



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 13, 2020**

## **Breakthrough Central Texas and AmeriCorps Offer Summer Teaching Experience**

***Nonprofits Seek Teaching Fellows for Premier Pre-Professional Residency***

**AUSTIN, TEXAS** – Breakthrough Central Texas seeks 170 college students to serve as AmeriCorps Teaching Fellows during the six-week 2020 Summer Academy from June 1 - July 31, 2020. AmeriCorps Teaching Fellows mentor middle schoolers and provide instruction in English, math, social studies, and science. The Teaching Fellows program is designed for undergraduate students from all fields of study who display an interest in teaching. Qualified candidates can apply online at <https://www.breakthroughcollaborative.org/apply-teacher/> by February 27, 2020.

Breakthrough Central Texas' Summer Academy engages students over the summer to help combat summer learning loss, a leading contributor to the achievement gap. The organization works with students from underserved communities and their families, beginning in the sixth grade, to create a path to and through college. Breakthrough students go on to become the first in their family to earn a college degree. The 2020 Summer Academy will host more than 800 Breakthrough middle school students at four distinct sites: Del Valle ISD, Manor ISD, St. Andrew's Upper School and the University of Texas at Austin. During the six-week program, students will study concentrated subjects in small classroom environments under the instruction of AmeriCorps Teaching Fellows.

Breakthrough Central Texas college student and former AmeriCorps Teaching Fellow Stevie Martínez-Farias participated as an English Language Arts and Tech Research Teaching Fellow last summer. As a Breakthrough student, she will become the first in her family to earn a college degree when she graduates from Bennington College in 2021. Martínez-Farias encourages other first-generation students and anyone with a passion for teaching to apply for the 2020 Teaching Fellows program.

"Being first generation, I am reminded of my setbacks," said Martínez-Farias. "The majority of my students are born into setbacks, imposed statistics and expected percentages. I became a teacher because I felt the same way. I would not have made it this far were it not for my family and teachers who constantly encouraged me."

Breakthrough Central Texas provides a living stipend and professional development to AmeriCorps Teaching Fellows. To apply for the 2020 Summer Academy, applicants must submit the online application by February 27, 2020, and meet the following criteria:

- Be 17 years or older (by start of program—June 1, 2020)
- Be enrolled and in good standing at a high school or four-year college or university
- Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, lawful permanent resident, or DACAmented

## **ABOUT BREAKTHROUGH CENTRAL TEXAS**

Breakthrough Central Texas is a nonprofit that creates a path to and through college for students from low-income communities. From sixth grade through to college, the organization offers out-of-school learning experiences, leadership skills, and comprehensive advising to students. The organization makes a 12-year commitment to students and their families to guide them through the process of preparing for, enrolling in and completing college. The long-term model ensures the success of students and families from middle school to high school graduation to college diploma and beyond. Join the conversation on Twitter [@BreakthroughCTX](#), Instagram [@BreakthroughCTX](#) and at [Facebook.com/BreakthroughCTX](https://www.facebook.com/BreakthroughCTX). To learn more, visit [www.breakthroughctx.org](http://www.breakthroughctx.org).

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