

Ana Claudia Aguayo Bio:

Ana Claudia Aguayo is a graduate of the University of Arkansas with a double major in Broadcast Journalism and International relations and minors in Economics and Latin American Studies. She was born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico and as time would have it, Arkansas has become her home away from home. She is the second youngest of eight siblings and is a first generation college student.

Ana joined Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art as the Membership Program Manager in January 2015. In this role, Ana provides overall strategy for the membership program, serving approximately 8,000 Member households nation-wide and raising more than \$1.4 million to support the Museum's mission and programs. Growing the next generation of arts supporters is one area of focus for this position. Ana is also working to engage the Hispanic community with Crystal Bridges. She serves on an internal task force focused on enhancing the Museum's inclusivity by helping translate exhibition and membership materials for Spanish speaking guests and coordinating programs to serve diverse audiences, including the first-ever Language of Arts Multilingual Open House on March 14.

Prior to joining Crystal Bridges, Ana exemplified community leadership state-wide as the External Affairs Hispanic Liaison for former Governor Mike Beebe by working to enhance the economic, educational, and social opportunities for Arkansas' Hispanic communities. Ana's previous experience at the Northwest Arkansas Workers Justice Center (NWAJWC) helped prepare her for the role with the Governor's office. Here Ana served as the Director of Development and Communications for five years before acting as Interim Executive Director for the organization dedicated to improving the wages, benefits, and working conditions of low-wage and immigrant workers. During her tenure at NWAJWC, Ana developed an annual fundraising plan from the ground up and raised more than \$780,000 for the nonprofit.

Ana is passionate about education reform, which arises through her own personal experiences. As a DREAMER, Ana faced many obstacles in pursuit of a higher education; nevertheless, she was able to overcome them through support of peers, professors, and community advocates. While in her studies, Ana defied the obstacles of her immigration status and came to live in Washington, DC and worked as a Congressional Intern and as Hispanic Heritage LOFT Journalism Fellow. It was through this experience that Ana found a niche in nonprofit management. In 2013 she was honored with the Cardinal Bernardin Young Leader Award for her commitment to nonprofit management and social justice.