

Marisa Munoz

Outreach Coordinator, The Surge Institute

Marisa Munoz grew up in Chicago's Southeast Side, which was previously economically driven by the industrial steel mills in the community. Being surrounded by working class families and a community filled with generations of people that all seem to know one another, molded her view of what it means to be part of a community.

From 2009 through 2013, Marisa served as an events coordinator and entertainment editor at a community newspaper. She was part of a team of four that established a community-based three-day street festival. The experience exposed and connected her to the area's incredible music and arts culture, invigorating her own drive to bring attention to activities in Chicago's most ignored communities.



After receiving her BA in early 2011, Marisa entered the world of startups, landing a role at a Chicago-based IT firm. She joined as part of the sales team, and later transitioned into the role of marketing coordinator. Very early into her career, this transition posed a challenge, but through constant research and applications of innovative marketing initiatives, she began to establish herself and grow within the role.

Directly after, Marisa began working as a freelance marketing and communications specialist, which she maintains currently. She engaged in projects in a variety of fields including digital marketing, real estate, newspaper publications, events and community development. Her communication skills have been utilized across various marketing platforms, as she maintains a true interest in molding impactful messaging for intended audiences.

Marisa's passion for music, reading, self improvement and dance all impacted her upbringing and worldview. She previously volunteered as a dance teacher at a Chicago Public School for three years. Driven by her biggest passion, which is helping young women of color establish healthy communication and self love, she intends to engage in programs that continue to support that.

Marisa joined the Surge Marketing and Communications team as Outreach Coordinator in November of 2017. She is wholeheartedly proud to be part of an organization that has goals to uplift the youth and communities of Chicago and beyond.