

2007-2008
AMERICAN HUMANICS GRADUATES

ERNESTO SAAVEDRA*

Graduate & Intern

Dual Major: Sociology and Psychology
B.F. Skinner Foundation (100 hours) Mentor: Criss Wilhite
Californians for Justice (200 hours)



Cesar Chavez said, "The end of all education should surely be service to others." I must share the knowledge I've gained with others and apply it. Only then is knowledge power. I do not just "volunteer," rather I give a little bit of myself to whomever I am helping and to whatever I am doing. Through the American Humanics Program, I have learned that leadership is something we are capable of doing. All we need to do is look in the mirror, have hope, and believe. Leadership is not bigger than us. It is us. Leadership is found every time we look in the mirror.



TZITZIJANIK JAZMIN SERRANO CAMPOS***

Graduate & Intern & AH NextGen Leader

Major: Sociology
Sierra Foothill Conservancy (450 hours)
Mentor: Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis

My internship meant I had an opportunity to look at the world from inside a nonprofit. I was able to learn about the technical workings and the passion towards a mission that makes a nonprofit successful. I was able to meet incredible people that I otherwise would have never met.

SUSAN VANG***

Graduate & Intern

Major: Sociology
United Way of Fresno Co. (150 hours) Mentor: Ann Vermel
American Heart Association (150 hours)



Of all my Fresno State experiences, the American Humanics Program has been one of the most profound. AH has provided me with value-added opportunities, introducing me to a world of community building that I did not know existed. It's amazing how I can apply so many aspects of this program to so many facets of life. To me, it's more than just classes, service projects, and internships; it has been an experience that has cultivated a lifelong commitment to community. Thank you to the organizations and communities that I have worked with in the last year for allowing me to have the chance to make a positive difference in Fresno and within myself. Thanks also to the University and AH for investing in my career preparation and for recognizing that valuable experiences and learning can occur outside the classroom.

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APRIL BEJARANO**

Major: Sociology
Kids Invent (200 hours) Mentor: Voeun Dos-Bou

Through my internship with Kids Invent, I have increased my experience in working with children, my teaching skills, and interpersonal relationships. I have been able to network with others in the community and developed knowledge and skills that will enhance my professional development.

JOE CHA*

Major: Health Science (Health Administration)
Central California Blood Center (154 hours) Mentor: Fran Tanner

My internship at the Central California Blood Center means opportunity. This opportunity encourages me to develop my experience which can assist me to discover my career field. My major achievement during my internship is developing a positive relationship with donors.

MOR X. CHANG**

Graduate Student: Master's in Social Work
Healing Hope, Inc. (300 hours) Mentor: Zang Xiong, MSW

My internship experience has been very rewarding because the organization is a newly incorporated 501(c)(3) faith-based organization serving Southeast Asian families and youth at risk of family breakdown and youth delinquency. Healing Hope will be providing cultural sensitive mental health services.

MARIE DE LA CRUZ*

Major: Sociology
Boys 2 Men Girls 2 Women (150 hours) Mentor: Joseph Perry

This internship has been a great learning experience. I have realized that there are many children that need to be reached in our community. I learned the role of a program director because I was the director of an after-school tutoring center.

ULISES FERNANDEZ***

Major: Chicano and Latin American Studies
Ronald McDonald House (840 hours) Mentor: Pedro Santana

Working for the Ronald McDonald House was the culmination of years of study. I am able to apply and enhance everything that has been learned in the classroom and through my extra-curricular activities. I thank Fresno State for this opportunity. My education and now practical experience has prepared me for my professional career.

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SAL GALLEGOS *

Major: Business - Information Systems
Jaron Ministries International, Inc. (150 hours) Mentor: Gene Beck

The fall 2007 internship taught me four things: how to apply my learning, and other acquired skills; increased team coordination experience; increased my technical knowledge and experience in field; and, most importantly, technical management and time management.

JOANNE GARDUQUE*

Major: Sociology
Community Food Bank (150 hours) Mentor: Lisa Cisneros

My internship with Community Food Bank offered great experience and knowledge about the nonprofit sector. Everyone at Community Food Bank made me feel welcome. Through this internship and the American Humanics Program, I feel that I make a difference in my community.

CONNIE GONZALES**

Major: Sociology
Fresno Nonprofit Advancement Council (300 hours) Mentor: Kate Henry

Working as an intern at the Fresno Nonprofit Advancement Council reinvigorated my interest in technology while introducing me to the business world of nonprofits. This enriching experience honed my technical skills and left a resource for local nonprofits to access.

STEVEN MARCIAL*

Major: Psychology
United Way of Fresno County (150 hours) Mentor: Carla Jackson-Tucker

My American Humanics internship experience has benefited me substantially. It provided me with the opportunity to work in a professional workplace environment. After being exposed to this, I am more prepared to become a professional. This internship has also increased my quantitative and communication skills, which will benefit me in the future.

SALVADOR L. ORTIZ***

Major: Social Work Minor: Business
Fresno County EOC Sanctuary Youth Services (80+ hours)
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services-SAMHSA-Grants Management (600 hrs)
Mentors: Joe Martinez and Stacie Hines
Helen Zhou, Kathleen Sample, and William Reyes

I enjoyed working with EOC Sanctuary Youth Services. This gave me great experience working in a nonprofit, which will be very valuable to me in the near future. My internship with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services was a hands-on learning experience. This internship helped me see how the administrative parts of grants are done from the top and gave me great experience working with a federal agency.

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SUSANA MORENO TZINTZUN*** **Graduate & Intern & AH NextGen Leader**

Major: Health Science (Community Health)
Faith in Community (300 hours)
Mentor: Julia Lerma

Through this internship, I was able to truly understand the importance of change through community organizing. In theory, the concepts appeared natural and readily attainable, but in practice they were a constant challenge. I feel that my mentor, Julia, has helped me gain a valuable perspective of organizing through her experience in the field and my hands-on opportunities. American Humanics has been a life-changing experience for me.

MARYLOU ORTIZ*

Graduate & Intern
B.S. in Psychology
Fresno County EOC Sanctuary (150 hours)
Mentor: Joe Martinez



To date, American Humanics (AH) has been one of the greatest life turns that I have had. AH not only prepares students to succeed but also develops lasting friendships, connections, motivation to be active leaders in our communities, and, most importantly, to obtain positive change for the people who need it most.



ROBIN PETROSSO***
Graduate & Intern
Major: Liberal Studies
West Park Elementary School Campus Care (300 hours)
Mentor: Deniella Rodriguez

Through my internship, I have been able to strengthen my teaching skills. I love working with the students to help improve not only their school work, but their involvement in the community as well as improving their self esteem. American Humanics has changed my life. I have formed some wonderful friendships, gained priceless experience through my applied coursework, networked with nonprofit professionals, and been exposed to areas of nonprofits that I would have otherwise overlooked. I am proud to be a part of this AH program.

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LIONEL LOPEZ, JR.***

Graduate

Major: Sociology
Fresno Regional Foundation (1200 hours)
Mentor: Dan DeSantis



Through my involvement with the American Humanics Program, I have learned that leadership is a remarkable ability that should not be taken lightly. Leadership is most effective in people having the capacity to accept different views, the sense of responsibility to hold themselves accountable to their supporters, and the wisdom to differentiate social good from personal gratification.



DONNA MASSA**

Graduate & Intern

Major: Sociology
Sierra Foothill Conservancy (300 hours)
Mentor: Jeannette Tuitele

I started American Humanics wanting to just get certified, but it turned out to be more than just a certification. After completing the program and working on my own project, I have realized the knowledge and skills I have gained from AH has given me the confidence and capability to run my own nonprofit.

GINA MOLINA***

Graduate & Intern & AH NextGen Leader

Major: Liberal Studies
Holy Family Catholic Church (1000 hours)
Association of Fundraising Professionals (CA Valley Chapter)
Mentors: Rev. Fr. Geoffrey Farrow; Yezdyar Kaoosji



I have appreciated the opportunity available through our American Humanics Program to participate as a board member of the local AFP chapter. In addition, my experience as an AmeriCorps ProCorps member has allowed me to apply my learning and skills. My greatest achievement was organizing a Career Fair for 175 high-risk youths and seeing the window to the world open up before their very eyes. I felt honored to serve them and their families by offering them a new opportunity.

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SAVINO PERICO*

Health Science (Community Health)
Fresno County EOC Sanctuary (150 hours) Mentor: Joe Martinez

I have really enjoyed my experience at the EOC Sanctuary. It has been eye opening and has helped reinforce my decision to work in the nonprofit sector. I have learned a lot from a great program manager, Joe Martinez. It feels great making a difference and having a positive impact on youth.

GENEVA SKRAM ***

Major: Sociology Minor: Gerontology
Certificates: Special Event Planning, Serving At-risk Youth, & Urban Planning
San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Inc. (300 hours)
Mentor: Barb Ruiz, Education Programs Manager

My internship allowed me the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gained from American Humanics' coursework. I contributed to the mission of the organization through the coordination and supervision of Summer 2007 education programming for children at the River Center through the "Nature of Art Camp," "Something's Fishy" program, and "River Buddies" program for preschoolers. My major achievement during my internship was providing environmental educational programming for over 750 youth.

CHIA THAO***

Graduate Student: Master's in Public Health (Health Promotion)
Fresno County EOC Health Services Clinic (300 hours)
Mentor: Gilda Arreguin

I'm very glad I had the opportunity to work with Fresno County EOC Health Services Clinic. I have had many valuable experiences, including, health education awareness, public health presentations, and health outreach programming which have positively impacted my professional growth and development.

ELEANOR URIVE*

B.A. Liberal Studies
American Humanics Program (150 hours) Mentor: Dr. Matthew Jendian

Through my internship, I was able to enhance my personal and professional development. This experience allowed me to interact with students, professors, local nonprofit organizations, and the community. I am grateful for this opportunity and being able to work with Dr. Jendian.

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RICO AGUAYO
Graduate**

Major: Sociology Minor: Psychology
California Rural Legal Assistance (200 hours)

My applied learning experiences with the Kauffman Social Entrepreneur Internship Program & American Humanics Program, have provided me with a vast social network. This experience has given me the opportunity to be a successful and contributing member of the community.

KELVIN ALFARO*
Graduate & Intern**

Dual Major: Psychology and Sociology
Certificate: Cross-Cultural Competency
United Way of Fresno Co. (1700 hrs) Mentor: Anthony Richardson



Having access to many people that cared about me—all my mentors—made all the difference for me. It is by “standing on the shoulders of giants” that I have found the strength and commitment to strive for the best in my college career, and it is because of their example that I want to be in the service field.



**STEPHANIE AVILA-RAMIREZ*
Graduate & Intern**

Major: Business Management & Organizational Leadership
Pregnancy Care Center (150 hours)
Mentor: Vern Reynolds

I was assigned as a grant writer for PCC. While I was able to write a grant for them, I believe my real achievement was the foundational grant pieces I have assembled as a case statement for the organization. This is the impact that will show years from now.

**YVONNE BROOKS*
Graduate & Intern & AH NextGen Leader**

Majors: Sociology, Women Studies, & Liberal Studies
Fresno Nonprofit Advancement Council (150 hours)
Mentor: Kate Henry



Working with Kate Henry has been a rare and privileged opportunity. It is not often that one gets to study under the tutelage of a CEO of a non-profit organization and observe first hand how she handles business on a daily basis. It was my pleasure to assist her.

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SUSANA CURIEL*
Graduate & Intern**

Major: Spanish
Stone Soup (900 hours) Mentor: Kathy Garabed

Being in the American Humanics Program and serving as an Ameri-Corps ProCorps member with Stone Soup Fresno has taught me many lessons. I have been inspired by Kathy Garabed and Dr. Jendian, and I have altered my views about many aspects of nonprofit organizations. For example, I realize nonprofits give community members the opportunity to invest back into their community. I know that when I give money or time to something in my community, I am investing in something I believe in.

SARINA INIGUEZ-DE LA ROSA*
Graduate & Intern & AH NextGen Leader**

Dual Major: Sociology; Chicano & Latin American Studies
Central Valley Higher Education Consortium (200 hours)
Relational Culture Institute (300 hours)
Mentors: Teresa Zenteno and Maria Velasquez



These experiences have provided me professional development through the opportunity to manage time and build relationships with organizations in the communities of Fresno and Tulare County. I must say my greatest achievement is that through the American Humanics experience I have been prepared to handle the everyday workings of a non-profit.



GUADALUPE LOPEZ
Graduate & Intern**

Major: Sociology
Fresno Nonprofit Advancement Council (125 hours)
Fresno Veterans Hospital (200 hrs.)
Mentors: Kate Henry and Aaron C. Utendahl, Sr.

My work at both organizations gave me the opportunity to apply in-class learning in the areas of management, organization, supervisory, and leadership skills in a professional setting. The educational experience has provided me the skills to help assist in improving the quality of life for others.