

Vision Fellowship

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Project Summary

The Office of Black Student Development's Vision Fellowship is a cohort-based year-long program in which students can apply with a passion project of their choosing and receive various resources to successfully bring their project to fruition such as a stipend, a mentor, physical workspace, and support with distribution. Although the year's incoming cohort goes through a more rigorous year-long journey, students can continue their projects beyond their cohort year and build on their existing project themes to expand the depth and reach of their work.

Impact

The Vision Fellowship impacts the 5 selected fellows by supporting the pursuit of their passion and providing various resources such as a stipend and mentor throughout their project completion process. Most projects had a far-reaching impact due to their focus on community wellness and education. This year's projects were highly inclusive of other students and the community as a whole. Three fellows in this year's cohort put out calls for poets, artists, and actresses to join their projects, incorporating them heavily into the creative process. Additionally, the community felt and saw the impact of these projects on multiple levels. From a film screening on the mental health impacts of Black hair to financial wellness workshops and mentorship programs, community outreach was a central theme of the year. I believe this program is highly impactful because it encourages students to be multidisciplinary, pursue their passions, and infuse creativity into their work, thereby inspiring their peers to do the same. We had approximately 50 attendees at our end-of-year reception, including family members, UCSB staff, and faculty mentors. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions, engage with the fellows' work, and learn more about the fellowship.