

YSC Employee Questionnaire



Name: Andrea Castellanos

Title: Program Assistant & Youth Organizer

Education: B.A. in Sociology – California State University Northridge

Hometown: Guatemala City, Guatemala but grew up in The San Fernando Valley

Family: Youngest of three and the only girl.

Some say it's a good thing, but I say it definitely comes with its disadvantages too.

Hobbies: Music is my therapy! I also consider myself to be a food and wine connoisseur in the making!

How did you come to Youth Speak Collective?

I came across the YSC Higher Education Facilitator job listing in January while finishing up my last semester at CSUN. While going to college, I knew I wanted to do something that was larger than me. I wanted to give the world what I have to offer and not just take what the world offers me. I found a passion in helping others and decided that the Non-Profit Sector was the way to go. I am a firm believer that it only takes one person to impact someone's life. I can only imagine how many more lives will be impacted by having a team of individuals with similar passions standing behind you. The possibilities are endless.

What is your role at Youth Speak Collective?

I play various roles here at Youth Speak. As a Program Assistant I assist our Executive Director providing administrative and program support. I also assist in community activities and events. As a Youth Organizer, I help facilitate our after school programs at San Fernando High School such as SAT Prep and Speak Up. Our SAT Prep provides youth with academic support and Speak Up provides youth leadership and empowerment. We encourage our youth to become inspiring leaders within both their school and community.

What is the best part of your role?

I get to "wear different hats." I am able to use all my abilities as well as learn new ones on an everyday basis. I get the best of all worlds, I get to plan how to inspire the youth and I get to support our executive tasks as well.

What is your favorite TV Channel?

BRAVO- Reality shows are my guilty pleasure!

Favorite place you have been and why?

I have yet to find that place and am in search of it.

Where is the next place you would like to go?

Paris, France. I want to taste authentic French cuisine.

What makes you laugh/cry?

Laugh – My friend April is the best to make me laugh! We can do absolutely NOTHING and have the time of our lives. We are quite the duo together.