



The Bridge School Teacher in Residence Program 2012 - 2013

Program Overview: This project offers, to an individual from a country with emerging technology innovation, an in-depth internship within The Bridge School program. The Teacher in Residence program is a philanthropic award presented bi-annually to an individual by The Bridge School, in collaboration with the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC).

The primary goal of the Teacher in Residence program is to assist the candidate in developing a skill base and expertise in the area of augmentative/alternative communication service delivery. This program was developed to bring information about augmentative/alternative forms of communication and assistive technologies to a country where little information or training currently exists.

Candidates who are selected for the program already possess the educational background, professional experience and appropriate licensure/credentialing in their home country to provide services to individuals with disabilities (e.g., special education, speech-language pathology).

Candidates are solicited who currently serve children in special education settings, or who train teachers/therapists to work in these environments. This specialty training opportunity at The Bridge School enables the individual to return to his/her country and promote the use of AAC for children/adults who are currently being underserved.

The primary setting for the Teacher in Residence training program is The Bridge School educational program in Hillsborough, California. The eighth Teacher in Residence award announcement will be made in May 2012.

Program Goals: Through the Teacher in Residence program, we hope to:

- Have an impact on the lives of children and adults who cannot verbally communicate and live in countries where knowledge, skill and availability of assistive technologies are only emerging,
- Broaden The Bridge School's training model to work with multicultural populations of teachers, therapists and families,
- Establish collaborations with other organizations working in the area of AAC.

Projected Timeline for 2012-2013 Teacher in Residence Award:

January 2012 – Announce the opening of the application process
March 30, 2012 – Deadline for submission of applications
May 2012 – Final selection of candidate and announcement of award
January 2013 – Candidate to arrive at The Bridge School
July 2013 – Candidate returns to home country

The Teacher in Residence will be on-site at The Bridge School for approximately seven (7) months (January to July). In-country follow-up will be scheduled during the 2013-2014 academic year.

Previous Recipients of the Teacher in Residence Award:

Usha Dalvi, Bombay, India
Alina Smyczek, Krakow, Poland
Sarah Yong, Singapore
Gabriela Berlanga, Mexico City, Mexico
Nomble Veronica Gavu, Cape Town, South Africa
Kirsty Nourse, Durban, South Africa
Kyung Im Han, Changwon, South Korea

More information about this program can be found on The Bridge School web site at <http://www.bridgeschool.org/outreach/tir/index.php>. Applications for the 2012-2013 Teacher in Residence Award can be downloaded from this location.