

# Bilingual Generation

## who we are

Bilingual Generation is working to empower families and educators with the tools to help kids with bilingualism in their bones maintain a meaningful connection with their heritage languages. We develop culturally-affirming programs, curricula, and resources that celebrate multilingualism. Our approach is rooted in the science of learning and focused on the core of bilingualism: connection.

Only 20% of Americans can converse in two or more languages, compared to nearly 50% of the rest of our multilingual world. And while more than 35% of children come to school with the foundations of bilingualism, far fewer graduate with the ability to speak, read, or write in their heritage languages. It's no surprise most heritage languages are often lost by the third generation.

But it doesn't have to be this way. And the time for a radically different approach to bilingualism is now. Starting in Spanish and then growing to other heritage languages, Bilingual Generation is bilingualism like you've never seen before.



## our team

Bilingual Generation is powered by parents, educators, innovators, and researchers who were directly impacted by linguistic and cultural oppression and believe in preserving heritage languages in our homes and communities.

## contact



[www.bilingualgeneration.com](http://www.bilingualgeneration.com)  
[hello@bilingualgeneration.com](mailto:hello@bilingualgeneration.com)



[@wearebilingualgeneration](https://www.facebook.com/wearebilingualgeneration)



[@wearebilingualgeneration](https://www.instagram.com/wearebilingualgeneration)

# ABOUT THE FOUNDER

Growing up in Texas, Dr. Veronica Benavides didn't speak Spanish, the only language spoken by her grandparents. Her parents decided to raise her in English only, an effort to shield her from the shame and punishments they experienced when speaking Spanish at school.

Vero soon realized that español wasn't the only thing missing from her educational upbringing. She'd never seen herself reflected in the curriculum, period. As Vero pursued a career in education, she always sought to create linguistically and culturally affirming learning spaces and resources.

After her first child was born, Vero moved to her partner's native Denmark. Suddenly, she found herself in her grandparents' shoes — raising a child in a country whose dominant language she didn't speak. The next generation of her family was yet again at risk of losing the heritage language she'd fought to resurrect.

Vero decided to raise her son in Spanish. And while she didn't speak it perfectly herself, she wanted him to grow up not only knowing the language, but celebrating it.

She wanted him to see accents as normal and interesting. And she wanted him to understand that learning a heritage language wasn't about perfection, but connection. Understanding that it takes a village (of educators and families, say) to teach and sustain heritage languages, Vero began developing the resources her child, and her childhood self, deserved. Bilingual Generation was born out of this desire to foster multilingualism with rich learning opportunities for kids in school and at home.



## contact



[vero@bilingualgeneration.com](mailto:vero@bilingualgeneration.com)



[www.linkedin.com/in/veronicabenavides](http://www.linkedin.com/in/veronicabenavides)

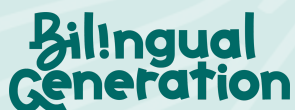
# OUR WORK

Imagine a world where cultural and linguistic diversity are celebrated and cultivated; where all children have a strong sense of place and belonging in schools and communities; where teachers have the tools, resources, and community they need to help culturally and linguistically diverse students thrive; where families are empowered to reclaim and sustain heritage languages in their homes, no matter their level of fluency or connection; and where children with bilingualism in their bones graduate with a sustained connection to their heritage languages and culture.

At Bilingual Generation, we encourage kids, families, and educators to shift their perspectives and foster deep connections with heritage languages, and to see these languages as a source of power and pride. We're ready to help build this new world with a scientific, culturally-sustaining approach that brings joy and play into the mix. To us, learning a heritage language isn't just about mastering the mechanics - it's about connecting deeply to our ancestral identity so we can honor our humanity and thrive.

**Learn more at**

[www.bilingualgeneration.com](http://www.bilingualgeneration.com)



# WHAT WE DO

## Language Preservation Collectives

Cohort-based experiences with live coaching, innovative learning modules, and turn-key learning materials for your home or classroom.

## Bili

Bili is a multi-platform app that supports heritage language learning — at home and in school — for children ages 3-8.

## ALAS Curriculum

An early childhood Spanish/English curriculum designed to support the development of current and emergent multilingual children.

## Speaking and Consulting

Whether your audience is large or intimate, Dr. Veronica Benavides has the storytelling chops and research-based perspective to engage your audience.