

Application Related Information

Application:	Application Verified	Iteration Name:	202330_GR_G
Grad Program Applying To:	MIT	Program Name:	MIT

Recommendation Information

Recommended By:	Rosie Wilson-Briggs	Recommenders Title:	
Recommenders Institution:	Environmental Science Center	Contact Name:	Valeria Martínez Espinoza
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.	Recommendation Waiver Choice:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Form Submitted:	✗	Recommendation Status:	Received
Received Date:	08/10/2022 02:02 PM	Recommender Assessment:	
Recommendation Type:	General	Recommender Form:	Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Entity ID:	1024000107772852	Recommendation Owner:	Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:	Applicant ability as self-directed learner:
Time since last contact with applicant:	Applicant as productive member of group:
Relationship with Applicant:	Applicant most significant strengths:
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Responsibility/reliability:
Communication Skills - Oral:	Communication skills - written:
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Ability to work independently:
Ability to handle stress:	Ability to think critically:
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Ability to think creatively:
Openness to feedback:	Potential for leadership:
Ability to work in a team:	Personal/professional reflection:

Description Information

Description:	Form URL:	https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu
--------------	-----------	---

Other Information

Created Time:	07/26/2022 12:00 PM	Created By:	Josephine Bernier
Modified Time:	08/10/2022 03:07 PM	Modified By:	Shalimar Pedersen

Valeria Martínez Espinoza Letter of Recommendation

Rosie Wilson-Briggs <rosie@environmentalsciencecenter.org>

Wed 8/10/2022 2:02 PM

To: Graduate Admissions <graduateadmissions@evergreen.edu>

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter is to wholeheartedly recommend Valeria Martínez Espinoza for the Master in Teaching program at the Evergreen State College.

I have worked with Valeria at the Environmental Science Center (ESC) for many years; she was hired as a naturalist in 2020, but even before that had been a dedicated volunteer. I have worked with Vale both as a fellow naturalist and in a supervisory position, as I transitioned from being a naturalist to being the Programs Coordinator in August of 2020.

Vale has been an invaluable member of the ESC team since she first started volunteering. She is patient and present when working with all participants, particularly young children. She is highly aware of the needs of students, and responds to and accommodates them, while consistently connecting the curriculum to students' interests and experiences. Vale excels at asking students questions to spark their curiosity and make connections. When we switched to an all-virtual field trip program in the fall of 2020 she adapted quickly and skillfully, playing a significant role in the creation of pre-recorded videos as well as teaching live virtual lessons from the field.

Vale is able to speak, write, and teach in both English and Spanish fluently. This is a crucial and extremely relevant skill, as a large portion of the students we work with in south King County are Spanish speakers. In particular, a number of schools that we work with in the Highline School District have classes that are Dual Language in Spanish and English. Valeria is one of the naturalists that we have relied on to lead programs for these classes year after year. She has also created many pre-recorded lesson videos in Spanish that are now a part of our library of learning resources for teachers. In addition, Vale has single-handedly translated many of our educational materials into Spanish, including student field journals, organisms ID guides, and chaperone feedback forms.

Valeria is a thoughtful, responsible, and enthusiastic member of the ESC team, consistently contributing to staff trainings and debriefs, responding to all requests in a timely manner, and always showing up for staff social gatherings (both in-person and virtually).

I fully support Vale's goal to further her career by obtaining a Master in Teaching degree and becoming a classroom teacher. I will be sorry to no longer work with her as a naturalist, but I look forward to partnering with her as a teacher, when she hopefully will bring her classes on field trips with the Environmental Science Center.

Sincerely,

Rosie Wilson-Briggs

--

Rosie Wilson-Briggs (she/her)

Programs Manager



**located in Seahurst Park, Burien, WA*

EnvironmentalScienceCenter.Org