first-generation authors."

—Marjorie Randolph,
UC Press FirstGen Program endowment donor

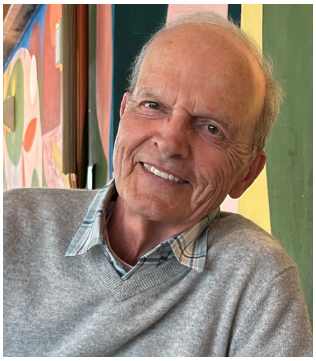
Endowed gifts sustain UC Press publishing programs while offering opportunities to create a lasting legacy through support for titles of enduring value. Named endowment funds may be established with gifts of $50,000 or more, and endowed imprints with gifts of $250,000 or more. Learn how you can provide a meaningful gift to a title or program by reaching out to Amanda Todd at atodd@ucpress.edu.

UC PRESS FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The UC Press Foundation Board of Trustees has an active role in bringing value to the Press through fundraising and promotion of its mission to the community. For our 2025–26 fiscal year, we welcomed new trustees Emely Weissman and Michael Dear.

Emely Weissman

Real estate consultant, former instructor in classics and ancient history.



Michael Dear

Researcher, writer, and sailor.

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We are indebted to the many individuals and organizations who give generously to help UC Press accomplish its mission. We are pleased to recognize support from our trustees and the following donors for gifts and grants received between January 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026.

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The Kathryne Beynon Foundation
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Marjorie Randolph
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Appointed by the UC systemwide Academic Senate, the UC Press Editorial Committee (EC) represents all 10 UC campuses and draws from disciplines in which the Press actively publishes. The EC assesses new books and newly launched journals from UC Press, helping to ensure that publications are rigorously researched and effectively peer reviewed. The EC also advises the Press on trends in the academy and fields in which the Press actively publishes.

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