

INMAGELA RIVAS ABREU

Curator • Researcher
Artist • Educator

education

2024-current

Ph.D. student in Anthropology
University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)
Chicago, Illinois

2022-2024

Fulbright Scholar Museum and Exhibitions
Studies - MUSE
University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)
Chicago, Illinois

2023

Cook County Master Naturalist - Training
University of Illinois Extension University of
Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Chicago,
Illinois

2013-2017

Bachelor in General Psychology
Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y
Mestra (PUCMM) Santiago, Dominican
Republic

fellowship & leadership

2023

Smithsonian Latino Museum Studies
Program Graduate Summer Fellowship
Practicum: Latinx Health, History, and
Sexuality. National Museum of American
History (NMAH)

2022-2024

Fulbright Foreign Student Program -
Scholarship

2023

Chicago Creatives for Justice Arts
Fellowship
Grassroots Collaborative

2018

Representative Delegation of the
Dominican Republic
Urban Campus
Buenos Aires, Argentina

work experience

Rafael Cintrón Ortiz Latino
Cultural Center. UIC

2023 - 2024

Chicago,
Illinois

Graduate Assistant

- Assist with the Climates of Inequality project including a traveling exhibition and public programs.
- Assist analyzing content for the exhibition panels, creating promotional materials, organizing the exhibit opening reception, developing programs around the exhibit and the center

2023 UIC MFA Thesis Shows: “a
series of encounters” & “CTRL +
histories”

Chicago, Illinois

- Scenography/exhibition design
- Installation support
- Writing labels
- Curatorial support

Surviving the Long Wars

Spring 2023

Chicago Cultural Center

Hyde Park Art Center

Chicago, Illinois

- Writing +50 extended labels and texts in Spanish for both sites
- Installation support/production assistant
- Giving creative tour in Spanish at Hyde Park Art Center

Field Museum

2022 - 2023

Chicago, Illinois

Collections volunteer

- Digitizing the permanent collections
- Navigate and upload media into the collections management database, KEMu and do research.

Centro León

2021-2022 Santiago,
Dominican Republic

Research Assistant

- Write about the pieces of the permanent and temporary collection.
- List and curate pieces for temporary exhibitions.
- Research, contact artists and study the Visual Arts collection to write the labels for the institution's website and archive.
- Administrative tasks that respond to the needs of the Research Department.
- Make internal trips in the country for investigative issues and institutional representation.
- Assume the role of Curatorial Assistant for temporary exhibitions.
- Prepare curatorial script and checklist of temporary exhibitions of small formats.
- Work closely with temporary exhibition artists.
- Prepare document assembly instructions and artwork assembly.

Ciudad Alternativa

Summer 2021

Santo Domingo, Dominican
Republic

Graphic Designer

- Graphic design and illustration of materials for social media related to settlements, poverty, and inequality in poor neighborhoods.
- Photography and dissemination of research publications carried out by the institution.
- Review and correction of research reports before they are printed and published.
- Cover designs for the institution's research books.

languages

Spanish (native)

English

workshops

2023

Chicago Wilderness Midwestern Ecological Prescription Burn Crew Member training

Lake County Forest Preserves Based on the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's (NWCG) S-130 and S-190 courses, Fire behavior, controlled burn techniques, and smoke management.

2021

Politics Studies

Escuela Política Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic •Three-month political training program, political history, social movements, environmental movements, government, activism, social and environmental justice.

2019

Curando Caribe

Centro León Santiago, Dominican Republic •Four-week training in curatorship focused on Archiving, Museography and Writing for Exhibitions.

volunteering

- Lake County Forest Preserves
- Lake Forest Open Lands and Friends of Illinois Nature Preserves
- Birds in my Neighborhood - Open Lands
- LGBTQ+ Resource Center, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale, IL
- TECHO - Dominican Republic
- Activism workers, LGBTQ+, politics and gender social movements
- Centro de Investigación para la Acción Femenina (CIPAF)

work experience (cont.)

Centro León

2017-2021

Santiago, Dominican Republic

Assistant of Visual Arts and Exhibitions

- Administrative work that includes preparation of the 5 annual budgets of the departments of Visual Arts, Conservation, Media Library, Museography, and Registry.
- Logistics for the acquisition, transport, and returns of artworks.
- Work with artists as artistic assistant.
- Curatorial Assistant of the large-format exhibition: "Being Oscar" dedicated to Oscar de la Renta. Work with textiles, purchase materials for exhibition and assist in the installation.
- Curatorial Assistant for temporary exhibitions.
- Design technical sheets of the objects and works of art in the exhibitions.
- Plan and support the execution of the Curando Caribe training program for Caribbean curators.
- Logistics of the 4th edition of Tilting Axis.
- Planning, execution and curatorial assistant of the Continuous Training Program for Artists.

TECHO - DR

2013-2021 Santiago, Dominican Republic

Coordinator of Training and Volunteering

- Planning of training folders and educational materials for unique activities (construction of emergency housing in communities in poverty and surveys).
- Recruitment and training of volunteers.
- Training on how to build emergency housing.
- Training related to surveys and outreach to families in the communities.
- Carry out Annual Team Planning at the national, regional and university/educational level.
- Annual evaluation of the actions carried out.
- Fieldwork in the communities in poverty situation.
- Attend meetings with government representatives and representation of institutions at a national and international level.
- Assume leadership roles in unique activities, including leading construction and surveys, school life and transportation, lodging and feeding volunteers.

Centro León

Summer 2017

Santiago, Dominican Republic

Education Assistant

- Plan Summer Camp for small artists.
- Support the Training Program for Artists.
- Construction of the Archive and report on murals carried out within the Ciudad Reciclada project.
- Administrative work.
- Logistics of lunches for educators of children's educational programs and Summer Camp.
- Purchase of materials for educational programs.
- Work with artists and educators in the educational programs of the museum.
- Plan and support the execution of the Curando Caribe training program for Caribbean curators.