



Charlene Simonian Vaca  
Interim Executive Director, BizWorld  
415-503-5880

## **BizWorld Appoints New Interim Executive Director to Lead Youth Entrepreneurship Organization**

**Oakland, CA – April 20, 2021 --** BizWorld.org, a global non-profit providing hands-on and engaging entrepreneurship education programs for youth, is pleased to announce the appointment of Charlene Simonian Vaca as Interim Executive Director.

Ms. Vaca has worked with BizWorld for 9 years, and has served as Operations Director for the last 3 years. She led the digitization of the BizWorld program in 2017 and the recent launch of our newest program, [YES!](#). Through her various roles within the organization she has overseen the operational strategy that allowed BizWorld to serve close to 350,000 students during her tenure. Charlene has a versatile skillset and is well suited to lead the organization moving forward given her extensive knowledge of BizWorld's programs. She succeeds Thais Rezende who had been the CEO for 8 years prior. BizWorld's Board of Directors is thrilled to welcome Charlene to lead the organization with pride and excellence, ensuring the continued success and growth of the organization's incredible programs.

"I'd like to thank Thais for her years of dedicated and impactful leadership of our organization. I'm honored to take on this incredible opportunity and continue BizWorld's leadership in the youth entrepreneurship space", said Ms. Vaca. "Having worked for BizWorld for nearly a decade, I have intimate knowledge of our programs and the need for entrepreneurship education for our youth. I believe that preparing youth early with an entrepreneurial mindset is a catalyst to reaching their highest potential and own economic empowerment."

Ms. Vaca looks forward to continuing to propel BizWorld in leading the way to entrepreneurship for today's youth. To date, BizWorld has reached over 800,000 students around the world. In her role, Ms. Vaca will also continue to work with Bizworld's 10 international partners globally.

### **About BizWorld.org**

BizWorld.org is a global non-profit organization based in Oakland, CA, whose mission is to empower youth to become 21st century thinkers by awakening their entrepreneurial spirit, inspiring them to become the architects of their futures, and giving them the confidence to transform their communities. Founded 24 years ago by Silicon Valley venture capitalist Tim Draper, BizWorld programs teach students real-world 21st century skills such as financial management, collaboration, negotiation and leadership that encourage them to become the

financially responsible leaders and entrepreneurs of tomorrow. BizWorld provides project-based programs for youth, including their flagship program for elementary and middle school students - BizWorld®. BizWorld has reached over 850,000 students in more than 100 countries. For more information, please visit [www.bizworld.org](http://www.bizworld.org) or call toll-free 1-888-4-BizKid. For more information, please visit [Bizworld.org](http://Bizworld.org)