

Adriana

Librarians for Tomorrow



Adriana, a Librarian for Tomorrow recipient, will bring a unique perspective to the MLIS program and to the field. As a security officer for the last three years at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, she has observed the diverse backgrounds and needs of its patrons. Adriana plans to assist in making every library a safe place for all members of the community.

Born and raised, in what used to be a small farm town of Tracy, Ca, Adriana graduated from Tracy High School the same Alma Mater as her entire family. Her parents, Rebecca and Juan are great role models and have blessed Adriana and her two siblings Daisy and Juan with strong work ethics and morals.

Adriana graduated from San Jose State University with a B.S. in Health Science and a concentration in Gerontology. While in college, Adriana found Sigma Theta Psi multicultural sorority. The sorority provided a family away from home as well as a way to stay active in the community. Adriana continues to stay active by organizing and assisting in annual toy drives, teaches classes as a certified Rape Aggression and Defense instructor, and by volunteering in the community at senior centers and for non-profit organizations. Adriana is artistic and enjoys sewing, party planning, singing and home decorating. She also loves to read, play a wide range of sports, dance, and would some day love to have visited at least five of the seven continents.

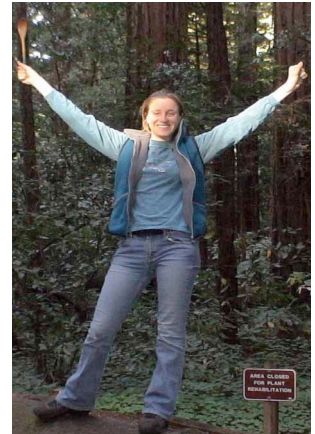
Adriana is a newlywed who met her husband at a party in U.C. Berkeley where he attended. Although they live in San Jose, Berkeley will always be in their hearts. They enjoy traveling and exploring California and Nevada by automobile. Adriana feels beholden to have been able to marry her best friend, confidant, and greatest supporter.

Adriana is excited as she ventures into the world of a Librarian and plans to take advantage of what the program and grant has to offer. She feels that she can make a

difference in the community and reach out to the underserved and overlooked populations in order to create a stronger community for everyone.

Alejandra

Librarians for Tomorrow



Hello, I'm Alejandra! I was born and raised in Argentina. I moved to the states 10 years ago with my parents and younger brother. My whole family is very academic. My parents hold more than four higher degrees between the two of them, my brother is an engineer, and my husband is a graduate student in a genetics-neuron science lab at UCSF. I am also a huge nerd, but I like to believe I can hide it well. I am currently pursuing a PhD in history at UC Berkeley. I study the colonial southeast and the spread of information in a pre-postal age.

It is here that my two passions merge. I am deeply interested in how information moves, get stored, and recorded. It is thus no surprise that I want to become an archivist! But besides the academics...I am avid traveler. I have been to most of East and Western Europe, most of the countries in beautiful South America, and this summer I am headed to Japan and Thailand. I also love to hike, bike, and swim, but especially to make hearty, delicious meals after any of those activities. My favorite pastime is whale watching. I

honeymooned in Alaska so I could see these beauties, and I head to Monterrey or Mendocino as often as I can to see the whales migrate.

If you ever see a blond hair lady screaming "Come on, Breach!" Its probably me. I am very excited to start this program. And I am particularly thrilled to be accompanied by a cohort.

Connie  
Librarians for Tomorrow



Connie was born September 17, 1971 in Hong Kong, a city referred as the “Pearl of the Orient”. Her mother, Ada, who did not finish her third grade, raised Connie and her sister by herself. Ada believed good education was the key to success and she nurtured Connie’s love for reading by taking her to the libraries on a daily basis. The librarians and teachers there helped Connie to explore the world as well as her own interests through reading. They also guided Connie in the process of finding resources and opportunities to finish her education.

Connie received her bachelor degree of Business Administration from Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1993. Because of her strong analytical skill and solid management training, Connie was hired by Standard Chartered Bank, one of the big three credit card issuing banks in Hong Kong, as a process re-engineering officer, to streamline the operation processes after graduation.

Shortly after moving to the United States in 1996, Connie decided to pursue her interest in veterinary medicine. She was accepted to the University of California, Davis in 1999 but postponed her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine study for a year in order to spend more time with her newborn son, Christopher. Connie explored her interests in different

aspects of veterinary medicine, including public health and wildlife conservation, through externships and research projects at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention as well as the UC Davis Wildlife Health Center. She received numerous scholarships, research fellowships and an award for clinical proficiency during her four-year study. Connie was accepted to a one-year postgraduate training in small animal medicine offered by the Bay Area Veterinary Specialist in 2004. Because of her Chinese background and personal experience in traditional Chinese medicine, Connie finished an intense post-graduate training in veterinary acupuncture. She received her certification from the International Veterinary Acupuncture Society in June 2006. Connie is currently working as a small animal general practitioner at Danville Veterinary Hospital and helping all size of small creatures by combining both western and eastern medicine.

Elizabeth

Librarians for Tomorrow



My name is Elizabeth and I feel honored to have been selected to receive an MLIS scholarship and look forward to making a contribution to the diversification and broadening of the role of libraries as vital educational resources to minority and low-income communities. I am originally from the community of Boyle Heights in Los Angeles. I currently live in Salinas, CA, a city known as the “Salad Bowl of the World” where I work as an Eligibility Specialist for the Housing Authority of the County of Monterey. In the past I have also worked in the fields of education and grass-roots community organizing within with the migrant Latino community in Salinas.

In 2002, I graduated from U.C. Santa Cruz with a double major in Latin American/Latino Studies and History. While there, I worked extensively as a Research Assistant for Professors in the History and Anthropology Department. My interests as an undergraduate revolved around the historical significance of Mexican popular culture both in Mexico and the U.S. I took my interests further through my involvement with Los Mejicas, the student-run Mexican folklorico dance troupe at UCSC. As a member of the dance troupe I was a Co-Director for a year and was a dance teacher and choreographer for the group thereafter. I have always had an interest in archival work particularly as it pertains to the areas of popular culture in minority communities. I look forward to bringing my interest to the field and hope to use my educational and work experience to make a difference.

Frances

Librarians for Tomorrow



My name is Frances and I was born and raised mostly in the Bay Area. I graduated from San Jose State University with a B.F.A. in Pictorial Arts. Since then, I have been employed as a children's art teacher with grants from the Arts Council Silicon Valley and as a Library Page at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. I have had the opportunity

to bring these two worlds together at the library, where I have both assisted and lead art workshops with children and young adults.

When I am not shelving books or painting pictures, I am listening to records, reading, sewing, knitting, riding my bike, hiking, camping, and dreaming of where I will travel next.

I have been to Costa Rica, Mexico, Canada, France, and Belgium and hope to explore much more.

I look forward to my graduate studies in Library and Information Science at SJSU. It will be a great way for me to expand on my personal and professional experiences. My interests within the library are in children's, public, literacy, and working in multicultural communities.

Georgette

Librarians for Tomorrow



Georgette is a graduate of San José State University with a BA in Psychology (1976). She has over 30 years administrative experience ranging from clerical support in the Stanford and San José State University school systems to program management in community based organizations such as Economic and Social Opportunities, Inc. (the largest community action

agency in Santa Clara County) and Asian American for Community Involvement. For the past 13 years, Gale has been employed at San José State University in the Departments of Political Science, Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, and currently in Counseling Services. Along with her husband (critically acclaimed musician) Eddie Gale, San Jose's Ambassador of Jazz and Jefferson award winner, Georgette is co-founder of the annual Concerts for World Peace a not-for-profit event that has been held for the past 10 years. In collaboration with the San Jose Public Libraries Georgette has coordinated the Peace Poetry Contest part of the Concerts for World Peace for the past 4 years. Students from the Santa Clara County schools and San José State University participate and the winners receive monetary prizes for writing poems about world peace. She believes that the key to world peace begins with each of us practicing our own inner peace daily.

Georgette enjoys music including jazz, classical, and gospel. She also enjoys traveling and the wonderful environment of the ocean.

Grace

Librarians for Tomorrow



Recently, I discovered I am primarily a kinetic & auditory learner whereas most people are visual processors. This continually

illuminates my life. It explains why I don't easily recognize people I've met before.

My family were Orange County produce farmers. My elder brother passed on in infancy. I did not speak. I pantomimed to my older sister & younger brother who interpreted & told my parents what I wanted.

Finally, when I was 3, I began to speak in full sentences. Living on the farm & trips to the park nurtured my enjoyment of gardening, produce stands, farmer's markets, farmland & nature.

The city built a school on our farm land. My dad was in his 40s, had injured his back farming, so he trained in New York to be a stockbroker. We moved. One dinner, I was told to sit on my hands before telling about my day. I could not speak. My dad said he didn't know where I got that from. Small wonder I enjoy charades, interactive museums (yay Exploratorium & L.A. Children's Museum), scavenger hunts, bowling, miniature golf & the hokey pokey.

When I was 12-13, I convalesced in a body cast for 9 months after scoliosis surgery. My mom would hear me speaking with someone then see me having conversations with myself. I still talk, hum &/or sing while walking or doing things. My affinity for puns developed when my friends punned with me & brought Bored of the Rings, The Phantom Tollbooth to read. I read Erma Bombeck & Jack Smith to my mom.

Years later, I learned the surgery saved my life by preventing my ribs from crushing my heart & lungs. I wrote up a "Things to do in Life" list. My mom & I took an earring design class. I rock climbed, skydived, parasailed after being inspired by Proffitt (VPHS teacher) film festivals. I co-led a movement workshop after an adventure course. I want to learn ASL & eventually sign story hours, however it's very challenging to learn something by watching someone demonstrate an activity when one is not primarily a visual learner.

Last year, I fulfilled another life list item by taking a clay sculpture class. I've always wanted to touch sculptures. I exhibited the first pieces of two sculpture series. I will complete both series within the next five years. I will learn wood & stone sculpture. I will prepare stories collaborations of my husband & me to be published.

I am very blessed with friends, family and especially meeting, falling in love & marrying with the love of my life. I continue my quest to discover what my gifts are, sharing them, opening hearts, minds & senses to the miracles of flowers blooming, autumn leaves, life, sunsets, pooches, kindness, friends, cubs, dark chocolate, yummy food, dance, art, stories, theatre, love... & the gifts people are. Mahalo to my honey for faith, love, forgiveness, kindness and balance.

Isabel



## Librarians for Tomorrow

I have B.A. in Spanish and Elementary Education teacher preparation from New Jersey City University. Currently I teach Spanish in middle School in San Carlos, CA and work in a children's bookstore some afternoons and weekends. I've lived and taught in New Jersey, Florida and now, California, where I live with my husband, Ruben. I have 2 daughters, Elizabeth, who works in the fashion industry in New York City, and Natalie, who attends Boston University.

I thank my father, a voracious reader, for my love of books and learning, and my mother, who emigrated from Cuba, for teaching me to count my blessings no matter how tough things get and to enjoy every beautiful day.

Juan

Librarians for Tomorrow



My name is Juan. I am 27 years old. I was born on August 2, 1980. I am Mexican-American. I have 5 brothers and sisters including me. Both my parents were born in

Mexico. My father is from Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico. My mother is from Durango, Durango, Mexico. I love soccer more than anything even though I don't get to play it as much as I use to, maybe because I am incredibly out of shape.

I graduated college in 2002 from U.C. Berkeley. I worked as a mortgage loan officer for 2 years (from February 2003-March 2005) before I entered into the teaching field. I taught elementary school from November 2004-June 2006. I taught kindergarten in Spanish.

I guess I should talk about why I want to become a librarian. I worked in two different academic libraries in college and really enjoyed them. I just love how the library is a place that is always clean and quite (trust me much quieter than elementary schools). I really enjoy helping people find and research scholarly material. I have always enjoyed academia and wanted to pursue my Ph.D. but realized that this profession is a better fit. After library school I am considering an M.B.A. or a masters degree in Latin American Studies so that I can become a research librarian at a major university.

I have always enjoyed school maybe because I am an intellectual (or some would say an egghead). Hey, but what can you do? You got to get in were you fit in.

Kamilah

Librarians for Tomorrow



Kamilah is the Teacher Librarian at Locke High School within the Los Angeles Unified School District. Prior to becoming a Teacher Librarian, Mrs. Jackson taught English Language Arts at the Middle School Level for four years. She has served a total of ten years active and reserve duty with the United States Coast and graduated Officer Candidate School in New London, Connecticut. During her tours in the Coast Guard, she served as a Command Duty Officer at Sector LA and a Foreign Freight Vessel Inspector for the Marine Safety Office in LA-LB. Upon leaving the Coast Guard duty station in Los Angeles California Kamilah Jackson ranked Lieutenant/0-3. A graduate of Grambling State University, Mrs. Jackson earned Bachelors degrees in both Spanish and English. She continued her graduate education at the University of Phoenix and holds a M.A. in Secondary Education and a Single Subject Credential in English. She will enter the Masters in Library and Information Sciences program at San Jose State Fall 2008.

Kamilah is a member of California School Librarians Association, Computer Using Educators, Los Angeles School Librarians Association, and California Librarians Black Caucus. She is the recipient of the 2007 Louise Jane Moses - Agnes Davis Memorial Scholarship presented by the California Librarians Black Caucus. Kamilah has also been awarded the Librarians for Tomorrow Scholarship and has been accepted to the Masters in Library and Information Sciences program at San Jose State University.

Katherine

Librarians for Tomorrow



Around five months before March 27<sup>th</sup> in the late seventies, my mother, father, and two brothers were expecting an addition to the family. The doctor from Cudahy, Wisconsin was certain that the firm kick in my mother's stomach had to come from a boy. When 2:57 in the afternoon came by, everyone was surprised and glad I made it safely into this world, and that I was in fact—the opposite of what they were told. Nevertheless, my parents planned my arrival to celebrate their journey to America, for they wouldn't have had me if they didn't make it here. Upon their arrival to America, they only had fifty dollars. Still, they were determined to make it. My father who was once respected as a captain in the war became a butcher; whereas, my mother, who was once a biologist became a seamstress. Finally, in the 1980's when my parents heard of the Silicon Valley's job explosion, they followed the news to California where I spent most of my life.

As a teenager, I grew up hearing stories from books and proverbs that were recited by my parents. Meanwhile, my interest in people grew. Wherever there were books on Psychology, Literature, or Philosophy, I had to be there. I would frequently go to garage sales and library sales that were held on certain week-end mornings; I knew how senior citizens would wake-up early to load their bags with books, and I wanted so much have their knowledge.

During the second decade of my life, I went into Psychology for four years in Southern California. After earning my degree, I worked as a counselor in a group home, but when I witnessed constant chaos, I left that job and tried another position as a family specialist. I remember how happy I was seeing changes in children's lives; however, I came upon a realization one day when I was working with Jesse, a child who was very special to me. It wasn't enough to implement strategies or token economy. Simply, children need sincere care and education. I took him to the library and we began to read things about Biology, which greatly interested him. His demeanor altered as we read together. From that time on, I knew I had to pursue a career where I can draw out knowledge. After working in mental health, I found a position as a tutor at the local library. Twice a week, I worked with Lupe who wanted to enhance her reading and life skills. She had Aphasia, an ailment that robbed her of short-term memory, and my goal was to show her techniques for semantics within words. Little by little, my joy increased as her ability to recall improved.

My love of public and academic service has brought me here today. Now, I teach ESL and GED. Moreover, I work at the library, which has introduced me to the valuable work that librarians do such as increasing literacy and building communities through Outreach Services. In essence, I am so thankful to be in the MLIS program at SJSU and equally grateful for the Librarians for Tomorrow Program.

Padmashree

Librarians for Tomorrow Scholarship



Namaste, I joined the San Jose Public Library as a pool Library Aide. Working at various branches, I gained a deeper understanding of the role libraries can play in serving the diverse needs of the community. My area of interest is fostering lifelong learning in children, teens and adults using both traditional and new instructional mediums. I currently conduct bilingual story time for children at the King Library. I participate in the community outreach activities organized by the library.

I also volunteer at "Read Santa Clara" as a tutor for adult learners. I am a graduate of "Leadership Santa Clara" program. The program enables me to serve the community and enhance my leadership skills.

I was born (and grew up) in India, a country with rich diversity in languages, traditions, cultures and cuisines. My father worked for the federal government which required us to live in different parts of the country. This enabled me to learn several languages, appreciate different cultures, traditions, and interact with people of different backgrounds. After high school I enrolled in the University and earned a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. Being the only female student in my class I learned to be independent and passionate in what I do.

I moved to this country ten years ago. I enrolled in college to further my education and enhance my skill set. Being an enthusiastic learner, I successfully completed few "Certificates of Achievement". I have been on the Dean's Honor List.

I am humbled to be awarded the "Librarians for Tomorrow" scholarship. This

scholarship will enable me to gain in-depth knowledge of current best practices to serve customers in our increasingly diverse communities. The MLIS course, coupled with my engineering background, will enable me to integrate the traditional library services with emerging digital and web technology. By providing such services, I hope to greatly enhance the relevance and contribution of the libraries to the community. I deeply appreciate my family, teachers, colleagues and friends for their motivation, encouragement and support.

Pat

Librarians for Tomorrow



Born and raised in Pasadena, California, I moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1991 to attend UC Berkeley. Some say college is where you find yourself, at Cal I found a woman of African Caribbean descent who is a xenophile and film lover. As a member of AIESEC (an international student group which promotes leadership through cultural exchange) I had the opportunity to meet many international students and found a diverse community of friends. I fell in love with film at Pacific Film Archive and their programming continues to lure me back to campus. I also attend various film festivals in San Francisco.

After receiving a Bachelors degree, I began work at AuPairCare corresponding with domestic field staff and international recruiting agencies. Eventually I grew to miss the direct international contact and accepted a position as Student Services Coordinator for ASPECT International Language School. In what has been my favorite job to date, I helped English Language learners navigate American culture. I am happy to say I am still friends with some of those students.

In 1998, I enrolled in the Master of Counseling Psychology program at Golden Gate University where I enjoyed learning more about myself and human development. Eager to put my new skills to work, I sought employment at the L.E.N. Business and Language Institute as the Assistant to the Director / Vocational Counselor / Job Developer. After three years, I longed for a learning environment found in institutions of higher education. For the past four years I have successfully managed the front office for Counseling and Psychological Services at the University of San Francisco.

As I approach my mid thirties without having started a family, I have decided to establish myself in a career. I am very pleased to accept the Librarians for Tomorrow scholarship where I plan to train to be a children's librarian. As a child I spent many hours in the Pasadena Public Library children's room and know how access to learning at an early age can be a formative experience.

My hobbies and interest include recycling, Afro-Brazilian dance, Afro-Latin music, foreign and independent film as well as scrap booking and card crafts. I have danced in Carnaval San Francisco and practice Portuguese with brazilophiles. I am the proud godparent of two HAPA children: Madeline born last December and Jake who celebrated his third birthday in May. I enjoy interacting with kids and provide occasional child care to friends, and families in San Francisco.