



**Bank of America**

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*11-28-94*

Palo Alto Main Office 0117

November 23, 1994

Mary Pacheco Varela  
Raices de Mexico  
804 Bell Street  
East Palo Alto, CA 94303

Dear Mary:

Congratulations, I am pleased to inform you that Raices de Mexico has been selected to receive a BankAmerica Foundation Community Grant. Your check for \$1,000.00 is enclosed to benefit the low-income student scholarship program.

We are pleased to provide foundation grants in the communities that we serve. If there is a particular student(s) that is the recipient of these scholarship funds, I would be pleased to know more about the student and their connection to "Raices".

Our best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Battaini  
Vice President  
(415) 853-4497

cc: BankAmerica Foundation

Send copies of  
Programs

31 March 1995

Ms. Carolyn Battaini  
Vice President  
Bank of America  
530 Lytton Ave  
Palo Alto CA 94301

Dear Ms. Battaini:

Once again I wish to thank you for the BankAmerica Community Grant for \$1,000.00 which was made to Raices de Mexico's scholarship fund last December 1994.

This mony has helped the following students so far:

Victoria and Francis Johnson - Both children have been students of Raices deMexico for the past three years. They come from a single parent home, and their mother has had to struggle to keep them both in this positive environment. This past February, their house burnt down. They lost 3/4 of their belongings. Thanks to the grant, both children were offered the opportunity to continue with Raices de Mexico. Victoria is 14 and her brother Francis is 11 yrs old.

Maria Cervantes is also 14 and also comes from a single parent home. Maria loves to dance and sing. She is an outgoing young lady who likes to keep busy. Her mother is seldom home therefore when Maria was introduced to Raices she immediately wanted to enroll. Thanks to the scholarship fund, Maria can be part of our school without adding another burden to her mother.

Eva, Erika and Elisia Guerrero have both their parents at home, as well as a younger brother. The three girls, ages 14, 11 and 8 all love to dance and have been part of Raices for the past 2 yrs. Even though both parents form part of the girls lives, \$75.00 a month tuition for dance lessons is difficult for the family. With a small stipend from the scholarship fund, all three girls have been able to keep dancing.

Saida Zapien is 17 yrs old. She is a junior at Sequoia High School. Saida lives in East Palo Alto, her family is considered low income. Saida was a student of Raices when she was a 9 year old child. Her mother then started working nights as well to make ends meet and Saida could not continue. Two years ago, Saida returned. We were able to offer her a minimal scholarship and the difference is able to pay from her after-school job.

These students participate in the childrens' dance ensemble which visits schools on the Peninsula during the Cinco de Mayo celebrations, performing different dances from the Mexican Republic as our way of educating the audience a bit on the Mexican culture through its dance and music.

These students will also be participating in our annual show which will take place at the Fox Theater in Redwood City on April 23 and 22. Attached please find two complimentary tickets to the April 23 function, we hope you can attend.

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It is our understanding that you will be moving on to another position outside the Lytton Ave bank. We will surely miss you but do wish you all the luck in the world in your new endeavor. Thank you again, for all your support and interest in Raices de Mexico.

Sincerely,

Maria Elena Pacheco Varela  
Program Coordinator

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Attachments