

## *Graduate Center Community Updates*

**Double Victory! Reclaim the Commons has successfully pressured GC Management to reopen the cafeteria and open a food pantry by Fall 2023.** This is a huge win and demonstrates the power of our collective direct action.



**Reclaim the Commons demands:**

1. **The operations of the cafeteria and pantry must be transparent and include community consultation and governance.**
  - a. A timeline for pantry and food service reopening must be provided, with regular updates.
  - b. All partnerships and funding sources must be disclosed and communicated.
  - c. The GC Community, including students, faculty, and staff, must be involved in all decision-making.
2. **The reopening of the cafeteria must not conflict with the use of the dining commons as a community space.**
  - a. The Commons is now a community space, autonomously run by the people for the people, and not for profit. The cafeteria must accommodate this fact.
3. **The cafeteria and pantry must provide accessible, affordable, high-quality food.**
  - a. Food must be fresh, clearly label nutritional contents (i.e. low sodium, low cholesterol), and meet various dietary restrictions (i.e. kosher, halal, vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free).
  - b. Cafeteria services must include affordable hot lunch options that do not exceed \$10.
  - c. Access to the pantry must not be limited. Need is need.
  - d. The pantry must have immediately consumable items and this must never consist of day-old items from the cafeteria.
  - e. Staple goods in the pantry must be accompanied by recipes of no more than 9 ingredients that require basic cooking tools and are easy to follow.
4. **The pantry must be a People's Pantry - accessible to all.**
  - a. The pantry space must be unlocked at all times, and accessible whenever the building is open.
  - b. Zero red tape. The GC Community should be able to freely access food without being surveilled and without giving personal details. Any tracking must be based on usage rather than user data.

**As we maintain focus on food access and democratizing space, we also recognize a larger ecosystem of Graduate Center needs.** Instead of being siloed from each other, we welcome all GC students, faculty, and staff—across the DGSC, Graduate Council, and PSC—to address these issues (and more!) together:

- **No Confidence in GC Upper Admins**
- **Expand Childcare Center hours and affordability**
- **Fix the Budget Office**
- **Freeze rent and utilities costs for GC student and faculty housing**
- **Fair and fully funded union contracts**
- **CUNY for Abortion Rights demands**

Spring 2023 timeline: [shorturl.at/demEH](https://shorturl.at/demEH) (case-sensitive)

Graduate Center Professional Staff Congress - <https://psccunygc.commons.gc.cuny.edu/>

Rank and File Action - <https://www.rankandfileaction.com/>

Reclaim the Commons - <https://psccunygc.commons.gc.cuny.edu/category/reclaim-the-commons/>

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## ***Upcoming Graduate Center Events***

<https://psccunygc.commons.gc.cuny.edu/events/>

### **Tues. April 25 @6-8pm, 8th floor Commons *Farha film screening***

Watch an award-winning film about a Palestinian girl's coming-of-age experience as part of Palestine Education Week.

### **Wed, April 26 @4:30pm, 8th floor Commons *CUNY Struggles Across Generations***

Learn about the 1969 Harlem University Strike, 1991 Graduate Center occupation, 1990s-2000s Student Liberation Action Movement, and 2020 Free CUNY and Cops Off Campus initiatives.

**Thurs, April 27**

**@2-6pm, 9th floor Skylight Room**

### ***Making Good On Our Public Mission: The Future of Public Scholarship at the GC***

A panel and working groups will think concretely about the democratic ethics and material resources necessary to create sustained avenues for public scholarship.

**@6:30-8:30pm, online**

### ***Abolishing Policing and Militarism on Campuses***

Critical Resistance's Abolitionist Educators working group, Cops Off Campus/No Cop City, and Dissenters will talk about strategies and practices for abolishing policing and militarism on campuses. **Register:**

[eventbrite.com/e/byat-abolishing-policing-and-militarism-on-campuses-tickets-616748731057](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/byat-abolishing-policing-and-militarism-on-campuses-tickets-616748731057)

**Mon, May 1 (May Day!) - more details:**

<https://psccunygc.commons.gc.cuny.edu/events/>

**@2:30pm Hunter walkout and speak-out**

**@4pm Lehman protest rally and march**

**@6pm MORE Care Not Cuts rally**

### **Wed, May 3 @7-8:30pm, 8th floor Commons *Herstories: Womyn Creators in Comix & Graphic Novels!***

Comic book and graphic novel writer-artist-creators Jennifer Camper, Sara Gómez Woolley, and Sabrina Jones will give CUNY a look at *their* comics worlds in a special presentation.

### **Thurs, May 4 @6pm, GC front steps *We Protect Us***

Join a performance of LASTESIS' "a rapist in your path" to protest a twice-accused rapist tenured in the GC Philosophy Department. All in solidarity welcome. Dress in all black.

### **Tues, May 9 @6pm, 8th floor Commons *For the Public: Linking Struggles in Schools, Libraries, and Prisons***

Librarians working in city, school, jail, and CUNY libraries will discuss austerity, policing, and attacks on Black, queer, and radical books, as well as organizing happening in these spaces, to join forces across public institutions in New York City and build a stronger movement.

### **Wed, May 10 @6pm, 8th floor Commons *Study, Rebel, Repair, Liberate: Collective Book Launch with Ariana González Stokas, Joshua Myers, Conor Tomás Reed, and Bianca Williams***

Celebrate four recent books that bridge across Black, Puerto Rican, anticolonial, and feminist studies and movements to offer lessons for our CUNY struggles and far beyond. Books for sale by Mil Mundos. **Register:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/study-rebel-repair-liberate-collective-book-launch-tickets-616681068677>

### **Wed, May 17 @5pm, 8th floor Commons *The People's Party!***

End-of-semester celebration in the Dining Commons! There will be food, drinks, and cake!