



It is a pleasure to nominate our Au Pair, Andrea Sainz, for Au Pair of the year. From the moment that Andrea entered our live, she became a part of our family. She has enriched our children's lives and brought an array of culture to our home. She has integrated herself into our family life and has contributed greatly. She has not only embraced her role in our family but has embraced the cultural exchange spirit of the au pair program.

Andrea's main and greatest contribution to my family is what she has done for my children. She is an amazing influence in every way. She makes sure they always say please, thank you and your welcome. She makes sure they always clean up after themselves and has even taught them a song in both English and Spanish for picking up their messes. She teaches and communicates to my children how to be self-sufficient and to do more for themselves while building their

confidence. Just this last week I came home to her teaching my boys their vowels. She reads to the children constantly. She goes above and beyond on teaching them things they would learn in preschool. She teaches them diverse games such as hopscotch and fosters their imagination as they build forts and puts together a camping tent in the family room. She is an amazing influence when it comes to food and makes several items from scratch and always teaches my children to eat health when she is with them. Her cooking is remarkable from homemade lasagna to an incredible homemade salsa.

My son Angelo struggles with speech and she has been a driving force in his ability to articulate himself better. She forces him to use his words and to communicate what he needs. When he points at something, she communicates to him how he must use his words. She communicates well with all the children and embraces the many changes that happen in the household daily will integrating herself and culture into the home. For Day of the dead she builds the children an Ofrenda and put up a picture of my grandfather who had passed away. She also used the movie "Coco" to teach the children about her culture.



Andrea is great about making sure that my children's clothes always match and that they have what they need. She makes sure to do my daughters hair daily and keeps them looking presentable. She is diligent about making sure she has everything that is needed for even a short trip to the park and knows how to organize all their things efficiently. In the first month that Andrea arrived to us she

organized all the kids clothing in their dressers and closets and organized the DVD's. She keeps the kid's art supplies and toys organized and is teaching my children to respect the items that they own and how to care for them. She is great at communicating to the children when things need to be done or if something needs to change and embraces the changes that happen in a busy household with three toddlers.

When we are out and about, even on her time off, she is a great helping hand. Just yesterday we went to the snow and she helped carry my daughter to the lodge and had a snow ball fight with my boys. She is involved in important family days such as parties and helps with the décor and food. She participates in almost every family activity and is a joy to have with us. She is part of our family if we are at a birthday party, out to pizza or just going to a new place to discover. She has been willing and excited to do things she has never done before such as carving pumpkins or baking Christmas cookies. She enjoys leisure family time with us and has enjoyed movies or hang out time and has integrated herself when we have friends or family over.

Andrea is both friendly and likable by every person she encounters. She has made friends with a variety of au pairs from different organizations and taken the opportunities to travel



and make new friends. She goes out of her way to experience new places and is always ready to do something different. She has shown maturity in her choices and done more around California than many people who have grown up here have their whole lives. Just over New Year's she went to Las Vegas on a road trip and got to see the Grand Canyon. In November she went to Disneyland and explored the LA area. She also took advantage of the four-day weekend au pair class in September and was able to explore San Diego.

She has also been amazing at communicating with both my husband and me. We always feel that communication is key. She lets me know what is going on at home, updates me regularly during my work day if one of the children get sick during the day. She sends me videos and pictures and is quick to respond if I ever need to get ahold of her when she is home with the kids. She also always communicates if she is going on, who she is with and when she will be home. She communicates with us enough for us not to have to worry about her and to know that she is safe.

There is so much more I can say about Andrea, she has embodied everything we look for in an au pair and has gone above and beyond in everything she does and how she has embraced both American culture and her role in our family. We can't imagine this year without her and knows she deserves to win Au Pair of the Year.

[Click here to see the nomination video submitted by the Rascon family!](#)

