

Vagando Towards Empowerment

NEV BEST START & HER VAGA
BOUND ROOTS PRESENT:

VAGANDO TOWARDS EMPOWERMENT

Educational Equity and Mental Health
Awareness



A series of workshops that
promote post-secondary
education preparedness and
retention as well as mental health
awareness.

Visit us at
www.laep.org
www.hervagaboundroots.com



NEV BEST START Y HER VAGA BOUND
ROOTS PRESENTAN:

VAGANDO HACIA EMPODERAMIENTO

Equidad educativa y educación sobre la
salud mental



Una serie de talleres que promueven la
preparación y retención de la
educación postsecundaria, y educación
sobre la salud mental.

Visítanos
www.laep.org
www.hervagaboundroots.com



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Table of Contents

1. Proposal
2. Her Vaga Bound Roots Mission
3. Goals & Objectives
4. Vagas With Degrees Series
5. Nationwide Movement
6. Vagas With Degrees Scholarship Foundation
7. 2020 Recipients
8. Career and Development Workshop Series
9. 20 Questions Live Series
10. Project Proposal
11. Workshop Series Breakdown
12. Importance of Building Community Voices
13. Budget Proposal
14. Timeline of Utilization
15. Join the Movement
16. Contact Info

Vagando Towards Empowerment

The [National Longitudinal Surveys](#) program states fewer students of color attend four-year colleges than white students do. Compared to 40% of white, only 30.6% of Latinx; and 27.1% of Blacks attend a four year college.

A 2002 study done by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) showed 64.3% of white students finish a four-year degree within six years, compared to 55% of Latinx students and 39.8% of Black students. These alarming numbers demonstrate the systematic barriers that are still in place that impact the retention of BIPOC students in higher education.

More than one in five college students are parents, according to new analysis of data from the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study.

Several large-scale developmental studies, Duncan and Brooks-Gunn (1997) concluded that maternal education was linked significantly to children's intellectual outcomes. This study shows that more resources are needed to support college students who are also parents.



HER VAGA BOUND ROOTS

A 501(C)3 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
GEARED TOWARDS THE EMPOWERMENT
OF WOMEN OF COLOR

A vaga is often defined as a woman who wanders the streets without a purpose or mission. Stand with us as we reclaim what being a VAGA means; a strong, resilient and fearless woman striving to break glass ceilings, break gender norms and defeat all odds.

Founded in 2018, Her Vaga Bound Roots, Inc. supports and empowers BIPOC by increasing access, supporting retention, celebrating resiliency and bringing light to community voices. Recognizing the societal, systemic and familial barriers for community members in marginalized communities, and the stress of pursuing a path away from one's home due to cultural and gender norms, HVBR is reclaiming the term vagabond [Vaga] by celebrating resilience in pursuing a path towards self-improvement that ultimately promotes educational equity, thereby creating a better life for her family.

With this proposed project, HVBR will include a two-generation emphasis to move the entire family towards educational success and also destigmatize mental health and build parent power. The project will target an important subpopulation of our core demographic: low-income parents of children that are 0-5 years of age.

Goals

Increasing access to higher education for womyn of color

Granting merit based scholarships through the Vagas with Degrees Scholarship Foundation

Objectives

Building a community through in person and virtual platforms

Providing access to mentors and other academic and professional resources

Advocating for professional and personal success and development

VAGAS WITH DEGREES SERIES



Vagas with Degrees Series is a platform that features trailblazers and highlights/celebrates the success of women of color earning degrees by sharing their untold stories with the world every graduation season.

"It's SO important to highlight those that are on that path to success while simultaneously motivating and inspiring one another, so that young women have role models to look up to." - Jennifer Guzman, HVBR Secretary



Nationwide Movement



VAGA Graduates from following institutions:

- UCLA
- USC
- NYU
- UC Berkeley
- Columbia
- UCSB
- UCSC
- SFSU
- WSU
- Florida International University
- Cal State, Northridge
- Cal State, Los Angeles
- Cal State Long Beach
- Loyola Marymount University
- San Jose State University
- Mount Saint Mary's University
- University of Redlands
- Los Angeles Mission College
- Chapman University, School of Law
- Salisbury University

With the following degrees:

- BS in Nursing
- BA of Science in Accounting
- BA in Sociology
- BA in Film & Marketing
- BA in Psychology
- BA in Anthropology and Education
- BA in Industrial/Organizational Psychology and Entrepreneurship
- BA in Social Work
- BS in Political Science
- BA Psychology
- BA in Liberal Studies and Spanish
- Masters in Social Work
- Masters in Counseling Education
- Masters in Speech and Language Pathology
- Masters in Communications
- Masters of Science in Counseling & School Psychology
- Masters of Science in Human Resource Management
- Masters in Education
- Juris Doctor

Vagas With Degrees Scholarship Foundation

Financial challenges are a common barrier for students pursuing higher education, especially those from low income households or marginalized backgrounds.

Our goal is to uplift women navigating college by providing them with a merit and need based *Vagas with Degrees Scholarship*



*Our scholarships are made possible by charitable & taxable donations from the general public. We fundraise year round. Visit our website to donate today!



2020 Scholarship Recipients



Her Vaga Bound Roots launched their first ever Vagas With Degrees Scholarship Foundation 2020-2021 scholarship recipients. We received over 75 applications, an impressive and extremely competitive pool of Undergrad, Graduate/Master, and Doctoral students representing 59 schools across 23 states. Our committee made decisions based on the applicant's need, merit, additional aid received, personal insight/self-reflection, and the letter of support attached.


Our 2020 Scholarship recipients from left to right, Gabrielle Smith, MS Ed. (She/Her/Hers) Old Dominion University, Higher Education Phd Program / Breanna Gomez (She/her/hers), University of California, Los Angeles, Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience / Sarahy Torres (She/Her/Hers), University of California, Los Angeles, Incoming Freshman / Brittney R. Davis, M.A.Ed. (She/her/hers), University of Miami, Ph.D. in Community Well-Being / Nangeli Abigail Alcantar (She, her, hers), University of Washington, Master of Social Work. Visit our website to learn more.

Building Vaga Dreams Workshops


Part of HVBR's mission is to empower and equip women with the necessary tools to succeed academically and professionally. Our career and development series of virtual events: Building Vaga Dreams, aims to do just that. Check out our workshops below and stay tuned for future events.

Roadmap to PhD

Join Her Vaga Bound Roots and First Generation Frameworks for a conversation with two first generation Latinx students who recount and reflect on their PhD journey. There will be time allotted for a Q&A discussion.





Vanessa Castellanos, MSW
PhD Student, Fordham University



Carlos Rojas, MS, MSW, LCSW
PhD Student, Fordham University

Thursday, February 18
6:00 PM PST | 9:00PM EST
Zoom Meeting ID: 912 0578 8459



BUILDING VAGA DREAMS

Cover Letters 101



Ready to vamp up that cover letter?
Join our workshop to learn how to make
your cover letter stand out.
Register to save your spot.

TUESDAY 1/26 @ 6PM PST/9PM EST
REGISTER AT: [TINYURL.COM/VAGA21CL](https://tinyurl.com/vaga21cl)



VAGA

BUILDING VAGA DREAMS: VIRTUAL RESUME WORKSHOP

THURSDAY 9/17 @ 6PM PST/9PM EST VIA ZOOM

To access this workshop, visit tinyurl.com/hvbr17
Please note a password is required
Contact @hervagaboundroots on Instagram for password



ABOUT THIS WORKSHOP

Her Vaga Bound Roots is excited to kick off our series of events focused on career and development, starting with *Building Vaga Dreams: Virtual Resume Workshop*.

Are you looking for ways to improve your resume? Join Gustavo Orellana and HVBR to learn how to edit your resume, hear what employers are looking for, and see some examples. A live Q&A will follow the event.

ABOUT GUSTAVO

Gustavo Orellana is a Residential College Coordinator at the University of Southern California (USC). He was born and raised in Northern California. Gustavo received a B.A. in Chicano/a Studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara and graduated with a Masters in Postsecondary Administration and Student Affairs from the Rossier School of Education at USC.

Some of his passions outside of work include exploring different parts of Los Angeles (especially through food), sporting events, and all things Bay Area!

HOSTED BY
GUSTAVO ORELLANA, M.ED



FB.COM/HERVAGABOONROOTS
@HERVAGABOONROOTS



20 Questions Live Series

Our 20 Questions Live: 20 Questions Live Series is a LIVE segment hosted on our social media platforms geared towards raising awareness about an issue/topic while bringing visibility to women of color in various professional fields

Her Vaga Bound Roots presents
20 Questions with Dr. Vega



Join Gisela Vega, EdD. to learn about the herstory and the importance of advocacy in the LGBTQIA+ community.

Thursday, July 23
4PM-PST | 7PM-EST
via Instagram Live
@hervagaboundroots

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LGBTQ
Student Center
University of Miami

Her Vaga Bound Roots presents
20 Questions with Wendoline Vargas, LMSW



Join Wendoline Vargas, LMSW (Licensed Master Social Worker), to talk about the importance of mental health.

Thursday, May 28
6PM-PST | 9PM-EST
via Instagram Live
@hervagaboundroots

Founder of Her Vaga Bound Roots

VAGA
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Her Vaga Bound Roots presents
20 Questions with Dr. Silva



Join Carolina Silva, PhD. to learn about resources for undocumented folks during COVID-19.

Wednesday, May 6
6PM-PST | 9PM-EST
via Instagram Live
@hervagaboundroots

VAGA
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Vagando Towards Empowerment

Vagando Towards Empowerment is a series of workshops and scholarships that will uplift the NorthEast Valley community through educational equity and mental health awareness.

Participants will be given the opportunity to learn, network, and connect to discuss topics around college readiness including but not limited to: applying to college and financial aid, discussing the transition to predominantly white institutions where Black, Indigenous, and People of Color are not the majority.

Additionally, this project will bring awareness to Mental Health, discuss frequent topics, and help community members develop healthy coping skills. Resources will be shared, in addition to meals and office supplies.

NorthEast Valley members going to college will also be given the opportunity to apply for a one-time scholarship.

A blue poster for 'Vagando Towards Empowerment'. At the top right is a stylized illustration of an open book. Below it, the text reads 'NEV BEST START & HER VAGA BOUND ROOTS PRESENT:'. The main title 'VAGANDO TOWARDS EMPOWERMENT' is in large, bold, white letters. Below the title, it says 'Educational Equity and Mental Health Awareness'. A white pencil graphic is positioned horizontally across the middle. At the bottom, there is a short description of the workshops, contact information (www.laep.org and www.hervagaboundroots.com), and logos for VAGA, best start NORTH EAST VALLEY COMMUNITY, and City of Phoenix EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP.

NEV BEST START & HER VAGA
BOUND ROOTS PRESENT:

VAGANDO TOWARDS EMPOWERMENT

Educational Equity and Mental Health
Awareness

A series of workshops that
promote post-secondary
education preparedness and
retention through mental health
awareness

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VAGA

best start
NORTH EAST VALLEY
COMMUNITY

CITY OF PHOENIX
EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP

Workshop Series

Education Series

Overview of the
Application process

A Review of the
Personal Statement

Financial
Empowerment

Mental Health Series

Destigmatizing
Mental Health

How to identify anxiety
and depression in children
and adults

Stress management -
different grounding
techniques

Building Community Voices



HVBR recognizes that these strategies are important to break down systemic barriers and their historical implications. Perceptions of prosperity and opportunity begin in the home environment. Much like the mission of the Office of Head Start, HVBR's mission is to also seek to create and promote healthy cues to action in a home environment. HVBR also believes that the parent is the most important teacher in a child's life; a college bound parent that prioritizes mental health delivers many positive influences to a new generation that will be socialized and engrained to their behaviors.

Several large-scale developmental studies (Duncan and Brooks-Gunn, 1997), concluded that maternal education was linked significantly to children's intellectual outcomes. This study shows that more resources are needed to support college students who are also parents to build parent power and Two-Generation emphasis to move the entire family towards success.

Proposed Budget

Her Vaga Bound Roots is requesting \$25,000.00 to be utilized from July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

The proposed funds will be utilized to plan and implement both series: Vagando Towards Educational Equity and Increasing Awareness to Mental Health.

The capital will be allocated towards:

- The development of workshops
- Compensation for consultants and guest speakers
- Creating assets and promotional materials to advertise events
- Rental fees for event space/venue
- Workshop materials.

Additionally, funds will also be used to grant a one-time merit and need based scholarships to Bipoc womxn from the North East Valley region; 6 recipients of \$500.00 scholarships and 5 recipients \$1,000.00.

Timeline of Utilization



Award 11 merit and need based scholarships this September 2021 for the 2021-2022 academic year

HVBR will host the 3 part educational series from September 2021 to November 2021



The 3 part Mental Health Series will be held starting February 2022 through April 2022

Join the Movement

SPREAD THE WORD
ABOUT HVBR & THE
VAGAS WITH DEGREES
SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION

DONATE TO THE
VAGAS WITH
DEGREES
SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION

SHOP OUR SITE
ALL PROCEEDS GO
DIRECTLY
TOWARDS THE
SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION

REFER WOMYN YOU
KNOWN TO OUR
MENTORSHIP
PROGRAM



Connect



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Email Us: hervagaboundroots@gmail.com