

For Immediate Release: Nov. 18, 2022

Media Contacts:

Ximena Bustillo and Nicole Foy, Voces Internship of Idaho co-chairs:

vocesinternshipidaho@gmail.com

\$36,000 grant awarded to Voces Internship of Idaho

BOISE – Scripps Howard Fund, the philanthropic arm of one of the nation's oldest and largest media companies — E.W Scripps Company — has awarded a \$36,000 grant to Voces Internship of Idaho to continue providing paid internship opportunities to Idaho's Latinx college students who wish to pursue a career in journalism.

The Voces team is thrilled to work with Scripps toward their shared goals of better representation in media and cultivating young journalists with a passion for quality journalism.

"We are grateful to everyone at the Scripps Howard Fund for investing in this program, and to our Idaho community whose support and donations demonstrate that this program is necessary, successful, and welcomed here," said Ximena Bustillo, co-founder of Voces Internship of Idaho and former Idaho journalist.

Scripps helped fund Voces' initial internships during its launch in early 2022. For 2023 and 2024, Scripps will provide a cumulative \$36,000, allowing several interns to work in Idaho newsrooms for about a semester at a time at no less than \$15 an hour. The Voces Advisory Council will continue to select and coordinate the selection of interns and their host newsrooms.

Since its launch in March 2022, Voces has supported four Idaho Latino students in paid internships. One intern, Mia Maldonado, was hired at the Idaho Statesman, Idaho's largest newspaper, immediately after completing her internship; other former interns are currently on track toward gainful employment in Idaho's news sector.

"We believe Idaho journalism only benefits from welcoming journalists with perspectives and expertise that reflect the whole state, especially underrepresented voices," said Voces Co-Founder Nicole Foy, a former Idaho journalist who is now an investigative reporter in Texas. "Latino communities have historically been left out of news reporting outside of crime and immigration reports, fostering mistrust and ignorance. Investing in journalists who can speak Spanish and who are culturally aware can close that gap and bring all our communities closer."

The Voces Internship of Idaho was established in 2022 by a group of Latinx journalists and Latinx community members to encourage more Idaho Latinx youth to pursue a career in journalism, in partnership with the Idaho Press Club. It is fiscally sponsored by Surel's Place in Boise and all donations are tax-deductible. To donate, go to vocesinternship.com.

The Scripps Howard Fund is a public charity that supports philanthropic causes important to The E.W. Scripps Company, and thus is dedicated to bringing about a fully informed world by advancing journalism education, improving childhood literacy and giving back to the communities we call home. To learn more about Scripps' work, go to scripps.com/fund.

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Voces Internship of Idaho was formed in 2022 to increase Latino representation in Idaho by joining community members as mentors, donors, volunteers, and supporters to provide more equitable opportunities for Latino young adults to pursue a career in news journalism.