

## VOLUNTEER NOTES

### Discounted Fair Tickets!

Current MarinShares volunteers and Marinterns students are eligible for a limited-time discount on Marin County Fair tickets, thanks to the Department of Cultural Services, which manages the Marin County Fair. The special price is \$15, with a limit of two tickets per County volunteer or intern.

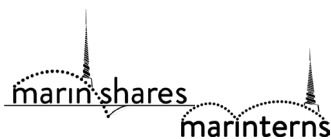
The discount is good for fair dates June 30 through July 3. (Tuesday, July 4, is a blackout date.)

Discounted tickets are available in advance only, from May 15 to May 31.

To be eligible to purchase, MarinShares volunteers and Marinterns students must be registered and active as of Friday, May 5.

The MarinShares and Marinterns office will email a link and password—both necessary for purchasing discounted tickets—to all active volunteers and interns as soon as we receive them from the Department of Cultural Services. Watch your inbox!

Please note: On the first day of the fair, Friday, June 30, admission is free to children 12 and under, adults over 65, and military veterans.



### STAFF

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## Marintern Encourages Litter Containment to Keep Bay Waters Clean

By Calla McBride

Terra Linda High School senior **Livia Danku** hopes to make waves in Marin's efforts to keep stormwater clean. This Marintern is focused on the Clean Marin program, a multi-agency effort to keep litter out of the bay.

Livia serves with the Department of Public Works for the Marin Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (MCSTOPPP). As part of MCSTOPPP's partnership in Clean Marin, her primary focus is to further develop the Adopt-A-Spot and Clean Business programs.



Livia Danku with a canine visitor.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIVIA DANKU

Since starting the internship last September, she has utilized presentations, social media outreach, and contact with local schools, businesses, and community groups to make an impact.

A recent visit with third-graders at Mary Silveira Elementary School illustrates how Livia educates students

about the importance of litter-free stormwater. "I have done presentations and activities with the class to help educate them on properly sorting the litter

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## Serving the Community, One Digital Step at a Time

By Boone Dickins

From participating in Marin County's Career Explorers program to interning with the Information Services and Technology Department (IST), Marintern **Aliyah Bassa** is shaping her career path with the County of Marin.

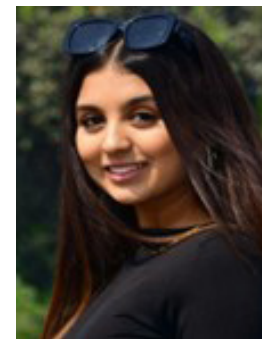
Aliyah was introduced to Career Explorers through the recommendations of mutual friends who had worked with the program, now in its eighth year. The program includes a comprehensive soft skills training course, a speaker series, and assignments in county departments.

"I thought it was a really good opportunity to branch out and get some experience in the workplace," said Aliyah.

"It was great. It taught me a lot of things, like the importance of building a LinkedIn page, networking, and résumé writing."

Aliyah has participated in Career Explorers for two years.

The program, led by Senior Program Coordinator **Luis Luciano** of the Probation Department, helped her develop skills and eventually led her to



Aliyah Bassa

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALIYAH BASSA

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## Serving the Community, One Digital Step at a Time

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IST, where she has been interning since last summer. “Aliyah was a joy to have in the Career Explorer internship,” said Luis. “I feel that she has really benefited from the real-world experience of interning.”

Aliyah is assigned to the IST Digital Team, where much of her role consists of redesigning and improving the county’s internal-facing websites, such as the Department of Finance site on the Hub (the county’s intranet). The projects that Aliyah works on change week to week, and she spends time updating county Jotforms. (Jotform is an online application that allows users to create custom forms.) She interacts directly with employees in different departments, assisting with tech-related problems. Aliyah is also involved with the County Website Redesign Project Team.

Information Technology Manager **Jiku Park** is her staff supervisor at IST. “Aliyah’s contributions have been notable,” he said. “The IST Digital Team is looking forward to witnessing her learn more about digital products and services and to disseminate what she has learned to the community.”

Aliyah’s time with IST has helped her decide what kind of job she would want. She is majoring in computer science as a second-year student at College of Marin. In her spare time, she enjoys hanging out with friends, going to the gym, and reading self-improvement books.

“I had never had a tech internship before this one,” Aliyah said. “It was really good, especially because I didn’t know what to expect at first. I’ve been able to learn a lot so far, and it gives me a really good feeling for the career path that I want to take.” ■

Applications for this summer’s Career Explorers internships are available online in [English](#)[External] and [Spanish](#)[External] and may be turned in through May 31. The program is open to applicants between the ages of 15 and 22. Call **Luis Luciano** at 415-473-6676 to learn more about the program or to obtain a printed application.

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CARTOON BY JOHN DONAGHUE

## Teen Ambassador Learns about Conference Coordination, Advocacy, and Leadership

By Boone Dickins

PHOTO BY RORY DALY



Rory Daly

As an ambassador for the Marin Teen Girl Conference, Marintern **Rory Daly** helps empower her peers and makes a difference in her community.

Rory attended the conference

as an eighth grader and remembers being inspired to join from how transformative it was. “The first time I went, the conference was so great,” says Rory. “It really made me feel like I was seen. When I was there, I knew then that I wanted to sign up and be a part of it again.”

Rory signed up with the county’s central Marinterns program, became a teen ambassador, and learned about planning and design for the annual conference

held in March. Once a month, she attends meetings covering the logistics of the conference, including discussing methods of outreach and considering which community organizations and local businesses should be involved.

As ambassadors, Rory and her peers coordinate speakers, workshops, and available services in the community. They are supported by an adult team that handles necessary tasks and assists in setting up the conference.

After four years of dedication, Rory recently advanced to the role of Ambassador Lead, an assignment in which she helps to prepare future ambassadors and meeting agendas for upcoming conferences.

Rory’s staff supervisor is **Crystal Martinez**, an aide to District 2 Supervisor **Katie Rice** and a member of the Marin Women’s Commission, which sponsors the Teen Girl Conference.

“Rory did a great job communicating both with the ambassadors and the adult support team,” said Crystal. “She brought a great can-do attitude to every meeting and became a more vocal leader as time went on. She has truly transformed from a shy ambassador to a skilled and thoughtful leader.”

Rory attends Redwood High School, where she is a senior. In her free time, she enjoys playing guitar, dancing at a studio, and listening to rock, metal, and indie music.

Rory is undecided about college but wants to continue in a role related to advocacy. She hopes to pursue a career path similar to her teen conference role, inspiring girls in the same way she was.

“I would absolutely love to do this in the future,” she said. “Everyone I work with cares so much about what we do and how we can take care of the community and make a difference.” ■

# Writer Brings Interns' and Volunteers' Stories to Life

By Natalie Dybeck

High school senior **Calla McBride** is a writer at heart. Not only does she write for Redwood High School's newspaper, *The Bark*, but between schoolwork and college applications she's also an intern writer for *MarinfoNOW*.

Calla has contributed multiple profiles to this newsletter, sharing middle school, high school, and college interns' stories as she showcases their commitment to their County of Marin assignments. Calla herself is no stranger to service—throughout high school she has volunteered with Marin County Parks and local libraries.

A member of *MarinfoNOW*'s editorial team since last May, Calla spends about eight hours a month interviewing her subject, writing drafts, editing, and proofreading before submitting an article. "The most difficult part is balancing communication and deadlines," she said. Often she has to wait for sources to return messages, "which can throw off all my deadlines. In addition, it took a while to figure out how to balance schoolwork while finding time to write and send off questions to sources, drafts to the editor, and the final version for review. However, things have gotten easier to balance as a second semester senior and as I gain experience."

"Calla has shown remarkable diligence and growth," said *MarinShares* Writing

Coach **Ed Remitz**, a retired journalism professor who volunteers with Human Resources. "She has been a reliable contributor for nearly a year, which is a substantial accomplishment for any student with many responsibilities. Well done."

So far, Calla's most memorable moment as an intern was crafting an article about a childhood friend. "I wrote a profile on a girl I had grown up with my whole life. It reminded me how much you don't know about someone until you get the chance to learn. Highlighting her role was inspiring and made me recognize how my peers are changing our community," reflected Calla.

The most rewarding part of her internship, in Calla's opinion, is showcasing everyone's talent in and commitment to their roles. "Everyone I've written a profile on has proved they dedicate so much time to making our community a better place, and I love being able to tell their stories. Oftentimes, I am writing profiles on people who go to my school. Learning how much they do outside of school always inspires me."

"Calla is a quick study, and the connections she makes while interviewing lead to informative articles about her fellow *Marinterns* and their impacts in county departments," said Calla's staff supervisor, **Anne Starr** of Human Resources.

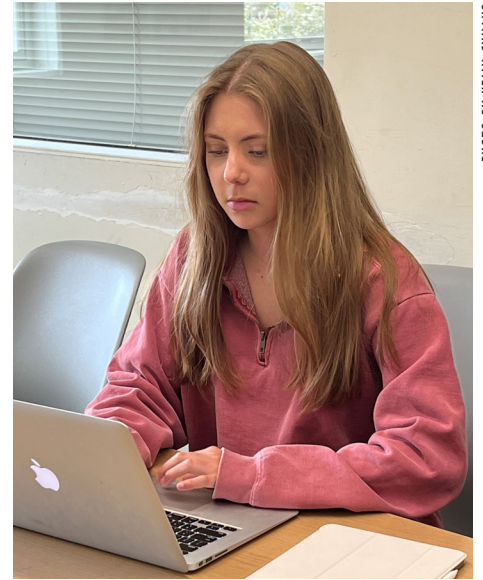


PHOTO BY KELLY CHUANG

*Calla McBride*

"She shines light on their interests, goals, and aspirations. I can't wait to read her next story!"

Today, Calla is in the eye of the hurricane, making the exciting decision about where she will attend college in the fall. She plans to major in communications and pursue a law degree afterwards. "I love writing for *MarinfoNOW* and hope to find an opportunity similar to this internship at college to continue my love for writing!"

Until college begins, Calla will continue to enjoy hiking throughout Marin, visiting Tahoe, and attending Giants games with her family. ■

## Who's New & Welcome!

**Tristyn Accomazzo** (San Anselmo), Homework Helpers Intern, Fairfax Library

**Vivienne Chador** (Novato), High School Intern, District Attorney's Office

**Elizabeth Champagne** (Novato), Marin Center Usher, Cultural Services

**Mridini Chandrasekaran** (Fremont), Nursing Student in West Marin, Health & Human Services (HHS)

**Chloe Dupont** (Fairfax), Homework Helpers Intern, Fairfax Library

**Rose Feeney** (San Rafael), Marin Center Usher, Cultural Services

**Shi Gong** (San Francisco), Nursing Student in West Marin, HHS

**Jill Knowlton** (Novato), Patrol Volunteer, Marin County Parks

**JoAnne Lesley** (Novato), Marin Center Usher, Cultural Services

**Jusim Park** (Novato), High School Intern, Board of Supervisors

**Patricia Prorok** (Novato), Marin Center Usher, Cultural Services

**Catherine Rivera** (Union City), Nursing Student in West Marin, HHS

**Jann Javin Tiangson** (Fremont), Nursing Student in West Marin, HHS

**Marie Waters** (Fairfax), Marin Center Usher, Cultural Services

# Happy Anniversary

We congratulate these volunteers who celebrate their anniversaries this month and thank them for their ongoing involvement.

## 26 YEARS

**Richard Fay** (Novato), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service/Auxiliary Communications Service Volunteer, Marin County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)

## 25 YEARS

**Eric Cutler** (Tomas), Volunteer Firefighter, Marin County Fire

## 22 YEARS

**Alice Wallace** (Novato), Patrol Volunteer, Marin County Parks

## 18 YEARS

**Janice Hitchcock** (Novato), Senior Peer Counselor, Health & Human Services (HHS)

## 14 YEARS

**Margaret Roberts** (Novato), Marin Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer, HHS

**Pat Williams** (Corte Madera), Fire Lookout, Marin County Fire

## 13 YEARS

**Hans Adler** (Mill Valley), **Diane Cokely** (San Anselmo), **Oak Dowling** (San Rafael), **Kathleen Forte** (Tiburon), **Irwin Gubman** (Mill Valley), **Roberta Robinson** (San Anselmo), **Paul Roye** (Greenbrae), **Sylvia Roye** (Greenbrae), Financial Abuse Specialist Team (FAST) Volunteers, HHS

## 10 YEARS

**Linda Blackwood** (Forest Knolls), **Martin Grant** (Greenbrae), **Kathleen Kopp** (Santa Rosa), **James**

**Okumura** (Point Reyes Station), **Bob Stein** (San Anselmo), **Michael Warner** (Petaluma), Fire Lookouts, Marin County Fire

## 9 YEARS

**Scott Mathewson** (Novato), Volunteer Steward, Marin County Parks

## 7 YEARS

**Rory Hewitt** (San Francisco), **Steve Johnson** (Pacifica), **Steve O'Keefe** (Novato), **Peter Van der Nailen** (Oakland), Fire Lookouts, Marin County Fire

**Audrey Van Hoven** (Novato), Spanish Tutor, Novato Library

## 6 YEARS

**Jacqueline 'Jackie' Whelan** (Corte Madera), FAST Volunteer, HHS

## 5 YEARS

**Catherine 'Cathy' Bottarini** (San Rafael), Marin Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer, HHS

## 4 YEARS

**Ken Adams** (Woodacre), **Owen Clapp** (Woodacre), **John Gazzoli** (San Anselmo), **David Puglisi** (Lagunitas), **Amy Valens** (Forest Knolls), **Tom Valens** (Forest Knolls), Fire Lookouts, Marin County Fire

**Noreen Kimelman** (Greenbrae), Marin Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer, HHS

## 3 YEARS

**Ian Duncan** (Inverness), **Janet Frankfield** (Fairfax), **Jane Stringer** (Inverness), **Marie Waters** (Fairfax), Marin Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers, HHS

## 2 YEARS

**Chris Gould** (San Rafael), **Tyler Phelps** (Oakland), Fire Lookouts, Marin County Fire

**Candace Key** (San Rafael), **Terri Smith** (Kentfield), Friends of the Family Volunteers, HHS

**James Saltzgaber** (Fairfax), **Jeff Young** (Dillon Beach), Radio Communications Volunteers, Department of Public Works

## 1 YEAR

**Stephanie Collins** (Mill Valley), **Daniel Dillingofski** (Stinson Beach), **Daniel Marsh** (Mill Valley), Fire Lookouts, Marin County Fire

**Olivia Koepfel** (Larkspur), **Chloe Philippart** (Corte Madera), **Maisie Pipitone** (Corte Madera), Homework Helpers Interns, Corte Madera Library

**Shyla Lensing** (Corte Madera), Restrictive Covenant Project Intern, Board of Supervisors

**Toni Lobsenz** (San Rafael), Civic Center Tour Docent, Cultural Services

**Calla McBride** (Corte Madera), Newsletter Writer Intern, Human Resources

**Iliana Milan** (Greenbrae), Friends of the Family Volunteer, HHS

**Marie J. Salerno** (Novato), Volunteer Shelver, Novato Library

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and waste they produce on campus," she said. "I then have them adopt their very own spot at the school that they can take care of and keep clean."

Livia describes this experience as one of her biggest accomplishments. She also appreciates how interning has helped her grow as both a person and an environmentalist.

"I get to think creatively and learn new things. This internship has helped me become more educated on stormwater protection and litter around Marin," she said. "I truly have learned a lot while teaching students, working with social media content, and I have developed my communication skills a lot more."

Livia's staff supervisor, **Howard Bunce**, is a Department of Public Works engineering assistant. He works with the public outreach part of MCSTOPPP, providing information and resources via their website and public-focused programs.

"Livia has a very positive attitude. She's creative, self-motivated, enjoys working with kids, and has no fears about public speaking," Howard said. "With these skills she developed a great idea for a new program and is very enthusiastic about implementing it. Her Adopt-A-School Program has the potential

to grow into being the biggest part of Clean Marin's Adopt-A-Spot Program moving forward, and she is laying the groundwork for future interns to follow."

In her free time, Livia loves to travel, spend time in the sun, and try new workouts. She enjoys trying new things and spending time with friends and family. She will continue her interest in public policy while surveying colleges.

"After graduation I plan on majoring in political science," she said. "I have not committed to any schools yet, but I plan on going into law or public policy in the future." ■