



Established in 1975, BAHIA has provided quality bilingual care and education to many children in Alameda County. Our **Mission** is to provide families with a nurturing, dual language, and learning community where children emerge as engaged contributors to a global society. Our **Vision** is to create a just world that embraces racial, cultural and linguistic diversity.

Isabel Blanco Ramirez Community Service Award – valued at \$4,000

The **Isabel Blanco Ramirez Community Service Award** was created by her family, Maria Blanco, Daniel Ramirez and Amaya Blanco to keep her spirit alive in our hearts and community. 2022 is our ninth year of the **Isabel Blanco Ramirez Community Service Award** and we invite the eligible alumni of BAHIA programs to apply. This award is available thanks to the generosity of Blanco/Ramirez family and friends; and, in memory of our beloved Isabel, who unfortunately left this world sooner than we wanted. Isabel attended both Centro VIDA and Bahia School Age Program and later as a high school graduate volunteered her time at Bahia School Age Program.

Like many of our BAHIA alumni, each has found themselves returning to our programs where lifelong friends and memories were made. Isabel volunteered in the summer of 2009 and it was here that we saw how drawn she was to children, community, culture and practicing her bilingual skills. Isabel was able to connect with our school agers through her creativity, art and spoken word. Her family saw how the hours she spent at Bahia added to her creativity and how as a result of her community service, it became something that she was proud of. In honor of her memory and to the many students, who like her would like to return to BAHIA, a special community service award has been created to keep her spirit of mentorship alive and give our alumni the opportunity to serve as mentors for the younger generations.

We want to share and spread her enthusiasm for volunteering and for the arts through this award. This is a paid internship to encourage BAHIA alumni to work at Bahia School Age Program and serve as a bilingual role model for the younger generations, as Isabel had. In Isabel's honor we invite friends, family and supporters to donate and increase the opportunities for more than one student to receive this inspirational award and to keep Isa's memory alive. Que viva Isabel!



Mentorship Program

Alumni will be able to interact with the students and serve as role models for them through activities, tutoring, field trips, etc. Alumni will also receive training on working with school age children ages 5 to 10.

Professional and Leadership Development

Alumni who receive the award will be able to work in the classroom with the students during the summer and the week of spring break, assisting the lead teacher, helping with classroom activities, going on field trips with the class, and get hands on experience of how to run and manage a classroom and conduct or assist in an arts workshop with school age children.

We hope that through this internship our alumni find an opportunity to give back through their community service and to gain valuable experience in working with children.

Eligibility Requirements

- Must have attended BAHIA Inc. programs Centro VIDA, Bahia School Age Program or La Academia.
- Must commit to working 30 hours the week of April 4th – 8th, 2022 – and will be paid \$17.00 an hour
- Must commit to working for 30 hours a week for 7 weeks during the summer – and will be paid \$17.00 an hour
- Must be between the ages of 15-21
- Alumni 18-21 must be fingerprinted (at BAHIA's expense) and have clearance from Dept. of Justice
- Alumni must be fully vaccinated (has received all recommended doses in their primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.)

Essay and Application

To be considered for this award, please answer the **essay questions**, **complete the attached application** and include a **picture of yourself**. Submit via email to Jacqueline Guerrero at jackie@bahiainc.com or hand deliver to 1000 Camelia Street, Berkeley, CA 94710. **Applicants will be notified on March 28th, 2022**

Essay Questions

Please include answers to the following questions in your essay. Essay should be no more than 600 words, typed and double spaced.

1. **What are some of your greatest memories at BAHIA, Inc.?**
2. **What does community service mean to you and why do you think it's important?**
3. **Discuss a special accomplishment that sets you apart from others.**
4. **Briefly describe your long and short-term goals.**

Deadline for Applying: Sunday, March 27th, 2022

For additional information/Q&A please email jackie@bahiainc.com