

North Seattle College ECE Spanish Cohorts

Congrats Grads!

North Seattle's Class of 2022 ECE Program, Spanish Cohort

Words from Patty Coss-Maxwell, North Seattle's Point of Contact (ECE Spanish Cohorts), BAS Alumni and current [Noris E. Daniel Fellow](#):

"It is a pleasure and pride to work with the Hispanic students in the ECE Spanish Cohorts of North Seattle College. Every time I see students reach a goal, it fills me with joy since I know they will not stop. They will continue to learn, improve and grow. Working with them and for them makes me feel that I am contributing to forming a better society."

Margarita's Testimony

"My dear teacher Patty, as I said in the speech, I have been part of this beautiful mission of helping with the development of early-age children for a year and a half, and the truth is that I have not regretted it for a single second. It is so essential to my life; even when someone invited me to work, fear paralyzed me, and little by little, I realized what a beautiful job it is to be part of the development of early-age children. I trust God so much that when I thought you were no longer in there, Teacher Patty called me to tell me that it was a spot available for me. I marked that night in my calendar. Without thinking, I said yes, even though I did not know the incredible discovery of wisdom that awaited me. Thank you very much for so much support. I found the mission for which I came to this world: to make children happy from an early age. Thank you for everything."

Johana's Testimony

"For me, graduating with the Initial Certificate in Early Education is super fascinating. I feel very happy to have taken the first step to decide to take these classes that are very important for my development as an educator. Obtaining this certificate makes me believe that I can achieve many more things, and it also helps me motivate myself to continue studying. Feeling those desires of wanting to learn more is so nice! Especially because I feel sure that I will be doing an excellent job with the children since they are very important to me. I owe all this to God and to the children, who are the ones who motivate me every day. I really feel very excited and eager to continue. LET'S GO FOR MORE!"



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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Diana's Testimony

"Miss Patty, I feel like this 😲 (astonished face emoji). How nice it feels that people can perceive the effort, the illusion, and the group's heart. I'm sending you some words I wrote; feel free to summarize them if you think it's too long. When I was five years old, I wanted to be a teacher; I played that my brother was the student and had to solve all the exercises he gave him. When I was 16 years old, I liked to go to my aunt's school every day that I left mine early. Sometimes I helped him organize the end-of-the-year parties for the elementary school children. It was there that the first vocational sign came when the 5-year-old girls greeted me by running towards me shouting "Miss Diana," and my day was brightened. But when I came home with the news that I wanted to be a teacher, my family objected, saying that I was going to starve, that I should choose something else. I chose Administration. When I was 20 years old, I coordinated a group of young people every afternoon after school; I decided that I would study for a master's degree in pedagogy, which I also let go of because "it had nothing to do with my profession."

Finishing the first ECE certification is the first tangible proof that, after so long, I have decided to listen to myself and not the outside world, to honor what my heart has asked of me since those days playing in my backyard. It means an opportunity to create positive change in the world through children's education. Completing this certification reminds me that the journey begins and comes with challenges and commitments: continue studying, continue learning from my teachers and classmates, continue sharing with others, and continue creating an impact as a Latino community."

Nallely's Testimony

"Hello Patty, what a joy to read that email regarding our graduation; the truth is that it was perfect; emotional, good vibes were breathed. I first want to thank you for supporting me, because since I met you more than three years ago, you helped me without knowing me when I was director without any experience. Working with the teacher Carmen gave me many good things; it allowed me to know that being a teacher was what I had always wanted, that working with young children is not bad, it is the best, and it is a rewarding experience every day. I can make good friends and, above all to know you. I admire you too much for your way of teaching us; you always have the right words, always being willing to help, and above all, support our Latino community.

When I decided to go back to school, I applied to Lake Washington, and they didn't accept me; I did all the paperwork, but the truth is that now I don't know my EA coach. They didn't support me how you support us, the times I had a video conference with you to do my registration, well you helped us with everything. I never received honestly; I suffered when they rejected me the first few times because of my circumstances. We often live with that fear of not being able to have a better future; however, the opportunity they are giving us is something that cannot be wasted. I am incredibly grateful to be in college, to have people like you and like teacher Paulina, Ninder, and all the teachers and people involved to make it possible for us to be better. They are giving give us hope for a better future. Maybe we don't have that "number" right now, but when it happens, we'll be ready.

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So for me, receiving this first certificate is my first step, as I call it, to climb to the top. To finish a degree here that will help me be a better teacher for my children (that's how I see them) for those innocent little people who need people prepared to know how to direct them in their first stage of development, to show society that I am not a babysitter like some people call us. However, above all, to show that we Latinos can also get ahead in this country."

Jorge's Testimony

"Girls and boys are not the future; they are the present. My name is Jorge Hernandez Matancillas, a young man who is faithfully convinced that we must see girls and boys as the present. Today, we have the power to enhance their comprehensive development, turning them into analytical, critical, and reflective people of the future. When they told me that I could study ECE (Early Childhood Education), two significant concerns arose within me: to question whether I was capable of venturing into this area and the second one that this was my opportunity to impact future generations positively. Of course, the second had more meaning, and here I am.

Every Saturday getting up in the morning was to be sure that I would live a new experience. Walking little by little along the path of early education taught me that what we have in our hands will never be simple, but rather that they are people who are constantly in the process of change and adaptation.

Sharing with my teacher, mentor, classmates, and partner; allowed me to recognize our performance as guides and that this is and will be of the utmost importance. It made me question on multiple occasions whether, as families and society, we are aware of the importance of the first years in the life of any girl or boy.

I feel grateful for allowing me to be a transforming agent. Also, knowing that day by day, together with colleagues and colleagues, we go to our child care centers with the firm conviction of giving love, smiles, affection, friendship, listening, and teaching those who need it; our girls and our boys.

Thank you, North Seattle College, Teachers, and Mentor"

¡Sí, se puede!
(Spanish for "Yes, it is possible")