

# Erica Hines

## High School Success Program Manager, LINK Unlimited Scholars

2016 Surge Fellow Erica Hines is passionate about using her background as a classroom teacher, teacher mentor, and nonprofit program manager to make schools radically empowering institutions. In her current position as the High School Success Program Manager at LINK Unlimited Scholars, Erica works closely with 9-12th grade students to monitor their academic progress and provide resources for their continued academic and personal success. She manages summer enrichment programs, writes curriculum, conducts outreach visits, and is a leader in high school relations.



Erica is the daughter of a career teacher and an Army sergeant; through her father's military role, she spent her formative years living in Germany and traveling throughout Europe as part of the American military community. She attended Washington University in St. Louis, where she earned her Bachelor's in English and her Master's in Education, combining her passion for language with her desire to share the joys of reading and writing with young people. Erica has taught Literature and English Language Arts in secondary public, private, and charter schools around the country. In each environment, she was drawn to learn more about how students and teachers navigate their personal and social relationships with their school environment. Through her teaching experiences, Erica spearheaded student affinity groups, served as a peer mentor, and solidified her passion for supporting teachers and students to exercise self-determination. She believes strongly in the potential of education as a tool for social justice, relationship building, and personal growth.

Erica currently lives in Chicago with her husband Michael, an instructor and PhD candidate at Loyola University Chicago. In her free time, Erica doesn't enjoy exercise but does it anyway, loves to cook, explore new neighborhoods, read fiction, and organize her apartment with an ever-expanding collection of art and antiques.