Feminist Arts Leadership at Mason Gross School of the Arts

Arts, Literature, Grassroots Activism and Organizing
Audrey Arias-Justo ✦ December 6th 2023
The Leadership Scholars Certificate Program is a two-year selective, interdisciplinary certificate program that prepares Rutgers undergraduate women to be informed, innovative, and socially responsible leaders.

Leadership Scholars design and implement social action projects to expand their understanding of issues and problems and to develop leadership skills.

This project gives Scholars the opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge they have gained about leadership, advocacy, and social change with the practical and experiential knowledge they have developed about a particular policy issue or problem through the field site placement. It also further develops leadership skills by giving undergraduates the opportunity to practice leadership through action.

To find out more please visit the Institute for Women’s Leadership’s website at http://iwl.rutgers.edu.
"You are neither here nor there, but everywhere. You carry your cultura in your veins and academia in your heart. You have not forgotten where you come from, but you have learned and earned and maybe even forced your way into spaces not meant for you. You are poderosa like that. You defy the expectations of respectability and you do not seem to care -- do you, Brown girl"

- For Brown Girls with Sharp Edges and Tender Hearts, Prisca Dorcas Mojica Rodríguez
01.1 Femicide in Mexico
FEMICIDE IS THE VIOLENT DEATH OF WOMEN BASED ON GENDER, WHETHER IT OCCURS WITHIN THE FAMILY, A DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP, OR ANY OTHER INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIP, IN THE COMMUNITY, BY ANY PERSON, OR WHEN IT IS PERPETRATED OR TOLERATED BY THE STATE OR ITS AGENTS, BY ACTION OR OMISSION.
Mexico has faced a sustained, multi-decade security crisis that has registered record-high levels of violence in recent years.¹

According to researcher Gema Kloppe-Santamaria, one in ten women are murdered in Mexico every day, often by people that they know intimately and that are otherwise respected members of their community.³

Indeed, Mexico’s National Institute of Statistics and Geography (Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía, INEGI) reports that the number of homicides that occurred in 2020 reached 36,579.² Amid this elevated violence, the number of homicides targeting women has increased dramatically, with INEGI reporting that 2,876 murders of women occurred in that same year.

In this context, there has been a groundswell of anger over the problem of gender violence, and dissatisfaction with the Mexican government’s response to it.
As noted by the Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States, in the Latin American context the concept of femicide was adapted and refined by Marcela Lagarde.7

In her research, Lagarde expanded on the concept developed by Radford and Russell by giving preference to the term “femicide” (femicidio), arguing that the literal interpretation of “femicide” as a “woman’s murder” fails to capture the gendered dimensions of such crimes.

In contrast, femicide, Lagarde argues, more accurately captures the gender-biased motives, social constructions, and male impunity associated with many murders of women by men.
01.2

Undergraduate annual exhibition: Recycle, Regenerate, Renew
## TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 22</td>
<td>Critiques for Sprint 2 in progress (Mockup and Research presentations)</td>
<td>1:1s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Complete 3 more <a href="#">Precedents Archive entries</a> (6 total)</td>
<td>Sprint 2 (50% Complete)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 29</td>
<td>Critiques for Sprint 2 in progress</td>
<td>Sprint 2 (100% Complete)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gallery Install Observation Assigned</td>
<td><a href="#">Gallery Install Observation</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual: Develop exhibition identities (together in 218C)</td>
<td>Complete 3 more <a href="#">Precedents Archive entries</a> (9 total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Submit Gallery Install Form by October 4th @ 5PM</td>
<td>Groups create identity presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 6</td>
<td>Final Critiques for Sprint 2</td>
<td>Add at least 1 suggestion to our Undergraduate Annual Guest Critic lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exhibition identities presentations (together in 218C)</td>
<td>Groups complete identity presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 13</td>
<td>Present curatorial themes with Art Thesis students</td>
<td>Complete and Submit Gallery Install Form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Both BFA classes look at Graphic Identity and vote</td>
<td>Go through this spreadsheet and mark which artwork could go in which room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meet in 110 (come to your respective sections first)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Look at submissions for the Undergraduate Open in class and generate potential themes, assign groups and presentations for following week (Sections Together)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Feminism as we know it today is the strive for equality of the sexes. Through looking introspectively to feminism’s ecotones, Neimanis is proposing hydrofeminism, becoming a body of water. Why is this important? Water flows, connects us, is essential, and all around us. These properties, the flowing, challenges set “concrete” domains. We can go beyond human bodies, human sexual differences, and flow fully. We can look prospectively with hydrofeminism because although there are risks/dangers, we are still going to challenge and bush boundaries.

EL AJOLOTE

LA SIRENA

EL CHILATE
Feminist Leadership
MGSA BIPOC
Student Organization
(BIPOC@MGSA)
Feminist Arts Leadership at Mason Gross School of the Arts Throughout the Years

MGSA BIPOC Student Organization (BIPOC@MGSA)
Muslim Feminist for the Art (MFA)
Celebrate the legacy of feminist leadership at Mason Gross School of the Arts by honoring the valuable contributions made by BIPOC women in the arts. This event aims to encourage meaningful conversations about community, activism, and responsibility, while motivating personal and intellectual development among students. Through panel discussions and networking opportunities, we will delve into the history, current state, and future of feminist leadership at MGSA and Rutgers New Brunswick. Additionally, we seek to foster inclusive environments for BIPOC artists and spark insightful discussions about the significance of community building and activism.
TIMELINE

10/05/2023
Advising Meeting with Sasha Taner

10/12/2023
Zahra Meeting #1

11/08/2023
Finalized program date w/ Zahra and Salma

11/10/2023
Reserved and booked James Florio Atrium + CSB room 110

11/13/2023
Finalized Google Form to input questions

11/14/2023
1. Finalized promotional material (Flyer + GetINVOLVED)
2. Finalized Formal Co-Sponsorship Document
3. Finalized General Program Proposal
4. Posted RSVP on GetInvolved + created evaluation questionnaire
Feminist Arts Leadership at Mason Gross School of the Arts Throughout the Years

Join Zohra Bukhari and Audrey Arleo Justo in a panel conversation about their experiences and reflections on feminist leadership as women of color in the arts. Moderated by Salma HQ.

There will be a mixer with food held afterwards.

DATE: November 27, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
LOCATION: James Florio Atrium, Civic Square Building, 33 Livingston Ave
Feminist Arts Leadership at Mason Gross School of the Arts Throughout the Years

Join Aisha Bakari and Audrey Adams-Juus in a panel conversation about their experiences and reflections on feminist leadership as women of color in the arts. Moderated by Sibylle Khoudri.

DATE: November 23, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
LOCATION: James Rizzi Atelier, Civic Square Building, 33 Livingston Ave
Co-Sponsorship Requests

CLAW
LASO
Latin American Womyn's Organization, LAWO
MASA
LLEGO
Mason Gross Student Governing Association
LSC Executive Board
ultraviolet.sje.
Rainbow Symphony
Rutgerscreativex
RFsdReamteam
RU Indigenous
rumuslimcouncil
ru.msa
rutgersamsaw
acc
rutgersartdesign
RAHSA
rutgers.amuse
rutgersasc
Alpfa New Brunswick
rutgersblueprint
rutgerscaso
RUCrafttocure
Douglassgoverningcouncil
Douglass Black Students' Congress
femlibrutgers
fusion.rutgers
Rutgers NAACP
Rutgers United Black Council
ruweshorg
rutgerswomenininiti
Black Student Union
Rutgers
hercampusrutgers
Lambda Pi Chi at Rutgers
Internal Comms Queer Caucus
RUTGERS UNIÓN
ESTUDIANTIL
PUERTORRIQUEÑA
SED
rulatinoalumni
Feminist Arts Leadership at Mason Gross School of the Arts Throughout the Years

DATE: November 27, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
LOCATION: James Florio Atrium, Civic Square Building, 33 Livingston Ave

Co-Sponsors

- Mason Gross Student Government Association
- CreativeX
- The Latinx Alumni Association of Rutgers University
- Women Empowerment through Self Love and Help
- Rainbow Symphony

Thank you to our co-sponsors, Mason Gross Student Government Association, CreativeX, Latino Alumni Association of Rutgers University (LAAU), Rutgers Women’s Empowerment through Self-Love and Health (WISE), Rainbow Symphony, and The Institute for Women’s Leadership. Special thanks to the Latino Student Council.
IMPACT
Empowering Latina Designers
EMPOWERING LATINA DESIGNERS
GOAL STATEMENT *

Provide a space for discovery, representation, networking, and professional development opportunities. Whether you’re an emerging designer or an established professional, our platform is designed to cater to your needs.

We are committed to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for all women designers who identify as Latina/Latine. Our community is diverse, with designers of different ages, educational backgrounds, and skill sets. Through community building, we aim to empower and uplift each other in our creative journeys.

LatinaDesignersHubBlog
Latina Designers Hub Blog

OCTOBER 2, 2023
Image Editing for Strategic Presentation

OCTOBER 2, 2023
Welcome to the Latina Designers Hub!

OCTOBER 22, 2023
The Power of Video

DECEMBER 5, 2023
Resource Podcast Episode 1
Hello Designers! Let's look at how we can further support each other with the sharing of resources and knowledge.

In the last blog post, Image Editing for Strategic Presentation, we went over how to edit and create a multi-layered graphic. As designers we must recognize that we learn in a multitude of ways. Therefore, an in-depth Youtube tutorial was created!

**Intro to Figma** video tutorial:

---

**Video Access**

This video is expected to be found by Designers and Latina Designers who are interested in learning how to use Figma. This video can be found through using search engines, this blog site and other designers who recommend the video. The videos straightforward title allows for search engines to quickly pick up key words of Intro + Figma. This will increase the visibility of the video when users search for related topics or keywords.

**How do we know this?**

According to Wolf article, DIY Videos on YouTube, users find and evaluate videos based on the relevance of the video to their needs or interests. When asked how they searched for and found relevant videos, many participants described entering general keyword searches and then browsing through videos. In the words of one participant” (Wolf 2016). The video tutorial on Figma is relevant to designers who want to learn or improve their skills in using this design tool.

**Why are tutorial videos worth watching?**

This tutorial provides valuable insights and practical knowledge on using Figma, a popular and free design tool. The video tutorial covers the basics of Figma, including its features, functionalities, and how to create multi-layered graphics. By following along with the tutorial, designers can enhance their understanding of Figma and improve their design skills.

**How do we know this?**

We know that this video is worth watching because of the credibility and expertise of the creator. Designers are more likely to watch a video tutorial created by a knowledgeable and experienced designer.

From interview data Wolf states, “These skeptics towards professional videos hint at a desire for transparency and authenticity. As one participant phrased it, knowing those in videos were working on their homes reflected a certain level of care and craft” (Wolf 2016).

The video tutorial is presented by Audrey, a designer who has expertise in using Figma and has previously shared valuable design resources and knowledge. As stated in blog post, “Welcome to the Latina design movement” (Audrey 2019).
“It is important to emphasize that as a first-generation student, the path to a career in art can be filled with challenges and discouragement. The pressure to pursue more traditional and stable professions is often prevalent in our communities. Personally speaking, it has left me feeling isolated and longing for spaces where I can connect with others who share the same aspirations and career path. LA TINA, with its celebration of Latina designers, provides me with a sense of belonging and community. It serves as a beacon of inspiration, reminding me that I am not alone in my journey and that there are others who understand and have the same dreams.”
first-gen
support
shared experience
representation

mexican folk art
culture
tradition
language

border arte
Anzaldua
documentation

research
oral history
lineage
connection
history
archive

feminism
broader social issue of...
The Fourteenth Amendment:

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.
How are the many ways fathers sacrifice for their families?
Mi jefe, quemado, sudoroso y cansado por el sol.
¿Qué puedo ser para mi jefe?
Works Cited

✦ Inclusive Student Organization achieves nonprofit status. BrandeisNOW. (n.d.).
https://www.brandeis.edu.now/2022/january/baseline-med.html


Works Cited

- Sultana's Dreamers - Zahra Bukhari

Presentation template by Slidesgo
Acknowledgements

Institute for Women's Leadership
Dr. Mary Trigg
Sasha Taner

BIPOC@MGSA Executive Board
Muslim Feminist for the Art

The Mason Gross School of the Arts Community
Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance
The Latinx Alumni Association of Rutgers University

2024 Leadership Scholars Cohort