

Thank you

As a program of Foundation Communities' College Hub, we are grateful to our academic partners at UT Austin and ACC who provide academic and cultural resources, sponsor the faculty who teach in Free Minds, and offer specialized student support and advising to make the way for our students as smooth as possible. These partners at UT and ACC have been crucial to Free Minds' success since it was launched in 2006 as a program of UT Austin's Humanities Institute offering ACC credit. Thank you specifically to the following groups and individuals:

At Austin Community College:

The Department of Humanities and Communications, **Dr. Matthew Daude Laurents**

The Department of Recruitment and Enrollment, **Patricia Behr, Kenneth Franklin, Marc Jimenez**

At UT Austin:

The Center for Mexican American Studies, **Dr. John Morán González**

The Center for Women's and Gender Studies, **Dr. Susan Heinzelman**

The Department of English, **Dr. Elizabeth Cullingford**

The Humanities Institute, **Dr. Pauline Strong**

The team of faculty who teach in Free Minds bring the humanities to life. They model the values and rigors of their disciplines, encourage students to "breathe" as they confront complex texts, all while bringing their heart and humor to the classroom. Thank you to:

Dr. Janis Bergman-Carton

Dr. Matthew Daude Laurents

Dr. Patricia García

Vivé Griffith, MFA

Dr. Shirley Thompson

Dr. Amy Nathan Wright

Because Free Minds is about breaking down as many barriers as we can, there's a whole team of people offering wraparound support to students and their kids as they meet the challenges of this nine-month journey. These folks help troubleshoot challenges as they arise, create a fun, educational space for the children of Free Minds students, and make sure that our group is well fed. We are especially grateful to:

Central Market, **Bree Walvisch**

Children's Home Initiative (FC), **Angela Avendano**

Creative Action, **Freddy Carnes, Stephanie Chavez Noell**

Open Door Preschool, **Serena Hill, Liz Holder Crawford, Sandra Riley**

Our classroom is a constant rotation of visitors who generously share their art, scholarship, resources, and expertise with Free Minds students. Thank you to all who have led workshops in our class or hosted a Second Saturday discussion for our graduates this year. We also have a group of veteran volunteers and program experts, Free Minds Consultants, who step in to do everything from reviewing Free Minds applications to envisioning the future of Free Minds programming. Thank you to those who serve in this

capacity:

Dr. Evan Carton

Jennifer Herber

Tung Huynh

Dr. Gaye Lynn Scott

Dr. Pauline Strong

We owe big thanks to our colleagues at Foundation Communities and especially to our fellow members of the College Hub team, who work to make college more accessible one student meeting and one FAFSA at a time.

In the spirit of graduation, we want to acknowledge two Free Minds graduates who donned cap and gown again this month to earn their Bachelor's degrees, both from Texas State University. We are in awe of your accomplishment:

Diane Ramirez, Free Minds Class of 2012

Jennifer Reyes, Free Minds Class of 2012

Finally and most especially, thank YOU for bearing witness to the journey of this Free Minds year.

With gratitude,

Amelia Pace-Borah, Zoë Fay-Stindt, and Irene Salas
Free Minds staff