



Monica Amelia Garcia

Exploring my indigenous origin, has given me an appreciation for the richness and diversity of Indigenous culture.

Born in Mexico City and raised in the melting pot of Los Angeles, Monica values and appreciates cultural diversity. Her vacation trips to Oaxaca and Yucatan as a child, always left her with an unexplained curious desire to explore her indigenous origins. Since Latin American History is scarcely taught in public schools, Monica read books when she could and took some classes in college and University. She obtained her AA in Child Development from Los Angeles Valley College and her BA in Spanish from California State University Los Angeles. Her combined experience and knowledge in these fields gave her the opportunity to accept many roles with her current employer at LAUSD, whom she has been part of since 2006. When her daughter Celeste came to her with the idea and desire of starting G.E.M, Monica was delighted to help her due to her passion in culture exploration and female empowerment.

Monica volunteers as the Program Outreach Community Coordinator. Since she has a full time job and is a mother of two daughters, she prefers helping the team by networking and reaching out to contributors and programs from home. However, Monica is involved in most events, in addition to mentoring the teen volunteers and providing lesson plans for tutoring. Monica has always been inspired by the silent heroes that make a difference everyday without expecting praise. For this reason, she loves working with this amazing team. Monica plans on returning to University to obtain her teaching credential and pursue her Masters Degree in Education. On her spare time, Monica enjoys a good film, poetry, and chocolate!