

Ana Yathzin Ayala Hermanita Primera



Ana Yathzin Ayala was born in Newark, Delaware, daughter of Mexican immigrants searching for a better life in America and working in the small town of Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. She is the middle child of three sisters and the first to complete a post-secondary education. At the age of 21 and in three years Ayala completed a Bachelors of Arts degree at The Pennsylvania State University with three majors in East Asian Studies, Japanese and International Studies and two minors in History and Latin American Studies.

Ayala has always been involved in various Latino affairs; stressing and advocating the cultural importance of Latinos and higher education. During the small time she was at Penn State she actively participated in the Latin American Student Association, Latino Caucus, Friends of Brazil, the Mexican Student Association, Fast Start- a freshman minority mentoring group, and the Japanese Friendship Association. Through these activities as president, secretary, treasurer, advisor and conversation partner Ayala has come to possess strong communication skills that allowed for her to mobilize and understand people coming from diverse backgrounds.

She has been an active participant in activities on campus and at home. Ayala has continually sought to encourage and motivate her peers to continue their education. Having been involved in HERMANITAS® since her sophomore year in high school, Ayala committed her energies to helping other girls to pursue their dreams. She often returned to speak at educational assemblies, participate in inspirational videos and perform motivational dances.

After studying abroad in Tokyo to further her speaking abilities in Japanese, she returned to finish her undergraduate degree. Having just graduated in August,

her current plans include finding meaningful work with an international organization and preparing for the GRE exam in hopes of being admitted to a masters program in foreign affairs. Ayala's ultimate goals are to become a diplomat or special liaison in a cross-cultural environment, whether for the United Nations or an embassy.