

# What's The Buzz?

BETTER ENVIRONMENTS TO ELEVATE EDUCATORS



## Celebrating Black History Month!

Today we embark on the celebration of Black History Month! This month, we want to recognize the impact and invaluable contributions that Black individuals have made throughout our history. In the upcoming weeks, we want to honor the achievements, strength, and richness in culture of the Black community.

At the BEE Foundation, we are committed to honoring diversity, equity, and inclusion. Black History Month is an opportunity for us to acquire a better understanding not only of the challenges that Black people have overcome, but the ongoing work we must still put in for a better society and future.

Throughout February, we will be highlighting Black creators by sharing their stories and engaging in conversations that will highlight the importance of diversity. Let's all come together to honor the past, appreciate the present, and work towards a better tomorrow!

Join us in commemorating Black History Month and embracing the spirit of unity.

## Newsletter Highlights

Black History Month

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Give Your Support



# Interview Spotlight



**Interviewer: Irene Alba, BEEE Foundation**  
**Published January 30, 2024 6:00 P.M. EDT**

(BEEE-Miami, FL) To say that living as a graduate student away from home in a post-9/11 Era was a challenge would be an understatement. Despite it all, Roxana Corradino was able to accomplish that and much more during her time at the Art Institute of Chicago in the 2000s.

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## ABOUT ROXANA:

Professor Corradino is a proud graduate of Florida International University (FIU), where she got her Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2000. She continued her studies at The School of the Art Institute and earned her Master of Fine Arts degree in 2003. Nowadays, she teaches Exploring Art. Besides teaching at FIU, she helps coordinate dual enrollment programs for the School of Communication and the Arts. This involves mentoring local dual enrollment teachers and advising faculty counselors.

To Roxana, Chicago served as a middle ground where she experienced the heartland of America. Chicago encapsulated both the cosmopolitan atmosphere she sought from Western society and the distinctive Americana she was familiar with. She expresses, "I could find similar things, but it wasn't my tribe. It was very hard to find croquetas, Cuban coffee, pastelitos de guayaba! However, I also felt as if I belonged in that environment because I still am very American,".

"A lot of the work [I did in Chicago] was to help people understand that... I wasn't the stereotypical Hispanic person. I wanted them to understand that there are groups of Hispanics out there that have a different experience from what they see on TV," Roxana said. She challenged the misconceptions surrounding Hispanic experiences in America by emphasizing the diversity within her community through her artwork.

# Interview Spotlight



Roxana's passion for inspiring others drove her to transition to higher education, at Florida International University, "I always knew that I was going to be a teacher, I enjoy teaching. I love to motivate and encourage and reveal things to students,". Roxana revealed that her inspiration stemmed from her

experiences with professors at the Art Institute, blending traditional lecture styles with performance elements to engage her students effectively. "My idea is, I present you this material and you do with it what you wish. Hopefully it will motivate you in your personal life, in your hobbies, and hopefully you can connect in some way in the career field that you choose," Roxana expressed.

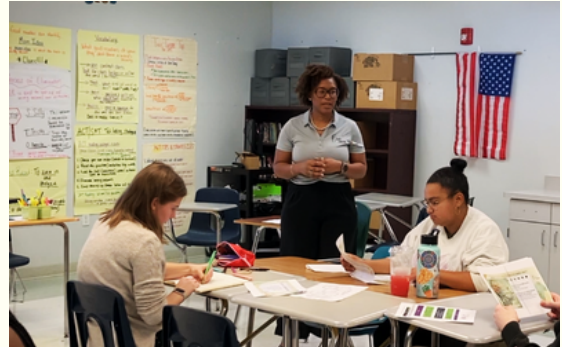
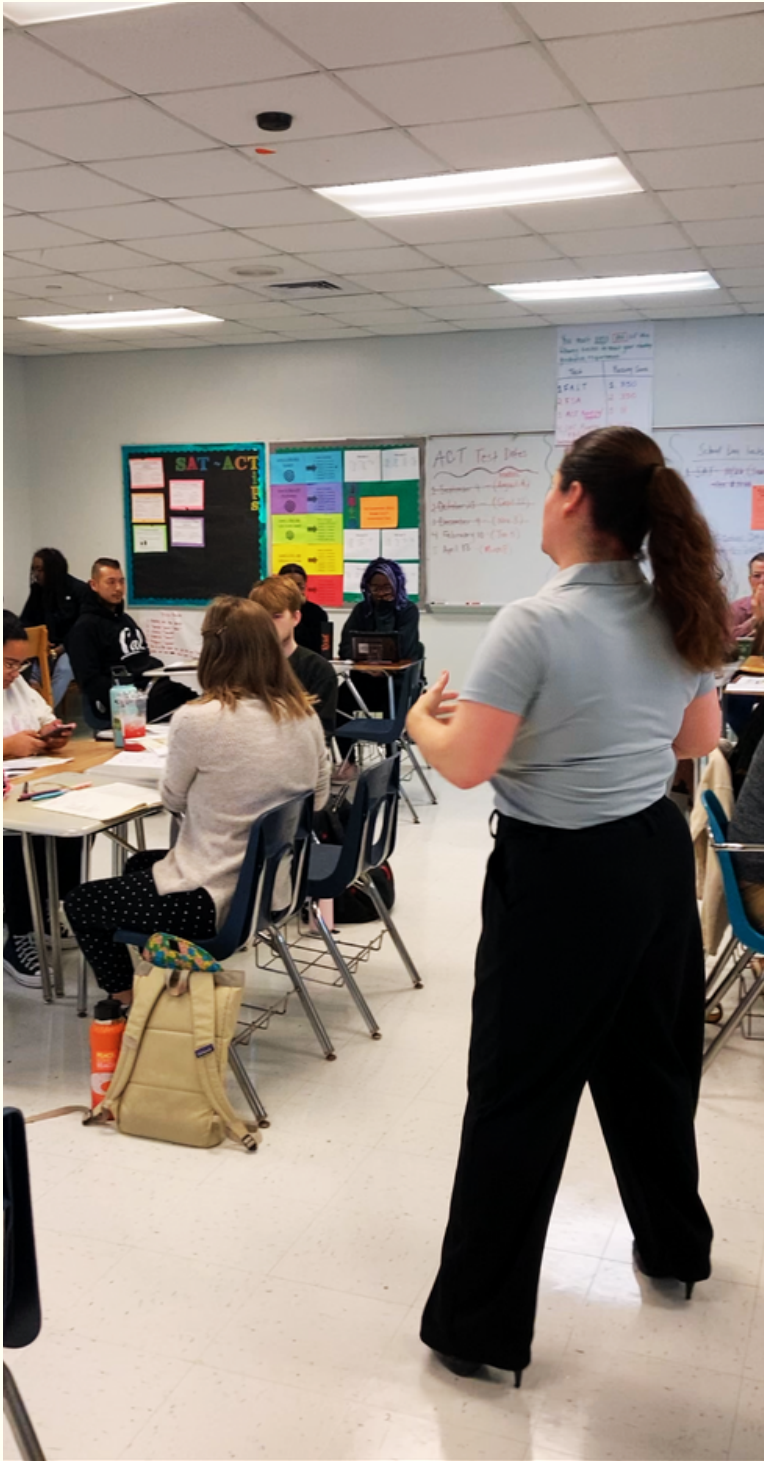
When asked what she would provide to students who wish to pursue a career in art, she expressed that art education should be a prolonged and multifaceted journey, despite what 4-year colleges tend to advertise. Roxana advocates for a more extended period of exploration. She suggests a longer college experience, interspersed with breaks to develop artistic skills and explore philosophy, sociology, anthropology, and religion. Additionally, she insists that art students should be knowledgeable in business and marketing before entering the field, recognizing the practicality of understanding the financial aspects of the art industry.

Roxana's commitment to challenge the status quo and innovate with her teaching philosophies illustrate her undying dedication to foster inclusivity and inspiration in art education. Her story stands as a testament to the richness that is fostered when one's educational path becomes a canvas for personal and artistic growth.

**Check out our website for more interviews like Roxanna's at  
[www.beeefoundation.org/news](http://www.beeefoundation.org/news)**

# Teach For America Event

## MID-YEAR ACC!



### Enhancing Student Learning with Engaging Classroom Exercises

On Saturday, January 27, 2024, we partnered with Teach for America to create a fulfilling experience for teachers where we discussed new and exciting strategies to create a better learning environment for students.

Alexandria Martin and Nichole Dino hosted this session and discussed their new approach to learning exercises in the classroom. At the end of the session, the educators who participated had a better arsenal of tools for their lesson plans.



# Playlist of the Month

As an educator, staying motivated for the new year can be challenging with various stresses constantly on your mind. To kickstart your day, simply put on your earphones and tune in to this invigorating playlist designed to uplift and inspire amazing teachers like yourself.

These motivational songs are curated to keep you motivated and energized as you dedicate yourself to creating a caring and secure learning environment for your students.

1. **Shake it Out - Florence + The Machine**
2. **Here Comes The Sun - The Beatles**
3. **Walking on Sunshine - Katrina & The Waves**
4. **Don't You (Forget About Me) - Simple Minds**
5. **I Will Survive - Gloria Gaynor**
6. **Enchanted (Taylor's Version) - Taylor Swift**
7. **Love on Top - Beyonce**
8. **How Do You Sleep? - Sam Smith**
9. **Thunder - Imagine Dragons**
10. **Since U Been Gone - Kelly Clarkson**

**Kickback, Relax,  
and Unwind**



# February Events



## Monthly Observances

February - Black History Month

## Upcoming Events

February 2 - TFA Miami

## Daily Observances

February 13 - Mardi Gras

February 14 - Valentine's Day

February 19 - President's Day



# Help Create Impact by donating to Better Environments to Elevate Educators

## YOUR MONEY AT WORK



Your donation will help us organize and conduct professional development programs. These programs will focus on topics that provide teachers with the knowledge and skills to improve their teaching practices and student outcomes.



Your donation will facilitate networking opportunities for educators to connect with their peers and share best practices, create a community of educators who are passionate about improving education, we can foster collaboration and teamwork among teachers.



Your donation will help us provide educational resources such as books, online courses, and instructional materials to assist educators in their professional journey, ensuring that every teacher has the necessary tools to succeed.

## WHY CHOOSE US?

BEEE is led by teachers creating content for teachers that helps retain qualified educators it also benefits students.



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