



# Preshona Ambrita Ghose

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## Objective

To work within a team & play my part to bring an inspired vision/story to life. To awaken the imagination, compassion and potential within people. To work for artistic, interpersonal or social change in diverse communities through a position in a school/ non-profit organization emphasizing community development through **artistry, education, organization, collaboration**, self-empowerment, and reflection. To help create a more functional, empathetic and unified world.

## Education

**University of Maryland College Park**, College Park, MD  
M.Ed. in Special Education, Emphasis: Learning/Emotional Disorders  
Strength: Minority and Urban Education (Praxis I completed)

**Santa Clara University**, Santa Clara, CA  
Bachelor of Arts in "Media and Cross-Cultural Hegemony" (June 2004)  
Majors: Media and Cross-Cultural Hegemony (Individual Studies)  
Minor: Spanish, International Studies  
*Honors and Awards*: Dean Scholar, SCU Academic Grants

**Borderlinks**, Tucson, AZ/Nogales, Sonora, MX (through to Ciudad Juarez/El Paso)  
Study Abroad Program, Fall 2003  
[http://www.borderlinks.org/bl/aboutus/our\\_story.htm](http://www.borderlinks.org/bl/aboutus/our_story.htm)

**Universidad Centroamericana**, San Salvador, El Salvador  
Santa Clara University, Study Abroad Program: Casa de la Solidaridad, Fall 2002  
<http://www.ajcunet.edu/connections/display.asp?issue=14&article=8>

**Junior Statesman of America**, Stanford University  
Debate and Leadership Program, 1999

## Community Immersion

**Oakland, East Los Angeles, Tijuana** (*also, Eastside San Jose, East Palo Alto*)  
One week urban immersion trips, through SCU's Community Service Learning Programs (Oakland – spring '04, East Los – spring '03, TJ – fall '01)—meeting and understanding the workings of a community, its history, its changing demographics and class structures, its tragedies, its neglect, the questioning/questionable role of police and media, gentrification, the people, the youth, the working, the elderly, the movement, the life.

**Related Social Studies & Education Coursework**: Families & Cultures with Disabilities, Literacy for At-Risk Adolescents, Behavioral Management, Secondary Math/Reading Instruction, Evidence-Based Practices in Schools, History of Black & Latino Education, World Religions & Their Implications on Education, Church in Latin America: Liberation Theology and Praxis (El Salvador); Economic Development; Seminars on U.S. and U.S.-Mexico Economy; Social Problems in the U.S.; Principles of Sociology (Social Stratification); Race, Class, and Gender (focus on

hegemonic media representations); Special Topics in Film, Globalization in Film; Sociology of Deviance; Local Views of Globalization; Peace and Justice studies; Peace and Justice seminars with Johann Galtung; Seminars on Health in Border Communities and in Mexico; Peoples and Politics of Latin America; Performance and Culture in History; Mass Communication; Interpersonal Communication; Psychology; Catholic Theology; Religion and Politics in the Third World; Food, Culture, and the Environment; Endangered Ecosystems; Socio-Cultural Anthropology; Cross-Cultural Psychology; Ethics in Politics; Global News Issues and the Media: Spanish 23-198; Chicano Movement and the Media; the Mexican-American experience; Endangered Ecosystems; Filipino American Studies; African American Art; Sociology of Black Communities (audited, San Jose State University); Pop-Culture Studies

**Related *Fine Arts* Coursework** Intro to Theater Tech with Practicum; Acting for the Camera I and II; Voiceovers I and II (*The Theater Lab School of the Dramatic Arts*); Contemporary Dance & Physical Fitness (*Private Instruction*); UPCOMING COURSEWORK: Meisner, Chekhov & Stanislavski Methods; [Script] Actions & Objectives; Scene Study (*The Theater Lab School of the Dramatic Arts*); Photoshop; Painting/Drawing Portraits & Landscapes, *Private Instruction*; Sewing & Carpentry for Stage [seeking instruction]

## Skills

**Languages:** Intermediate in written and spoken Spanish, Intermediate in spoken Bengali, Advanced-Proficient in written and spoken American English

**Computer:** Powerschool, DC STARS, Windows 2000/XP, Word, Mozilla Firefox/Internet Explorer, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher, Dreamweaver, Final Cut Pro, Microsoft Movie-Maker, iMovie, Adobe Photoshop, Google Docs/Slides/Spreadsheets

## Relevant Experience

### Teaching/Counseling Experience

*Special Elective GDS-360 Teacher / Tutor / Learning Specialist*

- Teaching Math Olympics, Odyssey of the Mind, Assistant Teaching Chess, Lead Teacher Pre-K Chess, Scratch (Coding for Kids) and serving as a Tutor and Learning Specialist at Georgetown Day School (2014-Present)

*General Education Teacher / Math, English & Spanish Teacher / Special Education Teacher*

- I Am Sun Homeschool Initiative: Program of One Love= True Change (2014-2018)  
I Am Sun is an innovative approach to accelerated skills & project-based, organic learning that teaches the importance of love and balancing right-brained and left-brained methods to embrace our true selves and purpose to one another.
- Roots PCS (2012-2013)    Kuumba Learning Center (2017-2019)

*Assistant Guidance Counselor/Registrar/Academic Coach / Enrichment Instructor*

- Oak Hill Academy [now Maya Angelou Academy @ New Beginnings], 2007-2011
  - Guidance Department: Lead assistant to the school Guidance Counselor [attaining transcripts, supporting detained scholars in creating educational plans for their transition back into the community]
  - Registrar: Lead on Scholar Attendance Reports/Progress Reports
  - Graphic Designer/Media Project go-to
  - Assistant coach to the Oak Hill Debate Team
  - Lead instructor of after-school lecture series entitled "American History X"
  - Freedom School Intern/Summer Spanish Instructor
  - On-Unit Reading Tutor, after-school

- SAT tutor
- Spanish tutor

#### *Teacher/Counselor School Support*

- Lead Teacher for Kids and Culture Camp (2013-2019)  
Research and teach about a different country per week--its culture, language, geography, and history--for 4-week long program.
- Partner for “Partners in School Innovation” from August 2004-January 2005:  
Mission: to enable public schools in high-poverty Bay Area communities – serving students of color and English language learners – to achieve educational equity through school based-reform
- Extreme Learning  
Academic/Social Coach and Assistant Coach for a class of “at-risk” youth at Gardner Academy Elementary School on Westside SJ and Ann Darling Elementary School in Eastside SJ. Responsible for bringing in culturally relevant readings and organizing the structure of the class to balance students’ passions and levels of intelligence with the goals of the program—using their experiential knowledge and familiarity to balance their desires/needs, and having less inhibited, less hierarchical interactions with them. 2005

#### *Tutor*

- Private Math Tutor: Various families, (2014-Present)
- English teacher/youth community co-organizer for pre-teenagers in Salvadoran community of San Antonio Abad, 2003
- Gardner Elementary School; assistant teacher for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class in Spanish and English, 2001
- Yerba Buena High School; tutored math in Spanish and English, 2000
- Kumon Learning Service: tutored K-10 in math and reading, 1998-1999

#### *Case Manager/Community Support Worker*

- First Home Care, Washington D.C., 2011-2012

#### *Residential Counselor*

- Lincoln Child Center, Level 14 Group Home in East Oakland, 2005

### **Community Building Experience**

#### *Community Organizing / Systems Management*

- One Love = True Change, 2010- Present. [www.oneloveistruechange.com](http://www.oneloveistruechange.com)  
Founded a co-operative of healers, artisans, vendors, educators, and families of color to spread love, consciousness and unity among and for our communities: to de-colonize our minds, bodies, and spirits. Utilizing a pop-up mall/holistic clinic format with positive performances, and short film/forum. Expanded to homeschool program, community think-tanks, and a “Wholistic Hoods” apprenticeship program.
- I Am Sun & RISE UP: *Realizing In Ourselves the Element to Uplift our People*  
Building with community partners and University professors to create and implement psycho-sociological/historical curriculum for detained & homeschool youth to help them re-analyze their life choices as well as hone in on SAT & GED skills. Jan 2008-Present
- Youth UpRising  
→ Intake Coordinator. Beginning as an entry-level front desk specialist, where I came to specialize in database management and upkeep, main-

taining bilingual relations, space reservations, office management, and day-to-day clerical work.

→ Youth Leadership Team Assistant. After one year, I graduated to the position I proposed for myself, where I would assist the Youth Leadership Coordinator in directing YU's youth leaders to make transformative community productions for elevating the consciousness and civic activism of our youth. 2005-2007.

- Camp Anytown  
Camp Counselor: Counseled in several C.A. retreats through NCCCCJ for breaking down stereotypes, hate, sexism, racism, ethnocentrism in local "at-risk" public high schools [e.g., Independence High School, East San Jose], 2005-2006

#### *Other Community Building & Volunteering*

- Spanish Interpreter: Volunteer as Interpreter between Santa Clara lawyer and Spanish-speaking client for Workers' Compensation and Immigration issues in East San Jose Law Clinic (until being offered a position), 2003-2004
- Youth Speaks  
Regular volunteer at slam poetry events, 2004-2005
- Silicon Valley Debug (a voice for the young and temporary)/OpenWorld TV Magazine/organization for San Jose urban youth, writer/participant of  
affiliated TV show, on-screen talent and behind-the-scenes organizer—with Raj Jayadev, the head editor of Debug, and Edward Nieto of Open World, very imaginative, accepting, inspiring people to work with) 2004-2005
- United Hands  
Youth group mentor. Working with kids from low-income neighborhood in San Jose, who have all been placed in an emergency-living consortium setting, organizing activities/events to do with them, 2001-2005
- City of San Jose Gardner Community Center in conjunction with San Jose's Righteous Youth Project/Sobrato Emergency Living Shelter and Santa Clara University student groups' transportation connection  
Designing and implementing a free cultural dance/music program in a West San Jose community center. The goal: to create/choreograph our own compilations from what we learn and see from everyday life and weekly workshops taught by Bay Area volunteer dance instructors. The program combined dance to social teachings and history lessons and bridged the age and social divide among South Bay [area] residents. 2004-2005
- Julian Street Inn  
Eastside Arts Project in conjunction with residents of this San Jose homeless shelter
- LAC: SCU's Labor Action Committee  
Supported fellow campus workers in their two-year long struggle to attain equal human rights 2002-2004
- SCU's Students for Social Justice committee 2003-2004
- GASPED ally: SCU's Gay and Straight alliance 2003-2004
- Santa Clara University Resident Hall coordinator  
Co-organized events to involve our dorm community, 2002-2003
- Santa Clara University: Star Search 2001  
Organized co-ed dance show with dorm community

- Prantik Youth Organization 1996-2000  
Coordinated events as their secretary. Helped to organize, as well as participate in (dance, act) in events and productions for our yearly cultural events, including a play I translated to Bengali & directed in 1999.

*Conferences/Lectures Attended*

- Latin American Solidarity Conference in Washington DC, February 2003
- Conference/Lectures with Latin American author Isabel Allende on the literary imagination, and Mohammad Yunis, micro-finance initiator of Grameen Bank in Bangladesh: in Winter/Spring 2003
- Pilipino Cultural Night by the SCU Barkada; Martin Luther King, Jr. Night by the SCU Black Student Union; Vietnamese Cultural Night by SCU Vietnamese Club
- Urban Growth Conference in San Jose by the South Bay Collective, October 2004
- State of the African American Male conference in Oakland, December 2004

*Arts. Performing Arts Involvement (PLEASE SEE ATTACHED PERFORMING ARTS RESUME)*

- Cultural dances and shows since childhood
- Younger days: Gospel Choir, jazz clarinet; local filmmaker Andrew Betzer's project "A Brown Girl's Dream"; local film projects through Studio One/Millennium Productions
- College: Aldo Billingsley's multicultural production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream"; student-produced rendition of Vagina Monologues; SCU Gospel Choir; Cultural Shows/dances/fashion shows for Intandesh (SCU South Asian club)

*Sports/Recreational Involvement*

- 2018: Attained extreme sports grant (Diverse City Grant) for homeschoolers
- National Junior Hockey League post-college [Captain of Varsity Hockey in Highschool (eastcoast sport) ]; Recreational softball since 5<sup>th</sup> grade to League softball in highschool and Recreational softball in college; volleyball camps and lacrosse camps; basketball for two years in middle school; flag football and soccer peewee teams in college

**- More Building & Enlightening Team Work Experience -**

**Theater / TV/ Film Production**

*Production Assistant*

- Work for Producer Antonio Flores 2016, Los Angeles, CA. Handled whatever was needed by Producer & Director, including store visits, sound editing, etc.,

*Director/Producer/Editor/ Writer*

- How 2 Be Brown Like Me, web-series; D.C., 2017 -Present
- RISE UP Consciousness-Raising Productions at Youth UpRising 2005-2007
- Color-Blind, a Guerrilla Theatre Piece on inter-cultural ignorance in America, One Love= True Change Inc., Impact Hub, 2014
- Bengali Community Theatre 1996-2000

*[Theatre Production] Intern*

- Dance Place, 2014-2017: Move Risers, Maintain Facility, Collect Tickets, Seat Audience

*Actress/Model*

(Resume Attached)

**Restaurant/Customer Service experience**

*Waitress/Buser/Server/Cashier/Hostess*

- Hard Rock Cafe (2018-Present) Server

- Bon Appetit (inc. sandwich maker, deli/cafeteria server, travel food cart driver, Mission Bakery cashier/server, The Bronco cashier): Santa Clara, CA. 2000-2004
- Friendly's Icecream and Food (hostess and occasional waitress): Columbia, MD. 2000
- Pasta Plus (sandwich/salad maker, bagger, phone receptionist): Laurel, MD. 1999-2000

*Sales Representative*

- Rampage, trendy girls' clothing shop at the mall, temp job: Santa Clara, CA Mar 2004
- Hecht's Department Store, seasonal staff: Columbia, MD December 2001

*Air B'n'B SuperHost/Manager*

- Hosted & Attended to International Guests in Residential Home 2016-2018:

**Ride-Sharing**

- Lyft/Uber Driver since 2017, 4.9 Star-Rated

**ArtGuard / Secretary / Docent**

*Santa Clara University's DeSaisset Art Museum, 2004*

- During the "Americanos: LatinAmerican Life in the United States" exhibit and the "Dark Matter/Reverse Anthropology" exhibits by David Huffman and Enrique Chagoya on the African American experience and imperialist presence within the United States

**Public Relations**

*Brand Ambassador, Various Companies, 2019*

- Marketing & Street-Campaign work, known for meeting set quotas effectively

*Researcher/Intern for The Bronco, Santa Clara University's school pub, 2003*

- Researched the local competition, their food, and prices to see what it would take to bring Santa Clara students into life on-campus
- Surveyed and Interviewed students' feelings on the pub and desires for change
- Designed chalk art and poster advertisements, menus
- Door-to-door event marketing to unite SCU student community





ARTIST



RESUME  
/BIO

# Preshona Ambri

## Actress, Artist, Teacher & Organizer

Preshona is an East Bengali-American born in East Asia, in Kolkata, West Bengal. She immigrated to the U.S., to Baltimore, Maryland, when she was 4 years old. Growing up in various neighborhoods of different cultures and incomes both within and outside of the U.S. (East Oakland, CA; East San Jose, CA; Southeast & Northeast DC; PG County, MD; Howard County, MD; San Salvador, El Salvador; Nogales, Mexico) Preshona became a passionate educator, performer, and activist. In 2011, she started the One Love Movement with fellow youth workers to spread co-operative economics, education and positive culture within multi-cultural communities. Preshona loves to support folks passionate about the same:) Currently she is launching diversified SAT/GED curriculum on [www.iamsunschool.com](http://www.iamsunschool.com). She is known to be determined, empathetic, quirky and oftentimes hilarious, always chill, kind and passionate at the same time. Currently she is co-writing and directing a sit-com project called "[How to Be Brown Like Me](http://HowtoBeBrownLikeMe)" based on her personal blog - airing on Instagram in 2019 -about the lives of herself and her friends from Baltimore, DC, and the Bay Area, California. She is pretty much pretty awesome.

## Acting-Related Skills:

Accents, Empathizing, Versatility, Taking Direction, Team Playing, Writing, Co-Directing, Video / Photography, Languages: English, Spanish & Bengali

## Theatre-Related Education

Upcoming 2020 Semester: Chekhov Technique, Stanislavski Method, Actions & Objectives, Scene Study, Acting for the Camera I & II, Intro to Theatre Tech, Voiceovers I and II (*Theatre Lab School for the Dramatic Arts*)

## Acting/Performing Experience:

Writer/Director/Editor/Producer/Lead Actress,

@How2BeBrownLikeMe Instagram Series, [2017 - Present]

Lead Actress, *HerStory*, *Love Forever*, *HipHop* [2019] Kennedy Center

Stage / In-House Hair Model, *BeScene Hair Studios* [2019]

Lead Actress & Ensemble, *Enough* [2018] Kennedy Center & The Arc

Supporting Actress, *LoveDotCom*, 2018 LionsGate Films, IMDB credited

Lead Actress, *BlackAir*, 2017, Web-Series

Performance Poet (+ Some Vocals, Various Venues, 2009-2017)

Improv Actress, *Black Gold Theatre Co.* [2015-2018]

Writer/Actress/Improv Actress, *Sizzle* [2016]

Writer/Director/Actress, *Color Blindness in America* [2014]

Lead Actress, *BabyMommaMania* [2012]

Lead Actress, *Sexcapades* [2011 Featured in Black Theatre Fest]

Lead Actress, *An Indian Girl's Dream* [1999] Short Film by Andy Betzer

Director/Actress, *Teatro Campesino* [2007] Youth UpRising  
Oakland, CA

ALSO SEE GRAPHIC DESIGN  
EXAMPLES BELOW

