

Casa de los Amigos
Mexico City, Mexico
May 28 – August 6, 2018



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

This 10-week experiential learning internship offers six Haverford and Bryn Mawr College students an incredible opportunity to work for peace and social justice while living in an intentional community in the heart of Mexico City. Selected students can split their time between the Casa de los Amigos, a Quaker center for peace and international understanding, and another social justice organization in the city. The Mexico City orientation includes several days of training to contextualize the Casa's work, Mexican history, politics, and participating in an in-depth orientation on issues of economic justice, asylum, and the roots and realities of poverty and migration culture that will be led by the Casa's full-time staff and other full-time volunteers.

ABOUT CASA DE LOS AMIGOS, A.C.

Casa de los Amigos is a Quaker Center for Peace and International Understanding. Founded in 1956 by the Quaker community of Mexico, the Casa is a non-profit peace organization, a community center, a social justice-oriented guest house, the meetinghouse for Mexico City Friends (Quakers), and a home. At the Casa, a diverse group of guests and volunteers from around the world cultivate a unique community in a social justice-oriented environment.

2018 INTERNSHIP STRUCTURE

CPGC interns are immersed in all aspects of Casa work and life, gaining in-depth knowledge of an historic organization. Interns divide their time between the Casa's Hospitality programs, the Migration and Economic Justice Programs, or other Casa projects, and another Mexican organization in a field of interest, spending 2-3 days/week at each site. Students can also choose the option of working full-time at the Casa. Interns live in the house with the other full-time staff, volunteers, and guests.

To facilitate the volunteer experience, the staff of the House coordinates with each student to find an appropriate organization to share their volunteering. The house maintains relations with various organizations that are dedicated to the issues of human rights, peace, social justice, solidarity economy, women and youth, community development, and more. We look for opportunities that reflect the interests and experience of students and we try to ensure that they have sufficient supervision and support during their time in Mexico. A weekly schedule and the specific responsibilities of each student will be decided on in collaboration with the leadership of the House and the other organization with whom you will work. Inside the house, responsibilities may include: support the project of solidarity economy; organizing materials in the Resource Center; organize educational events on the themes of peace, social justice, and migration; work in the home of guests; support to fundraising projects and administrative tasks.

The Hospitality Program seeks to support Mexican civil society and all those who work for peace and justice in Mexico and the world. Interns will:

- Take turns cooking breakfast and running the reception of the Casa's 40 person guest house. The responsibilities include representing the Casa, receiving guests including migrants, refugees, and visiting organizations, and welcoming visitors (all in Spanish!)
- Organize film nights, presentations and discussions, and other special events
- Participate in reflection, planning, and collective decision-making regarding this work
- Take initiative to care for the community (maintenance, gardening, painting, running errands or working with the Casa's Environmental Concerns Committee)

The Human Mobility, Peace and Spirituality, Environment, and Economic Programs are the other branch of Casa work. Interns play an active role in the programs, which include:

- Working with and visiting partner organizations, groups and collectives in and around the city
- Attending meetings of a network of activists dedicated to economies of solidarity
- Providing accompaniment to refugees and migrants housed at the Casa
- Attending events and activities of Mexican civil society
- Translating documents or verbal communication from Spanish to English

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Each intern has the option to be placed with one these partner organization where they will work 2-3 days a week. Each of these groups will provide a meaningful opportunity for interns to participate in their organization, learn more about Mexico City and Mexican civil society's responses to contemporary issues. Please note: partner organizations are subject to change.

Barrio Activo, A.C.

Barrio Activo works with marginalized youth in their community center, in schools and in public street events. "Barrio" was founded to offer local youth an alternative to gangs and violence in the home communities of the founders in Colonia La Pastora, a poor section of Mexico City north of the Casa. Intern activities will vary day-to-day. Interns will help with events and activities at the community center, planning and holding public street events ("Caravanas"), helping supervise summer courses with focuses in sports, art, music, civics, and more. Casa-CPGC interns have also led their own workshops on urban dance, sexual health, and learning English. Barrio works with children, teens, and young adults—and so the Barrio Activo intern should be excited to work with those populations. In July, Barrio Activo hosts a one-month summer course. During this time, interns work almost full time at Barrio Activo.

Fondo MARIA

Fondo MARIA (*Mujeres, Aborto, Reproducción, Información, Acompañamiento*) is a program created by *Red Balance* that provides financial, psychological, and logistical support to women who need abortions. Abortion is legal in Mexico City—however, access to abortion is severely restricted or even illegal in many Mexican states. The first of its kind, Fondo MARIA helps women travel to Mexico City by assuming the costs, including transportation and lodging, and providing information so that all women have access to a safe abortion regardless of economic or social background. Interns work in their office supporting staff members with a range of tasks: from fundraising to translating public policy proposals to organizing educational material on reproductive rights. The CPGC intern should be someone passionate about women's rights,

organized, good with people and who looks forward to being in a fast-paced feminist Mexican non-profit.

Altepetl

Mexican organization that works with communities in the South of Mexico, performs environmental development and promotes the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations, also works with urban communities and conducts community strengthening processes to improve social coexistence and peace.

Casa Refugiados.

Social organization of Casa de los Amigos that promotes the rights of refugees and operates the Local Refugee Integration Program in Mexico with the support of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Mexico City Monthly Meeting

The Monthly Meeting of Friends of Mexico City, carries out social action with initiatives in conjunction with Casa de los Amigos, has a vacancy for the Amigo en Residencia program and promotes the Quaker values of community, peace, integrity, equality, simplicity and care of nature.

IIPSOCULTA

Organization that promotes the rights of Mexican migrants in the United States and deported Mexicans, carries out community support in the communities of the city of Puebla and New York.

Mennonite Central Committee

The Mennonite Central Committee is a strategic partner of the Casa de los Amigos, such as Iglesias de Paz, supports migrant assistance programs and organizations on the issue of migration, the volunteer would help the Committee's organizational needs and learn about regional advocacy issues about migration.

BRIGADA

Mexican organization with international recognition that works with women victims of trafficking, helps to re-empower them and promote their rights so that they can break the cycle of trafficking.

Feria Multitruেকে Mixihuca

Fair and alternative economy project that generates solidarity economy networks and alternative education projects. Through an exchange fair, alternative currencies and more just, humane and solidary economy initiatives.

NUTS AND BOLTS

Eligibility and Application Information: This internship is open to Haverford and Bryn Mawr students. Before applying, please visit the [Casa's website](#) and read the full length description of the internship program. Applicants must submit an application form, an unofficial transcript, and a recommendation form completed by a faculty member. Apply through [CPGC's website](#). Portions of the application are in Spanish.

Qualifications: Spanish proficiency (at least Advanced Intermediate-level Spanish) is **required** for

this internship. The selection process includes an interview, some of which will be conducted in Spanish.

CPGC's Internship Program: All CPGC internships are part of a larger framework that goes beyond just a grant. Internships include pre-departure programming and post-internship requirements. More specific information about these crucial elements of programming can be found on the CPGC website. **Interested applicants must meet with the Manager of International Programs, Stephanie Zukerman.**

Selected interns for this internship site will be *required* to attend mandatory pre-departure group meetings. During these meetings, students will connect with the Casa staff and receive health advice from a travel doctor.

Stipend: During this ten-week program, the CPGC will cover interns' expenses for food, flights and ground transportation, and lodging. The Center will pay the Summer Earning Expectation for students receiving financial aid in 2018-19.

Deadline: The deadline for this internship is Sunday, February 4, 2018 via the "Mexico Partnerships" application on the CPGC's online application platform. Selected applicants will be contacted for an interview in mid to late February.