

Meghana Tripuraneni

WORK/VOIUNTEERING/OTHER EXPERIENCE

Kumon — *Early Learner Instructor (Paid job)*

July 2018 to present

I teach and tutor young children in math, reading and writing. I help them work on their phonics and counting skills as well as letter formations.

Hospice of the Valley— *Palliative Care Unit Volunteer*

October 2019 - October 2021

I packed facility supplies, made and cleaned the beds, assisted the patient families, and spent time talking to the patients there.

Banner Desert Medical Center — *Volunteer*

January 2021 - present

I work at the NICU information desk and aid families as well as help deliver supplies and transport patients to patient rooms.

Youth Advisor— *On COVID Health Messaging*

August 2021 - October 2021

I worked alongside public health researchers to educate the public on COVID-19 prevention, vaccination, or other health-related impacts of the pandemic. This was in collaboration with NAU and the Arizona Community Engagement Alliance against COVID-19. We set up social media pages, posters around the community, and gave presentations to spread information.

Licensed Nursing Assistant — *Certification in Progress*

August 2020 - present

I am currently enrolled in a nursing assistant course at my school, and I am working towards getting my nursing assistant license/certification. I will officially get my certification as a nursing assistant in April of 2022, after completing 45 clinical hours as a student nursing assistant and passing all of my skills and testing.

AWARDS

National Spanish 2 Examination (March 2019)- silver medal

National Spanish 3 Examination (March 2020)- bronze medal

HOSA State Nutrition Test (April 2021)- third place

Capstone Diploma- in progress

National Merit Semi-Finalist (September 2021)- Finalist status pending

LANGUAGES

English, Spanish, and Telugu

Virtual Shadowing

April 6, 2021

I virtually shadowed many doctors including Dr. Martin H. Pham, an assistant professor at the UC School of Medicine's department of neurosurgery. He went through the many aspects of neurosurgery and the different processes involved. I also virtually shadowed Dr. Jovita Oruwari, who went through the aspects of oncologic breast surgery.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i--6ErIqhS8>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04__saGr85k

Research — Bird Health and Behavior

August 2021-present

I am currently working with an integrative behavioral ecologist, who is also a professor at ASU, to conduct research on how the different colors of birds might relate to their different health aspects and how they might be a result of evolutionary changes. Starting in late November, I will be joining his team along with a French post doc to study behavioral patterns in turkeys.

Research — Hydrogel Dressings for Burn Treatment

August 2021-present

I am currently working with a researcher at Valleywise Burn Center to study the effectiveness of hydrogel wound dressings on treating different degree burns. I will be comparing these results to the effectiveness of traditional dry wound dressings. The effectiveness of these wound dressings will be determined both by the amount of skin regeneration and the comfort/pain level of the burn patient.

EXTRACURRICULARS

Piano

August 2014 to present

I have been playing the piano for almost 8 years and I have performed at many local recitals, The Arizona State Fair, and the 2019 Phoenix Music Teachers Association. Every Holiday season, I go to different senior citizen living centers and play holiday music for them in the dining hall.

Bharatanatyam — *Graduate/Trained Classical Dancer*

2012-present

I am a trained dancer in Bharatanatyam, which is a form of classical Indian dance. I have finished my Bharatanatyam Arangetram, which is a dance graduation following 9 years of training and practice. Over the

years, I have performed at many cultural events, including the Asian Cultural Festival, International Mother Language Day celebrations, as well as the Fiesta Bowl Parade. I currently teach this dance form to younger students.

Calligrapher— *Skilled at the Art of Calligraphy*

I have practiced the art of calligraphy for many years. I make many different cards and artwork with this lettering design, and this is something I really enjoy doing.

GIRLxSTEM— *Biology Workshop Leader*

August 2019- present

I am the biology workshop leader for the GIRLxStem chapter at my highschool. As the biology coordinator, I come up with different biology related stem workshops to do with elementary school kids. The mission of GIRLxStem is to bridge the gender gap in the stem fields by inspiring young girls to join the stem fields. Some workshops I set up include a forensics workshop and a DIY plant cell workshop.

HOSA— *Secretary*

August 2019-present

As an officer of my school's HOSA chapter, I work with my team to arrange different health related events around my school and community. For example, we spread information about organ donations and got people to sign up to be organ donors. We also held different food drives for residential centers during the Christmas time, and spent time with the residents there. In addition, we sold first aid kits around our community and got our school the bronze chapter award this year, which is a recognition of success in and out of the classroom. Additionally, as an officer, I attended different leadership conferences across Arizona to become a better leader.

Science is Fun— *Intern*

July 2021 - present

As a member of Science is Fun, I gave science presentations with the rest of my teammates to fourth graders across the state. I also gave presentations at other events including the AZ SciTech Festival and the Arizona State Fair. The mission of Science is Fun is to inspire and interest young children in science.

National Honor Society— *Member*

August 2019 to present

As a member of my school's NHS, I pledged my commitment toward community service and leadership. We set up four blood drives each school year.

Teen Advisory Council — Basha Library

June 2018 - March 2020

As a member of my local library's teen council, I helped set up different library events for children and adults to participate in. I primarily focused on setting up arts and crafts tables in which I taught young kids how to make different crafts. I absolutely enjoyed doing this, as I love both art and working with children.

Bring Change to Mind Club— Vice President

May 2021-present

I am currently the vice president of my school's Bring Change to Mind club. The club's initiative is to spread awareness on different mental illnesses and reduce the social stigma around talking about mental health. We work towards this goal by setting up posters around our school as well as by giving presentations to both high school and middle school students. We also spread positivity and wellness through other activities, such as setting up interactions with support dogs.

PROJECTS/FUNDRAISERS

ThoughtsOfCare — Instagram Page

I created an Instagram page with the aim of spreading awareness about different medical conditions. Each post is a picture of a handmade card I made, to inspire others to also share handmade kindness. The caption of each post is information about different medical conditions, such as Alzheimer's Disease and Autism, as well as a link to where people can seek help and donate to the cause. I have gotten reposted by national organizations like the National Stuttering Association. I wish to continue growing the page in the future.

Card Making and Giving — Sharing Handmade Kindness

I help support hospitalized patients by giving them handmade cards with a supportive message inside. Over the years, I have made many cards and delivered them to patients in different medical centers in my area, including Phoenix Children's Hospital and Banner Children's Hospital.

I regularly set up card making events in my neighborhood, local libraries, and hospitals to inspire kids to join me in this effort, with the goal of donating all of the cards to hospitalized patients. I want to stand as a symbol of support for these patients and help improve their holistic healthcare.

Infectious Diseases Research and Training Fundraiser— University of Arizona

During my Bharatanatyam Arangetram (dance graduation performance), I set up a fundraiser to raise money towards Infectious

Diseases Research and Training at the University of Arizona. Infectious diseases research has increased greatly over the past year and a half due to the spread of COVID 19, and I wanted to be a part of this effort. I am glad that I was able to raise a total of \$3,000.

Leukemia and Lymphoma Society— *Blood Cancer Research Fundraiser*

My friends and I are working with the Leukemia and Lymphoma society to raise money towards blood cancer research. We are planning to set up multiple fundraisers in our school and community as well as work with sponsors to raise money. Our goal is to raise one hundred thousand dollars by March 2022.