

JUANA ALULEMA

Quito

How many siblings do you have?

In my family, we have a total of 6 sisters and one brother. The oldest are Anita, Gaby, Diana, and the youngest are Adriana, Lady, and me.

Do you have any pets?

We have 5 kittens and 5 puppies; all of them were rescued and sterilized.

What are your favorite pastimes or hobbies?

I like Ecuadorian dance, singing, and reading; however, if I could take some course, I'd choose beauty.

Are you working? What type of work are you doing?

No, for the moment, due to the University's schedule, nobody would hire me for a part-time job.

Studies

Academic program: Law

School name: Indo-American Technological University

Graduation: 2024

What work will you pursue with your program?

International Law or Criminal Law

The Foundation

I have several memories of Mike and Maggie, one of them, the songs that Margarita made for certain moments of our grade school English class. (Juanita was Mike and Margarita's English student in first, second, and third grades.) Before we left we used to sing "Five more minutes", another song was about "Don't make bad faces". Another memory was our walk through Carolina Park. Also, Maggie and Mike helped Anita, who is one of my sisters. She finished her studies in the night school thanks to them.

Since I have entered DEOF, they have supported me in college entrance. I took pre-university classes. I was also studying English at Centro Educativo Continuo; and then I advanced to intermediate level 1. After this time, when Covid-19 started, at this moment was when I received more support from them. We provided a commercial uniform service, but we had no more work from this, and most of my family was out of work, because of the pandemic. Also, the help of part of the group, the zoom meetings, English Club Conversation with Rubén, and reading club. These activities helped me to keep and develop my abilities.

Another memorable moment was when I passed the admission test of USFQ (San Francisco University of Quito). I don't mind not having entered that university, but I passed the exam, and it made me feel that I was still worth something to DEOF. The second is the start of classes in Indo-America because I am studying the career that I like. I enjoy the classes and I feel very good about the fact that I am already studying.

What does DEOF mean to you?

For me DEOF, it was a path that I never thought would open up to me; it was the chance of my life; it has been the opportunity to accomplish my dreams.

In addition, sharing with everyone, and they try to help each other, makes you feel like family.

COVID Disruption

About COVID-19, I felt that the situation completely closed the doors to my family. We have even tried to sell online. Also, we sold without permission on the street the clothes that my mom makes. With the latest measures, we could not sell on Saturdays or Sundays, but I hope things will improve soon.