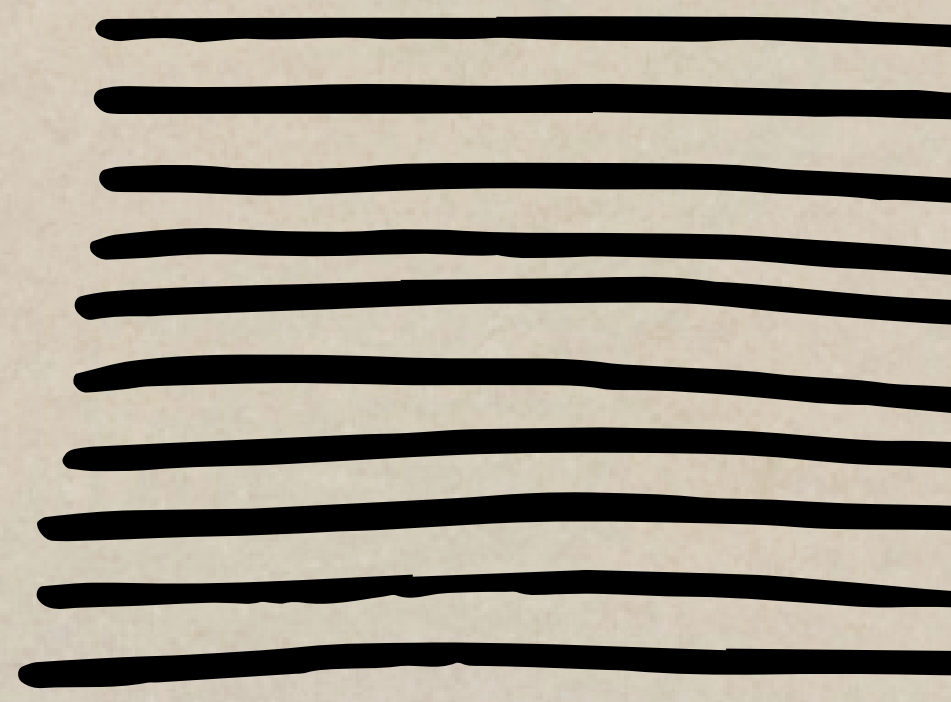
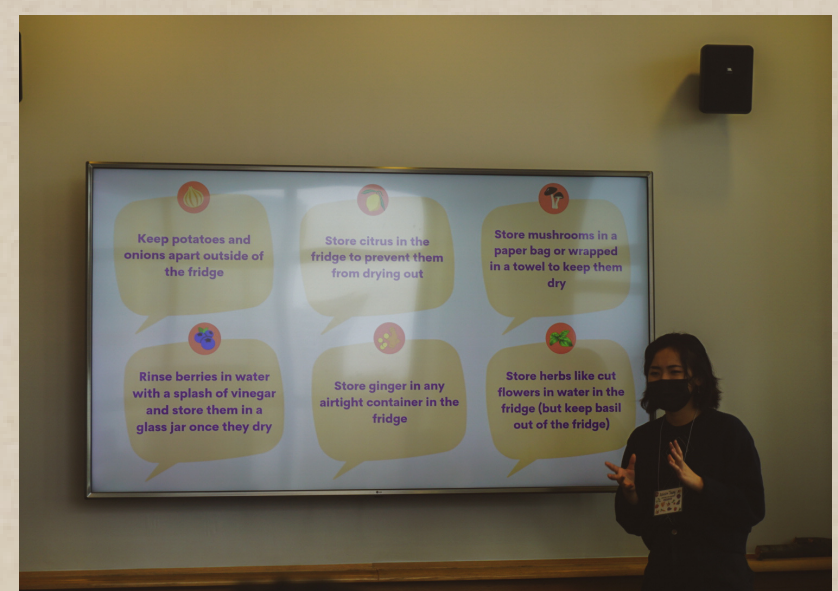




Annual Report 2021-22



UM SUSTAINABLE FOOD PROGRAM





UMSFP Impact 2021-2022

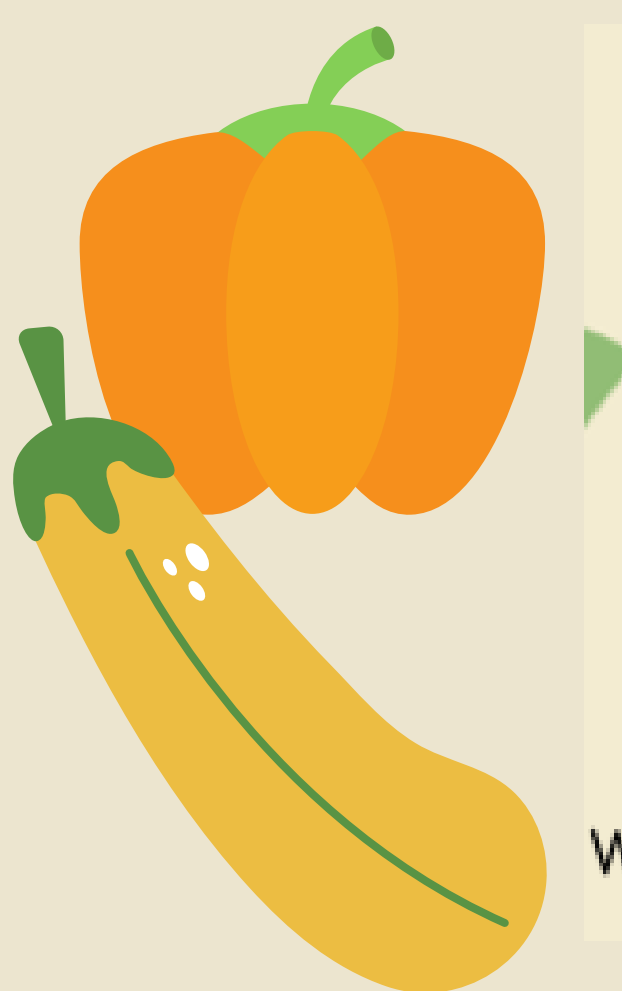
Our mission: The UM Sustainable Food Program fosters collaborative leadership that empowers students to create a sustainable food system at the University of Michigan while becoming change agents for a vibrant planet.

How we are living out of mission of collaborative leadership, a sustainable food system, and becoming change agents:

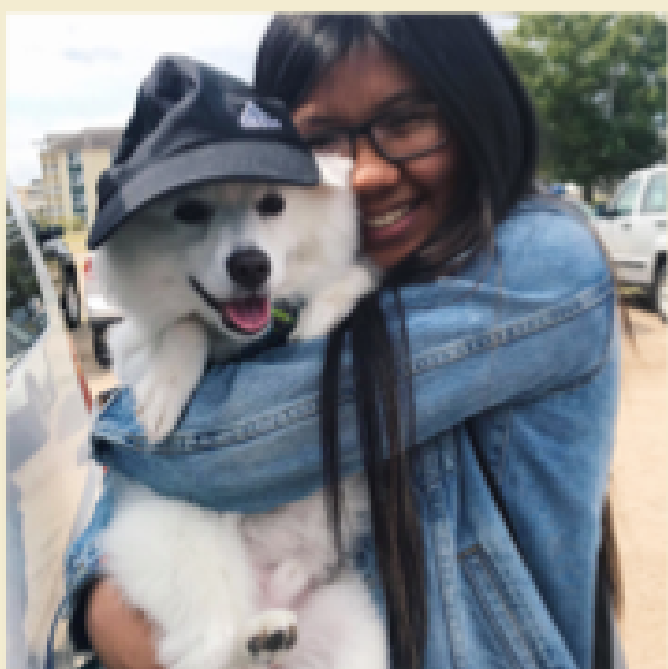
- HarvestFest and Rooting For Change: Student Food Summit
- The Farm Stand
- Working Groups - collaborative, cross-disciplinary, free-thinking spaces for visionary food justice
- Collaborations with the Maize and Blue Cupboard, Campus Farm, Sustainable Food Systems Initiative (SFSI), Arts Initiative, Detroit Food Policy Council, U of M Museum of Art (UMMA), and more!
- Intercultural development with Trotter
- Social justice dialogues facilitated by Intergroup Relations (IGR)
- Supporting student projects and events through the UMSFP grant program
- Learning about the intersections of grassroots organizing, social justice, and the history of food in Detroit by organizing a Detroit Food Tour
- Expanding knowledge and fostering discussion within Book Club!



The 2021-2022 UMSFP Leadership Team:



Conner Chinavare
Working Group Manager



Van Nguyen
Design Manager



Ashvin Pai
Grants Manager



Dolores Perales
Finance Manager



Izzy Beshouri
Marketing Manager



Lunia Oriol
Food Lab Manager



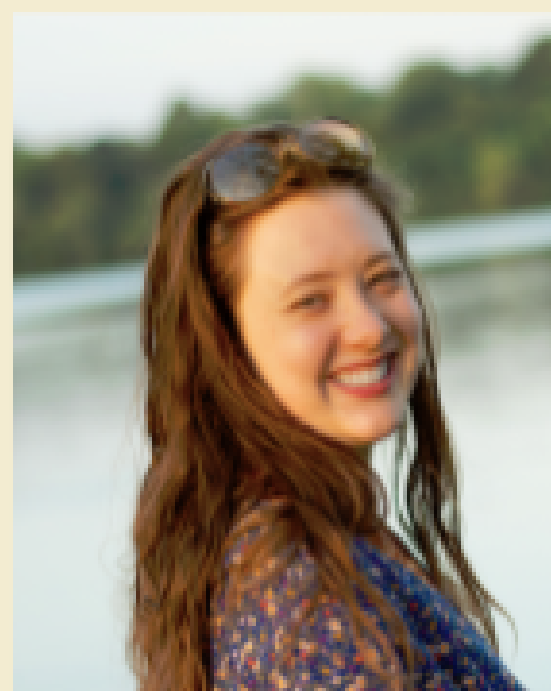
Kagan Conrad
Co-Farm Stand
Manager



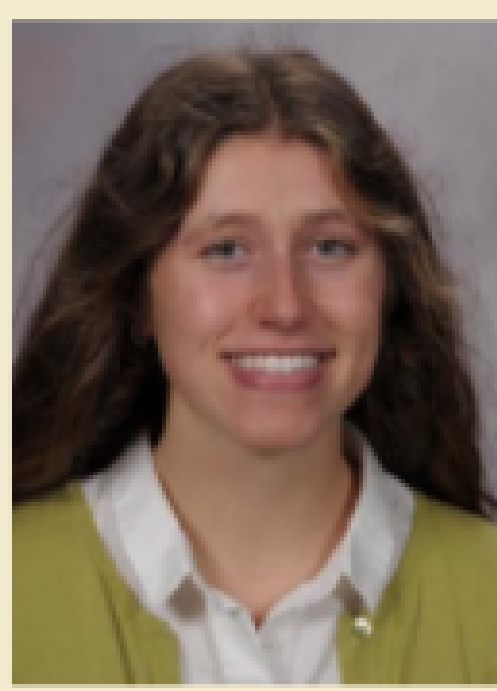
Chase Dautrich
Outreach Manager



Camille McMurtry
Culture Manager



Emily Freeland
Events Manager



Morgan
Anderson
Co-President



Braeden Fromwiller
Co-President



Emma McKillip
Co-Farm Stand
Manager

Testimonies from the UMSFP Leadership Team:



Camille, Culture Manager:

While our work at UMSFP is inherently sustainability related, social justice is at the forefront. Our culture is built through team bonding and community building. We value wellness activism as a team, checking in with ourselves mentally and emotionally and contemplating how our unique identities and perspectives color the change we want to bring about and come together to create the dynamic team that you see in front of you today.

Emily, Events Manager:

UMSFP hosts two large events to engage U-M students and the Ann Arbor Community. As the events manager, I help coordinate logistics and organize key components, but really, events are a team effort.

Harvest Fest is a celebration of all things sustainable food located at our very own campus farm. Activities included a scavenger hunt, screen printing, farm tours, foraging walks, tabling for various organizations, and more! This past HarvestFest, we estimate that more than 500 people attended!

Rooting for Change is an event that centers students' voices through personal stories related to food. At this year's first in-person RFC, we recorded +100 attendees, offered 9 learnshops, and facilitated ~10 student speakers for Tiny Talks.





Ashvin, Grants Manager:

The Grant Program is a mutual aid program that is funded by students for students. We raise money through our Farm Stand and fundraising efforts which are matched by Student Life. That money is then put towards student led food sovereignty projects on campus.

But leaving the money aside, our main goal with the grant program is to empower communities in organizing against oppressive systems. We recognize that we live in a world of unending and traumatic crises but we hold that each crisis is also an opportunity to build community and take back power. As such we've worked with a diverse array of student organizations both inside and outside the sustainability sphere.



Izzy, Marketing Manager:

One of the widest- and farthest-reaching channels of communication between UMSFP and its community the weekly newsletter. It's a space to process current events, provide resources and tools for wellness activism, unpack food policy while identifying critical areas for activism, and collect opportunities for local, regional, and global approaches to food justice in one digital locale. The intention is to make food justice work as accessible as possible, and spread the community-building power of food far and wide, bringing it into our own inboxes.

Van, Design Manager:


As design work is digitally oriented, we like to stress UMSFP's value of authenticity and make it clear that there is a person behind the screen by showcasing our individual and team through personal voice and narrative. It is also very important to use design as a tool to promote unity and food justice within the community, which is apparent with the Farm Stand tote bags. To see the totebag around campus reminds us of the impact of the farm stand, even in its off months, knowing people are part of the community working towards a just food system on campus– and have put a conscious effort towards it by shopping at our stand.





The UMSFP Newsletter:

The UMSFP Newsletter stretches across and beyond U-M's campus as our organization's widest communication network. Every week, the newsletter reaches **over 1300** subscribers, bringing local, regional, and global approaches to food justice into their inboxes with volunteer and job opportunities, on- and off-campus events, plant-based and seasonal recipes, how-to-guides for food justice praxis, policy briefings, and media resources to continue individual exploration of the food systems organizing scene.



3 Things You Can Do to Take Carrot Yourself

Finals, graduation, snow in April all bring on a lot of emotions. Here's a few ways to take carrot yourself while traversing this rocky road.

Food Access on Campus

[Maize & Blue Cupboard](#) is open for the University of Michigan community, M-F 3-7pm and Sunday 2-6pm at its Betsy Barbour location. You can also shop the [North Campus Mobile Food Distribution](#) on certain Wednesday's from 2-4PM.



How to Talk to Your Family

Mass media touts holidays as lovely bundles of joy, love, and quality time, but they can also be a medium for family arguments, polarizing politics, and painful reminders. Bring [the gift of social and emotional intelligence](#) to navigate the trenches of family gatherings and pull out a chair for supportive conversation at the head of the table. [A recipe for connection that the whole family will love.](#)

Amount of
Produce Sold:

+2660 lbs

Amount of Produce
Donated to MBC:

+1400 lbs



**Farm
Stand**

Percent of Customers
that were students:

84.2%

Types and Variety of
Produce Offered:

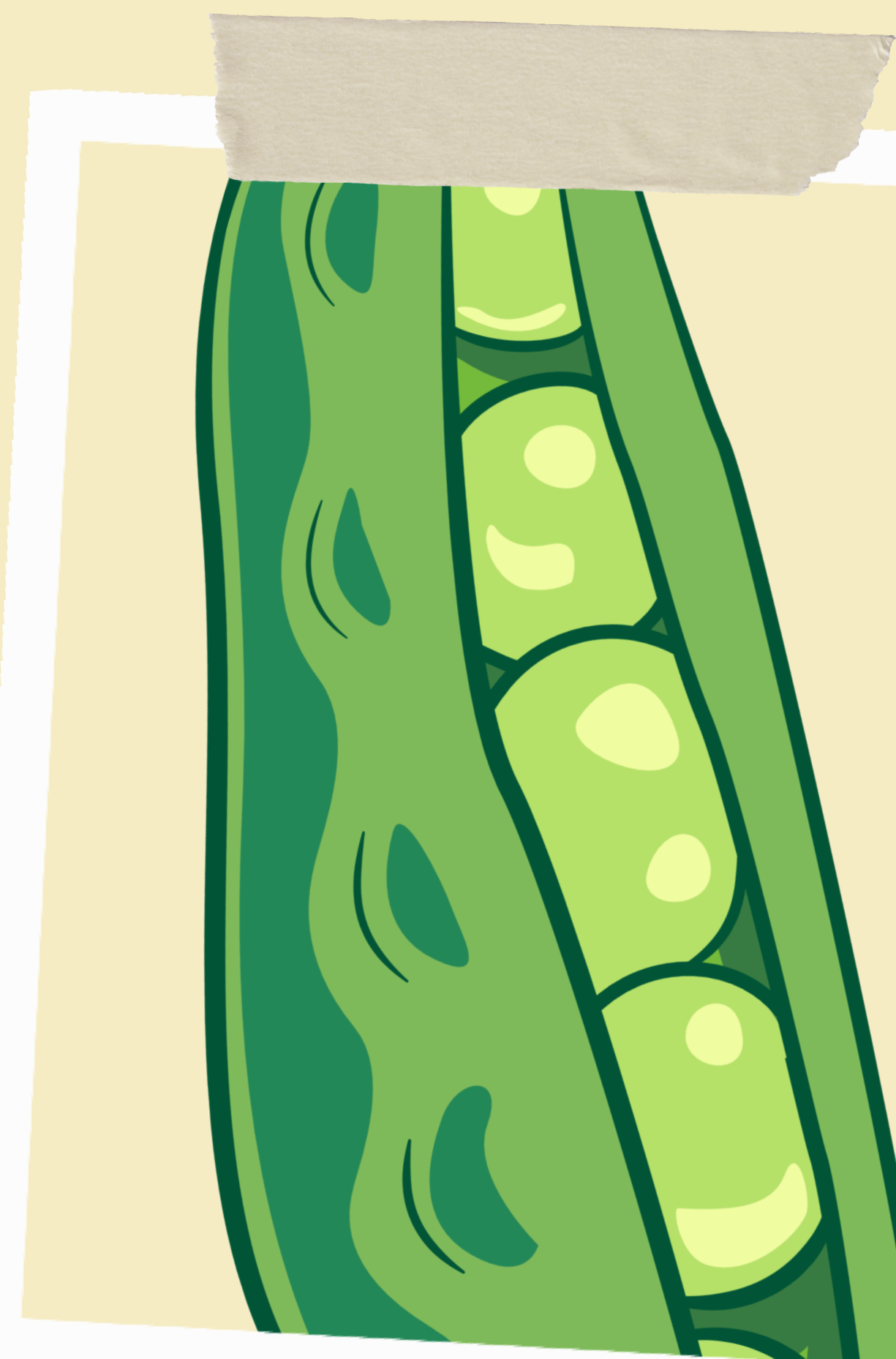
30

The Farm Stand is a collaborative pop-up market and educational project run by the UMSFP and Campus Farm. Open Thursdays 12-3PM in the fall, the stand provided food to 784 people this year!



Mission: increase student access to healthy, local, and affordable produce on campus.

Hundreds of students engaged with the Farm Stand through numerous educational and creative avenues: playing the trivia wheel, taking home plant care guides, doing seed exchanges, learning about the produce, submitting recipes, and submitting student-made art and poetry to the Underground Zine.



STUDENT ORGANIZING EFFORTS FUNDED BY UMSFP'S MINI-GRANTS FOR FOOD JUSTICE JUSTICE

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY SPEAKER EVENT

LA CASA & UNITED ASIAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS (UAAO)

In November 2021, UMSFP provided \$700 for these two organizations to cater an educational event where Professor Ivette Perfecto spoke and initiated conversation about food sovereignty as it relates to labor organizing in communities of color. The event garnered an attendance of 68 students, and, according to Leilani Fonseca from La Casa, "many [of them] left the meeting with a lot of new knowledge [and] inclined to take a class that focuses on the environment."



FOOD SYSTEMS & GENDER EVENT

WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION ON RIGHTS TO HEALTH (WORTH)

In February 2022, UMSFP helped WORTH plan a collaborative event that analyzed American government-run food assistance programs from a feminist perspective. Through the art of black-out poetry, attendees worked together to capture the feminization of poverty with pieces that were later displayed at WORTH's showcase. UMSFP also provided \$530 for art supplies, pamphlet materials, light snacks, and room fees.



COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT ZINE

MICHIGAN ANIMAL RESPECT SOCIETY (MARS)



In February, MARS created an internal committee whose goal was to launch a sustainability zine. UMSFP provided \$659 so that MARS could print 1000 copies their zine. Through art, the org sought to share community knowledge of sustainable lifestyles and uplift marginalized voices. The zine was distributed as physical copies across campus and as a digital file on Issuu.



UMSFP's grant program runs on a rolling basis to fund student-led projects that center food justice. To receive funding, a grant must receive unanimous support from the entire leadership team, who collaboratively considers applications during team meetings. The leadership team may then offer feedback and up to \$1000 in support, as well as consultation and marketing resources. This past year, \$3720 was granted to six different student organizations.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PANEL MINORITIES IN AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND RELATED SCIENCES (MANRRS)

In March, MANRRS held a panel in honor of Women's History Month about redistributing power across gender lines in the professional chef/cooking world. UMSFP provided \$450 as compensation for the three panelists, who were professional chefs. The org also used this event to promote submissions for their open access recipe book that they're collaborating with the Campus Farm on.



PALESTINE AWARENESS WEEK STUDENTS ALLIED FOR FREEDOM & EQUALITY (SAFE)

In March, SAFE hosted Palestine awareness week, with days that included "(im)Possible Imagination: Palestinian Futurism in Art & Film" and "Art as Resistance Teach-In." To help promote the accessibility of Palestinian cuisine, UMSFP provided \$350 for the org to cater food from Jerusalem Garden.



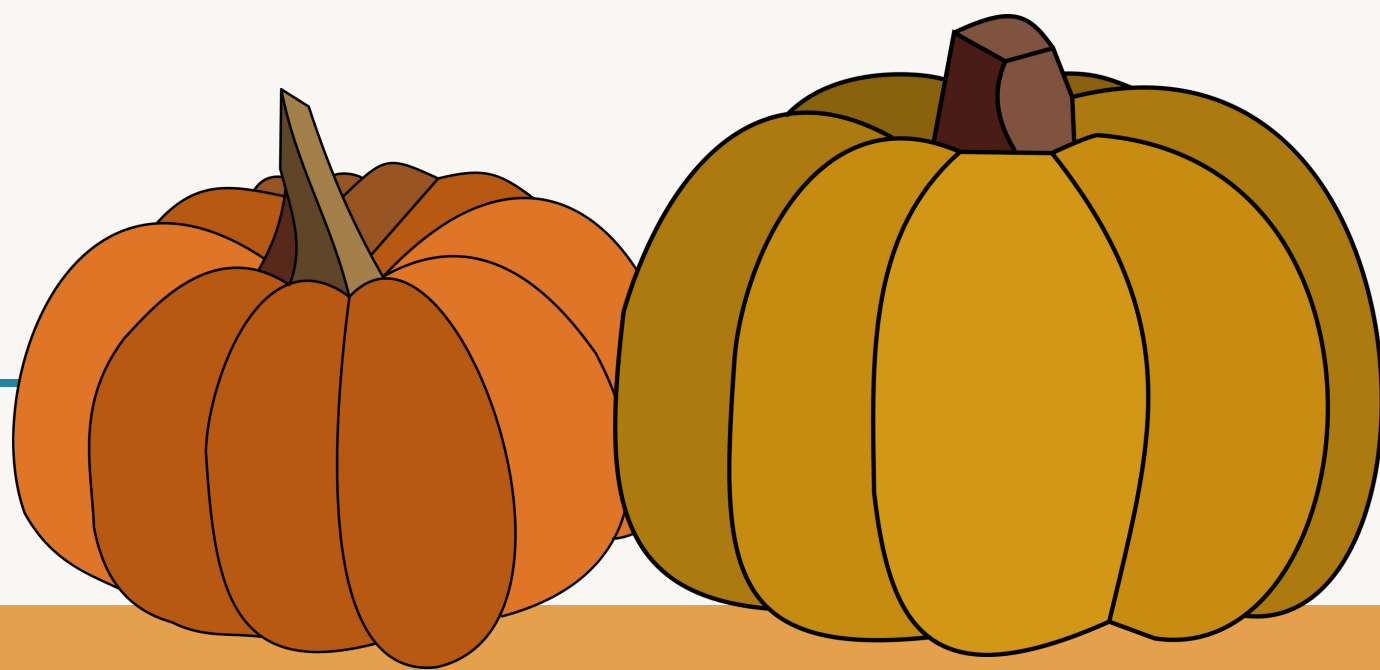
OCCUPY TROTTER: MASS MEETINGS BLACK STUDENT UNION (BSU)

In April, the Black Student Union at U-M held two mass meetings as part of their Occupy Trotter campaign. The meetings aimed to foster fellowship among student orgs and empower students of color's use of Trotter Multicultural Center. UMSFP provided \$580 for the BSU to serve snacks at these community-building events.



HarvestFest

Fall 2021



23 ▶

CANVA STORIES

In partnership with the Campus Farm, at this year's HarvestFest we achieved a recording-breaking attendance of ~800 people (we ran out of parking space!). Activities included student and local organization tabling, Campus Farm and Edible Landscape tours, crafts, and more. Overall, HarvestFest was successful in engaging visitors with the UM campus and broader Ann Arbor food systems.

Activities featured at this year's HarvestFest:

- Scavenger Hunt
- Foraging Workshops
- Screen printing
- Leaf/Flower stamping
- Campus Farm Tours
- Farm Stand pop-up
- MDining catering with Campus Farm produce
- Organization tabling
- Live music!



23 ▽

ORIES

CANVA STORI

▽

23 ▽



Rooting for Change: Student Food Summit

Held at Palmer Commons, the first ever in-person Rooting for Change had a total attendance of +100 students, with an additional ~30 students leading learnshops and Tiny Talks. Students shared and explored innovative approaches to food justice across the 9 educational learnshops, administered self-care check-ins during wellness breaks, reflected on their relationship to food and food systems, and heard from fellow students living and learning food justice at the summit's keynote Tiny Talks.



Link to RFC content:



WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups are creative, free-thinking collaboration networks for students of all academic backgrounds to work together on visionary food justice initiatives. These groups are low-stakes, with students encouraged to engage in any capacity that they can. **This year we had 48 active members and 43 additional event and program participants!**

PERSONAL & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

New this year, the Personal & Community Resilience working group fostered resilient individuals to weather the physical, emotional, and social impacts of the climate crisis, by building tools for wellness activism through mindfulness practice and creative expression, hosting a safe space to unpack eco-anxiety through group discussion, and with an end-of-year potluck to engage the community-building power of food!



FARM STAND EDUCATION

The Farm Stand Education working group assembled care guide for the Earth Day herb sale, as well as offered a tour of the Campus Farm so students could witness where Farm Stand produce is grown and how!

ANTI-RACISM & FOOD JUSTICE

This year, the ARFJ working group had a dedicated team of members that came out to meetings again and again!

In the Fall, they planned a screening and facilitated discussion of Tunde Wey's keynote address from the 2021 Detroit Food Summit with 25 event attendees! In the Winter, they had a series of reflective reading-based conversations centering anti-racism in food systems.



INTERDISCIPLINARY LEADERSHIP

GROWING OUR BASE: ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

UMSFP led coalition building for cross-disciplinary sustainability through a variety of academic collaborations, including partnerships with...

- The Intro to Comprehensive Studies Program -- engaged 26 students in student food sovereignty at the Farm Stand
- The Sustainable Living Experience First Year Seminar
- "Food at U-M" First Year Seminar -- the cohort had a class assignment where they restored historical U-M banquet recipes, now found in "The Underground" zine
- Environ 391 -- research team exploring how the Farm Stand can support student gardeners
- Engineering -- class project about process flow for customer check-out at the Farm Stand



Reflections from a semester with UMSFP:

A mini chapter book / journal

By Emily Freeland

DEEPENING OUR ROOTS: LEADERSHIP PORTFOLIOS

At the end of the year, UMSFP leadership team members each created a portfolio artifact highlighting the work they've done, accompanied by a narrative reflection on their own learning and key takeaways from the year. Together, the portfolio contemplates one's own food justice story and builds visionary momentum for individual next steps.

THE UMSFP ZINE, "THE UNDERGROUND"

From the Leadership Team's desire to incorporate artistic exploration and creative expression into our food justice activism, the Underground was born! This year, we produced three editions of The Underground, including submissions from a cross-disciplinary array of 39 students with content ranging between personal stories, collages, poems, a how-to guide on dorm pickles, and more!



Psst...The Underground Zines are available in the Food Lab (located in the basement of Betsy Barbour), spread the word!

Next Steps and Our Inspiration

Over the course of the 2021-22 school year, the UMSFP leadership team has bonded a lot, and we're hoping that energy continues to flow through the passionate new members of our team and out into our communities in 2022-23. Next year, you can expect a number of new roles—the Student Engagement, Social Media, Systems, Farm Stand Education, and Creative Engagement Managers—who will push our team to think more broadly yet critically about food justice. As imperfect models for a sustainable food system, together we will challenge each other to learn and develop our capacities for leadership, facilitation, transformation, authenticity, and mindfulness, reforming our approach to visionary food justice as we learn and grow through our work.

While approaching the decennial anniversary of UMSFP and the Campus Farm's first Harvest Fest, we reflect on how the program has evolved from just a seedling proposal in 2011. A justice-oriented organization—our work must be continuously grounded by the gravity of our shared theory. We take many cues from the principles of emergent strategy and the practitioners who have come before us. Activist adrienne maree brown is one of those that holds a special place in our organizational heart. In her words:

"Together we must move like waves ... each one is unique and responsive ... The waves we create are both continuous and a one-time occurrence ... We must notice ... how it feels to be in a body, in a whole -- separate, aligned, cohesive. Critically connected" (Emergent Strategy, 16).

We hope for this report to look different year-to-year; a storyline of iterative, mini UMSFP's conceived from new and different Leadership Teams. Simply put, we are the work and it is us. We do what we can as change agents for a better planet.

THANK YOU,

Chase Dautrich & Izzy Beshouri
UMSFP 2022-2023 Co-Presidents