

**2024 NOMINATION**

Please print clearly or type in the spaces below.



**Category** (choose only one)

- Arts in the Community
- Community Activist
- Education In the Community
- Healthcare
- Youth Activist
- Lifetime Achievement

**INDIVIDUAL NOMINEE**

(must live inside Houston city limits and be eligible to vote in Houston municipal elections)

Name: Lucia Romo \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: 832-353-7595 \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: 16366 Maplemont Dr. \_\_\_\_\_

City: Houston \_\_\_\_\_ State: TX \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: 77095 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: [lromo86.lr.lr@gmail.com](mailto:lromo86.lr.lr@gmail.com); [romol@uhd.edu](mailto:romol@uhd.edu); [romol10@gator.uhd.edu](mailto:romol10@gator.uhd.edu) \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATOR**

Name: Diane M. Miller, Ph. D. with Johanna Byrd-Moye \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: 713-208-4636 \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: 713-221-8585 \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: 11811 Regency Ash Court \_\_\_\_\_

City: Cypress \_\_\_\_\_ State: TX \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: 77429 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: [petersond@uhd.edu](mailto:petersond@uhd.edu) \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit via Mail or email the completed form**

- Nomination form (mandatory)
- Narrative statement or Letter of Recommendation (mandatory)
- Resume/Bio (mandatory)
- Other Supporting materials

**All mandatory materials must be submitted, to be considered.**

**E-mail to:**

[Jackie.Schuessler-Kimsey@houstontx.gov](mailto:Jackie.Schuessler-Kimsey@houstontx.gov)

**Mail to:**

City of Houston  
Attn: Jackie Schuessler-Kimsey (MHHA)  
901 Bagby, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
Houston, Texas 77002

**Deadline:** Postmarked by **August 30, 2024**



August 29, 2024

Dear Ms. Schuessler-Kimsey:

We are honored to recommend Lucia Romo for the 2024 Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Awards in the category of "Education in the Community." In all her educational pursuits, Ms. Romo, who will be completing her undergraduate degree in May 2025, demonstrates consistent excellence, exhibits an admirable work ethic and accessible leadership style, and displays a heart-filled dedication to her dream of becoming a bilingual teacher.

Two of us are submitting this nomination, and another one of Ms. Romo's professors also contributed. Professor Byrd-Moye has worked closely with Ms. Romo in both an instructional and a professional capacity, and her recommendation is below. Dr. Miller has worked with Ms. Romo on a professional basis and will speak to her capacities as an exceptional student leader.

According to one of her professors, Professor Catalina Lugo, "Ms. Romo stands as a great role model for other future bilingual teachers. Ms. Romo is an outstanding teacher candidate, an outstanding student, and an outstanding leader. Ms. Romo's strong bilingual skills not only helped her pass but helped her excel on the Spanish Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test, an exam that presents a daunting challenge to many students. She supported each of her classmates while preparing for this exam. She went above and beyond and made herself available to answer questions they had regarding grammar, spelling, and syntax in Spanish. Ms. Romo has joined two UHD organizations and shares with every student at UHD the benefits of being involved with this institution and in our community. During class, she often mentioned her experience as part of the D.A.I.R. Program. Her enthusiasm and charisma persuaded others to join this initiative."

Professor Byrd-Moye, another one of Ms. Romo's professors who is also the sponsor of the UHD-NW Be a Teacher Club, offers a strong recommendation as well: "I have had the pleasure of teaching and interacting with Lucia Romo over the past year and a half. She currently serves as the BATC-NW President, for which I am one of the advisors. Lucia demonstrates a remarkable level of dedication, perseverance, and enthusiasm in her academic pursuits. She has completed her BTLPT exam and passed but goes on to share tips with other preservice teachers preparing for the exam."

Professor Byrd-Moye added, “Lucia has also demonstrated strong leadership skills as President. During her time as President, she has always displayed remarkable organization skills, effective communication, and a natural ability to inspire others. She always shares an encouraging word with the members of the organization and the other students within her cohort. Outside of the academic sphere, Lucia is deeply involved in community service projects. Whether handing out waters and gators at the NW Heart Walk or preparing compassion bags for Cy-Fair Helping Hands, Lucia is there to represent not only the organization, but the UHD community.”

Finally, Dr. Miller offers her recommendation: “I have not had the pleasure of teaching Ms. Romo. What a loss for me! However, I have had the privilege of watching this dynamo grow as a student leader, an academic citizen, and a community powerhouse. Last year, I co-sponsored the UHD-NW Be a Teacher Club with Professor Moye, and we were so lucky to partner with Ms. Romo to really grow the club through professional development, social engagement, and community outreach. Just this month, when I found out that Ms. Romo had received her field placement for this semester at one of our host elementary schools, I was ecstatic to find out that she had been placed where one of my community research partners is the principal. I immediately emailed her to let her know that she had an ‘AMAZING UHD student on her campus this fall.’ That was at 1:14 p.m. on a busy mid-August day. At 1:16 p.m., the principal had already responded: ‘Yay!!!! I am already impressed with her and I just met her!’ That principal will have the joyous experience of getting to know Ms. Romo throughout this semester, an experience that so many have shared as they benefit from Ms. Romo’s impact on education in our community. And to think...she’s not even an ‘official’ teacher yet! Ms. Romo’s potential is boundless.”

Without reserve, we both attest that Lucia Romo is a worthy candidate for this recognition. She would represent the Mayor’s initiatives for Hispanic Heritage activities (and beyond!) with her characteristic determination and warm smile. Please do not hesitate to contact me to further discuss this recommendation.

Warm regards,



Diane M. Miller, Ph.D.

Interim Associate Dean, College of Public Service

Associate Professor for Literacy Education, Department of Urban Education

*With Professor Johanna Byrd-Moye, M.Ed.*

*Program Director for the UHD Center for Grow-Your-Own*

# LUCIA ROMO

16366 Maplemont Dr. Houston, TX 77095 • (832) 353-7595 • lromo86.lr.lr@gmail.com

*Diligent and driven student working to attain my bachelor's degree in education with a bilingual supplement. I am currently serving as the President of the UHD-NW Be a Teacher Club and as the Assistant Dean of Community Engagement in the DAIR program. I am a strong leader with impeccable work ethic and dedication to my studies. I always strive to achieve my goals in a timely manner and surpass what is expected of me. I am dependable, trustworthy, an excellent communicator, and well organized. I am working hard to obtain my dream career in teaching.*

## Experience

### August 2024–Current

#### Teacher Resident—Kaiser Elementary School, Klein ISD

- Assist with small groups.
- Monitor students while working in groups and independently.
- Help bridge academic gaps in mathematics and reading.
- Assist students with classroom procedures.
- Organize materials when needed.
- Help with classroom management.
- Assist with lunch and bus duties.

### February 2024–May 2024

#### Field Observation Hours—McDougle Elementary School, Klein ISD

- Created two lesson plans.
- Monitored students while working in groups and independently.
- Created a Case Study while working with a student.
- Worked with a student to help them develop reading skills.
- Organized materials when needed.
- Assisted mentor teacher during field day.
- Assisted mentor teacher helping struggling students succeed.

### February 2024–Current

#### Work study—University of Houston-Downtown NW Campus

- Handle incoming calls.
- Print important flyers for current and prospective students.
- Make copies and create slides on social media to promote college related events.
- Assist with social events.
- Organize materials when needed.
- Assist students with basic registration needs.
- Create interest posts on social media.
- Create and execute ideas to engage students

### September 2022–2023

#### Work study—Lone Star College

- Work closely with professor and staff members to ensure Teacher's 2 Be meeting is strategized and planned out every month.
- Assist with any paperwork, emails, and phone calls needed to be done.
- Make copies and create slides to promote college related events.
- Assist with booking special guests for monthly meetings.
- Help create and maintain budget for club meetings and events.
- Motivate students to participate in the Teachers 2 Be club.
- Co-manage Teachers 2 Be social media platforms

**March 2016–August 2023**

**Assistant Manager (Key Holder)—Style Encore**

- Responsible to oversee store events and help prepare for them.
- Helped implement seasonal floor moves to increase sales.
- Responsible for monitoring employee hours to track labor to keep store operation costs down.
- Interviewed, trained, and developed employees for various positions.
- Created positive work environment by working alongside employees.
- Created and managed tasks for employees.
- Managed bookkeeping.

**Skills**

Leader • Proficient in English and Spanish • Team player • Excellent time management skills • Conflict management • Public speaking • Work well under pressure and fast-paced environment. • Great interpersonal skills • Strong work ethic • Dependable

**Education**

December 2022

**Associates of Arts in Teaching, Lone Star College—Graduated Magna Cum Laude**

**Activities**

- DAIR—Associate Dean of Student Community Engagement
- UHD-NW Be a Teacher Club—President
- Teachers 2B Club—Co- Treasurer
- Lion’s Summer Reading Program
- TSS Conference Volunteer
- Northwest Gators—President

**Biographical Statement**

My name is Lucia Romo. I always dreamed of becoming a teacher; I especially want to help children who, like me, came from another country. I remember coming to the United States from Mexico and being scared to start school because I didn’t know the language and culture. I want to help students succeed academically, but I also want to provide a safe haven for those who feel like they don’t belong. I want to build a community within my classroom where year to year students and their families feel welcomed and safe and where culture is accepted and celebrated.

I am a non-traditional, first-generation student who seeks an education but also wants to be an example to my five children and my community. I started my journey at Lone Star College where I earned my Associates of Arts in Teaching. I then transferred to University of Houston-Downtown where I have met hands down, the absolute best people. My college journey has not been easy; I have faced many adversities including my father’s sudden passing. My family and I have sacrificed time and money so that I can fulfill my lifelong dream. Being at UHD has helped ease my journey as I am surrounded by love, encouragement, and motivation. Professors there have not only enriched my education but have mentored me and showed true interest in me and my career path. Although it gets tough at times trying to juggle my classes, two jobs, a household, and student organizations I wouldn’t change a thing. I hope that my story inspires others to work toward their dreams and break generational cycles, especially those who come from similar backgrounds like mine.