

Brittnay Connor '14



“Austin College taught me to think about my community and how I could affect change to make society more equitable. My 2015 Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Colombia taught me to think about my global community and the impact I could have on it.

“Living and working in Cali, Colombia, forced an independence and self-reliance that I never knew I had. It put me in charge of university students who both humbled and inspired me. My students asked hard questions, they taught as much as they learned, and they showed me what it truly meant to be Colombian. My eyes were forced open about social inequity throughout Latin America and its root causes. When my students shut down their university to protest closing the local hospital, I realized the depth of impact one can have through education.

“When I returned to the U.S, I was able to embody the ideas that I had seen there in my own classroom. It truly prepared me to walk into a classroom of immigrants and understand not only the journey they took to arrive at my school but the reasons behind it. Without my Fulbright experience, I would not be the teacher I am today.”

Brittnay is a Bilingual Lead Teacher at Paul L. Dunbar Learning Center in Dallas, Texas.