



The Bridge School Teacher-in-Residence Program
2010-2011

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 seventh Teacher-in-Residence award announcement will be made in April 2010.

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 2010-2011 Teacher-in-Residence Award:

December 2009 – Announce the opening of the application process
March 1, 2010 – Deadline for submission of applications
May 2010 – Final selection of candidate and announcement of award
January 2011 – Candidate to arrive at The Bridge School
July 2011 – 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 2011-2012 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

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 2010-2011 Teacher-in-Residence award can be downloaded from this location.