



Summer Experience Teacher Bios

A Grade Ahead Staff

A Grade Ahead has partnered with Columbus Academy's Summer Experience for several summers. A Grade Ahead is an after-school enrichment program specializing in math and English for Preschool to High School students. The company started here in Columbus in 2001 by owners Parag and Meenal Singhal. While it started as a mailing program, it has grown to include local academies and franchises nationwide.

JoAnne Adams

Field hockey has been a huge part of JoAnne's life for many years. She started playing way back in the 80's in middle school, went on to play college field hockey for the Ohio Bobcats in the 90's, and has been coaching at the high school or middle school level at Columbus Academy ever since. She has been running the girls field hockey summer camp for over 20 years, and feels that it is a great way to start each summer, by teaching an awesome sport with the help of great coaches and current college and high school players.

Genevieve Adkins

Genevieve began her first year teaching science in the middle school at Columbus Academy at the start of the 2022-23 school year. She has also worked with our Summer Experience Program since 2014. Prior to Academy, Genevieve taught high school science for nine years and worked in laboratory research for seven years. She has a B.S. in molecular biology from Otterbein University and a M.Ed. from Western Governor's University. Genevieve and her husband, Rob, are both super nerdy, science people who met working in a lab and are now raising their daughter, Hadley, a future tiny-nerdy scientist. She enjoys reading, Pilates, traveling, photography, spending time with her family and going out to eat with friends.

Davida Arnold

Davida Arnold joined the lower school at Columbus Academy as a PreK associate teacher during the 2019-20 school year after having spent a portion of 2018-19 on campus as a substitute for PreK through fifth grade. Davida also began serving as the assistant director of diversity for lower school in April 2022. She completed her B.S. in industrial and systems engineering at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg and holds a M.S. in pastoral counseling from Loyola University Maryland in Baltimore. Before becoming a teacher, Davida was an engineer working on U.S. Navy aircraft carriers. Davida also brings educational experience as a teacher assistant and substitute at Westminster Academy in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, before moving to Pickerington when her husband Shaka became our Head of Middle School. She is also a board certified coach and a certified clarity coach. Davida and Shaka are the proud parents of Zoya '24, Hanna '26, Joza '28 and Ina '30.

Ashley Austrie-Brown

This will be Ashley Austrie-Brown's third summer teaching at Columbus Academy Summer Experience and in her second year as P.E. Instructor for grades 5th - 8th at Graham Elementary and Middle School. Before teaching at GEMS, she used to be a long term substitute teacher at Franklin Elementary for 4th grade, a senior coach with JumpBunch for ages K - 8th grade, and Track Coach for Westland Highschool. Ashley graduated from Cal State Long Beach in 2015 with a B.A. Degree in Journalism with an emphasis in Communications, then moved to Columbus in 2019. She was born and raised in California and while in high school and college she dedicated her time to dancing on a competitive cheer team/ dance company. In her free time she loves dancing, writing, planning, and lifting weights. Fun fact: she can box squat 225 pounds and deadlift 175 pounds. She looks forward to another "Best Summer Ever" with our campers.

Fun of Magic/ Carroll Baker

Carroll Baker's interest in magic took a huge leap when, at the age of six, he won the grand prize in a local contest. The prize was lunch with Harry Blackstone Jr., a world famous magician. That lunch and that meeting set the course for the hardest working magician in the Columbus, Ohio area.

Ratna Balasubramanian

Ratna has taught Science and Mathematics to Middle School and Upper School students for over 37 years. Besides teaching, she has run chess and draughts clubs, and she started the first Interact Club in Dubai. Later, Ratna proceeded to open another one in a different school, and both of these clubs run efficiently to date! She was the Faculty Advisor of these Interact clubs as well as the Faculty Advisor for the Gavel Club, which is affiliated to the Toastmasters International. Gavel Clubs are Public Speaking Clubs preparing high school students with presentations and clear speeches, both extempore as well as prepared speeches and speeches by people of note. The club guides students to be responsible as office bearers, and run successful units collaborating with peers and presenting their work to the public. This makes them overcome their shyness of speaking in public, builds confidence in their approach to strangers, and helps students to be successful as great leaders. All this and more are taught at the Public Speaking week at the Summer Experience!

BalletMet Dance Academy Staff

Ranked among the nation's largest studios associated with a professional company, BalletMet Dance Academy offers hundreds of classes each year for students ages 3 to 84. We boast state-of-the-art studios, faculty members who have danced with companies around the world and live musical accompaniment in most ballet classes. Daryl Kamer founded the academy in 1974, but it didn't become BalletMet Dance Academy until after the professional company was officially formed in 1978. Since BalletMet's move to a 35,000 square-foot dance campus in Downtown Columbus in 1990, the company and academy have both become recognized as institutions of local and national stature.

Zachary Besand

Zach received his Bachelors Degree of Science in Education from Bowling Green State University and a Masters in special education. He has taught Physical Education going on 8 years and has taught at the elementary, middle school, and highschool levels. He is currently teaching K-4th grade physical education at Pickerington Local School District. Zach and his wife, who teaches 3rd grade at Gahanna, are excited to welcome their first born son (Beckham) into the world, due February 14th. In his free time he loves spending time with family, friends, and his two dogs. His hobbies include watching his favorite sports teams, lifting weights, playing PickleBall, and staying active while being outdoors!

Kelly Black

Kelly Black has worked at Columbus Academy since 1998, having assumed her current role teaching second grade in 2009 after 10 years with third grade. She also is the curriculum coordinator for lower school, serves on the student protection and report card committees, and is responsible for starting the 3rd Grade Wax Museum at Academy, which will celebrate its 25th year on campus in 2023. Kelly has also previously worked as secretary of the Gym Skills Booster Club, upper school swim coach, and began the middle school swim team at Academy. Prior to coming to Academy, Kelly taught fifth grade language arts, social studies and art at Northern Local Schools, while also serving as a private contractor for the district's development of social studies lessons. She has a B.S. in elementary education with a concentration in art from the University of Akron. Kelly and her husband Steve have two daughters, Zoey '21 and Quinn '23, along with twin cavapoos, Bug and Lulu.

Charles Brodhead

Charles Brodhead has been teaching Archery since Summer Experience started offering summer programs at the Columbus Academy. During the school year he teaches Health at Big Walnut High School and has 34 years of experience as a teacher. He is currently the Head Boys Golf Coach at Big Walnut.

BX Coding Staff

BX Coding was founded by Duncan and Elliot, two computer science college students who love to teach coding to kids! Going into their fifth summer of camps, Duncan and Elliot have taught over 200 students the fundamentals of programming and game creation. They pride themselves on a 1:5 instructor to student ratio, which allows them to support each student on their path to coding awesome games!

Kesha Caswell

Kesha loves working with children and is very passionate about coaching. She has coached all-star cheer, tumbling, and gymnastics for 14 years at Gym X-treme and Midwest Explosion. She started all-star cheer as a little girl and has been in the industry ever since. Kesha believes that her God given gift is encouraging others. It comes so naturally to her and she loves sharing her passion with young athletes. She is a mother of 2 little ones, who are 3 and 5 years old, who enjoy working out with their mom and exploring new parks! Kesha is also the owner of Faith Love & Creations, which sells handmade wood decor, T-shirts, and personalized gifts. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family, all things fitness, crafting, and cooking!

Chiller Staff

Lauren Paitson - Lauren has been on staff of the Chiller since 1995. Her roles include group lesson coach, private lesson coach, synchronized skating coach, Camp Chiller developer and skating director. Her teaching background started with being a Montessori Kindergarten teacher for over 15 years. In 1990, she combined teaching with her love of skating at the Penn State University. Her passion is encouraging beginner skaters whether 4 years old or 84 years old! Lauren has recently learned more about hockey by becoming a hockey Grandma because her 6-year-old grandson has begun his hockey journey. She is also an accredited Tai Chi Chih instructor and has taught youth classes in Michigan and Ohio.

Andy Herderick - Andy is the self-proclaimed Senior of the group. He started his hockey endeavor when he was 47 years old. He's an "old country boy" who grew up on his grandfather's farm next to Eastland Shopping Center. He learned how to skate when he was a boy on Big Walnut Creek in the winter. Later, Andy played two nights a week in the Chiller Adult Hockey League and participated in numerous Chiller hockey clinics and the Chiller Adult Learn to Play Hockey classes. He started coaching for the Chiller & the Blue Jackets 14 years ago. Andy has a deep passion for coaching and working with the younger players and believes the Chiller staff are the best coaches for kids. Coaching the kids for him is and continues to be a true blessing because it makes him feel like a kid again. Off the ice, Andy enjoys camping and fishing.

Alicia Keeler - Alicia has been skating for over 20 years and coaching for over 10. She started figure skating and synchronized skating when she was 12, so she likes to inform people that "it's never too late to learn how to skate!" Alicia has recently gotten into the hockey world through coaching and it has been a wonderful experience. She feels that it has been a privilege getting to watch many of the Chiller skaters grow up in the rinks and see their progress over the years. That's why she loves what she does. Outside of the rink, she loves to read, crochet, sew, and raise goats.

Jared Circle

Master Circle has been training in Korean Martial Arts for 22 years and holds a combination of 15 Black Belt ranks across six different arts. He has taught and trained internationally and owned a local studio serving the central Ohio community. With a teaching style that emphasizes practical self defense skills and the presence of mind to avoid conflict at all costs, Master Circle makes learning the arts enjoyable and empowering. Master Circle lives in Central Ohio with his daughter and two sons. He offers private lessons in traditional arts and works as a certified life coach.

Meaghan Coe

Meaghan has a BS in Physical Education from Methodist University, a M ED in Adapted Physical Education from SIU-E, and a M ED IN Educational Leadership from American College of Education. She has been teaching for 17 years in both PE and APE. She has taught in North Carolina, NE Ohio, NW

Ohio, and now, in Columbus, teaching preschool - high school students. Education runs in her family! Both of her parents were teachers and her brother has his undergrad in elementary education.

CodeMonster Staff

CodeMonster specialize in Kids Coding using various visual tools to make coding fun. They take popular games, dissect them, and re-produce these games using the tools they have selected. Kids will understand the process of game development, from discussion to pseudo-coding it on the board. All of their instructors are software developers and technologists. Each and every one has gone through 2 levels of training before they are certified to teach. Instructors are not only trained, but also professional in various technology positions. The CodeMonster staff wants to bring coding to all kids, one community at a time. They want to be the voice and advocate for bringing coding into the core curriculum in schools, make coding fun for kids, and instill logical/critical thinking in kids through coding.

Columbus Children's Theatre Staff

Columbus Children's Theatre is transforming families through the power of the stage. Our vision is a world that values curtain calls and elevates the arts. Our values are: Artistry — We create productions of the highest quality that feature classical stories and new works. Magic — The unforgettable moments when audiences and actors connect with the story, and with each other. Curiosity — Our programs explore theatrical genres, teach critical skills, and create opportunities to imagine. Triumph — The personal goals achieved and milestones earned through determination and hard work. Openness — All are welcome on our stage and in our seats. For 60 years, the Columbus Children's Theatre (CCT) has been a local treasure. We were founded as the Columbus Junior Theatre (CJT) by Evelyn "Sis" Bloom, who had a long and distinguished career in media and communications in Columbus. CJT was the first of its kind to offer classes in theatre and production experience for children throughout Central Ohio. Our touring company began in 1970, when our work started to gain recognition. After breaking box office records every year, we made a much-needed move from a 99-seat space to our current home, a 170-seat theatre at 512 Park Street, in 1997. In 1998, CJT changed its name to Columbus Children's Theatre. In 2000, we were recognized as a "Major Institution in Columbus" by the Ohio Arts Council, the Greater Columbus Arts Council, and The Columbus Foundation. That same year, CCT commissioned its first full musical, *The Druid Tree*, which premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland. We began to reach more students across the city when we acquired the 15,000 square foot facility at 177 E. Naghten in 2012. Our academy expanded rapidly with the addition of after school classes, private lessons, dance classes, and the Young Adult Theatrical Academy. Our work continues to win awards from the theatre community. In 2017, CCT's Summer Youth Performance Conservatory was internationally recognized for its production of *Once on This Island Jr*, which won Excellence in Music and Excellence in Performance, Female (Sara Tuohy) at the Junior Theatre Festival in Atlanta, Georgia. But, we do so much more than sing, dance, and delight. We offer an authentic, inclusive theatre experience, which entertains, nurtures, and makes a lasting impact on the individuals and communities we serve. Our work is important to anyone who values the arts and the impact of the arts on young people.

Columbus Crew Staff

Columbus Crew Youth, the youth soccer arm of the Columbus Crew, provides programming targeting players ages 6-14 from beginner to advanced. All Crew Youth Programs are coached by a combination of Crew Academy Staff, Crew Youth Coaches, and area college coaches/players. All staff are hired and trained internally by the Crew Youth Technical Director. Our goal is to provide your child with the highest quality training that is developmentally and age appropriate, with a focus on technical, tactical, physical, and mental development. We aim to create positive and energetic environments where campers are free to express themselves and learning the game of soccer is enjoyable and fun. We seek to develop not only individual skill, but also promote a healthy lifestyle in our youth players. Through encouragement, motivation, and guided discovery within a positive and fun environment, your child is sure to receive a valuable camp experience.

The Dawes Arboretum Staff

Beth Spieless - Beth made the transition from Arboretum volunteer to staff in 2007. In her work as an interpretive educator, she creates enriching experiences for visitors through interpretive materials and programs that emphasize the conservation of trees and nature. Through the National Association for Interpretation, Beth earned certification as an Interpretive Trainer in 2017 and as a Heritage Interpreter in 2018. She holds a M.S. degree in Natural Resources from The Ohio State University with a focus on environmental communication, education, and interpretation. She earned a B.S. in Biology from the University of Dayton. Beth has experience in university settings, providing career counseling for students and disseminating the research of environmental historians. She also previously served as a naturalist in both a state park and a private nature center. She resides in Granville with her husband Doug and their two teens.

Hannah Dillemath - After earning a B.S. in Biology from Denison in '17 with a focus on ecology and evolution, Hannah was accepted into the Advanced Training Program at The Dawes Arboretum. After gaining experience in seasonal roles, she found herself drawn to science education and received her M.A. in Teaching and certification in 7th - 12th grade life science. Hannah is now employed at The Dawes Arboretum as the Learning and Engagement Educator and is responsible for sharing the natural world with both guests and fellow staff.

Nancy Gregory - Nancy enjoys writing curriculum and sharing the wonders of nature with home school students, preschoolers and local school-age children at The Dawes Arboretum. She has worked to keep The Dawes Arboretum's Learning and Engagement Department school programs relevant and in line with state learning standards since joining the staff as an environmental educator in 2008. She has a B.S. in Elementary/Early Childhood Education from Millersville University in PA., and has previous experience as a classroom teacher in Pennsylvania. She has continued her education with training as a facilitator in various environmental education curriculums and was deemed a Certified Environmental Educator in 2014.

Direction Up Basketball Camp Staff

Founded in 2015, Direction Up is dedicated to transforming the lives of youth, "one bounce at a time". Our mission is to encourage, empower and motivate youth from all walks of life to aim higher in every aspect of life. We want to remind youth that in everything, there is a choice. They can choose to respond negatively to circumstances, or they can choose to respond positively. Direction Up envisions a world with our youth making a choice to tap into the greatness that is already instilled in them.

Shaun Ditty

Shaun Ditty has been a counselor in the Lower School at Columbus Academy since August of 2016 and also works with classes throughout all of the division's grade levels. He holds a Bachelor's of Technical and Applied Sciences from The Ohio State University and a master's degree from Methodist Theological School in Ohio. In addition to counseling he has a passion for outdoor education as well as camping and hiking. Shaun has enjoyed teaching woodworking at summer experience for the past 7 years. Watching and helping kids grow and stretch in big and small ways is perhaps one of the things he enjoys most about his time at summer experience. Summer experience is a magical place, and he encourages all to try it.

Maya Dixon

Maya Tsigie Dixon is a Writer/Director/Producer and native of Columbus, Ohio. She is a recent Film and Media Arts (MFA) graduate of American University (2021). A lifelong lover of the arts, she paints and writes narrative screenplays which contribute to her process as a creator of original meaningful media. In 2017, she was selected to participate in the highly regarded FAMU study abroad program in Prague, Czech Republic. In 2018, she was selected to present a paper "Representations of Black Super Heroes" for UFVA (University Film and Video Association) in Las Cruces, New Mexico. In 2021/2022, she showcased her short film "Indigo Child" on the film festival circuit. The most recent official selection is the 4th Annual Morehouse College Human Rights Film Festival in Atlanta, Georgia. Indigo Child has also been selected as an official selection for the 6th annual Origin's Film Festival in Columbus, Ohio and the 24th annual San Francisco Black Film Festival in San Francisco, California. Maya hopes that her future endeavors challenge her abilities to grow as an artist and filmmaker.

Field of Dreams Staff

Field of Dreams has been offering summer camp experiences since 2002. Twenty years of experience have helped them to create enriching camper experiences where campers are not only introduced to the joy of horses, but are advised by trained, experience equestrians who are committed to the safety of their campers, while keeping summer fun at the pinnacle of the experience.

Colleen Flowers

Colleen Flowers is a middle school Intervention Specialist, and has been working in Special Education for 8 years. Her Alma Mater is The Ohio State University. Recently, she got married and together they have 2 dogs and 1 cat. In her free time she enjoys disc golfing, volleyball, and spending time with her husband and pets.

Samantha Fox

Samantha (Goldberg) Fox has taught pre-kindergarten at Columbus Academy since the 2021-22 school year, having joined the Lower School faculty in 2016. She previously served as an associate and lead teacher for third grade on campus. Samantha came to Academy after a combined 11 years of teaching between second grade, kindergarten and preschool. She holds a B.S. in elementary education from Plattsburgh State University and a M.S. in classroom reading from the University of Albany. Samantha has a daughter who attends New Albany-Plain Local Schools.

Helma Groot

Helma Groot started sewing at a very young age while she was living in the Netherlands. She then moved to Indonesia, Germany, and eventually the U.S., where she graduated from Columbus College of Art and Design with a fine arts degree. After more than 20 years of making her living as an artist, she discovered her love of teaching. She still sews and makes her own artwork, but is also a high school art teacher in Bexley. She has been teaching summer camp at Columbus Academy for more than thirteen years.

Gym Skills Staff

Here at Gym Skills, we prioritize the safety, fun, and education of our athletes. Through our motto "Get Active. Be Healthy.", we work to carry out our mission of teaching children how to live a healthy and active lifestyle in both body and mind. Our vision is to leave a legacy and positively shape future generations in our communities. We value the dedication and passion our team has for the classes they lead, the students they teach, and the futures they are shaping.

Debra Hansen

Debra Hansen began her role as an associate teacher in the lower school at Columbus Academy at the start of the 2022-23 school year. She previously served in the lower school as a long-term substitute in PreK, kindergarten and first grade classrooms, as well as the interim assistant librarian on campus. Debra has several years of experience teaching, including two years as a second grade teacher in Iowa, nine years between time spent in Tokyo, The Netherlands and Denmark, as well as three years as an English and foreign language teacher in Germany and Italy. She holds a B.A. from Loras College. Debra and her husband Mark, our Head of Lower School, arrived at Academy in the summer of 2017 and have two children: Pieter, Paul '19, who attends Grinnell College, and Ellen '24.

Marion Voices Folklife + Oral History Staff/ Jess Lamar Reece Holler

MARION VOICES FOLKLIFE + ORAL HISTORY, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is Marion County, Ohio's countywide folk arts organization. Focused on amplifying diverse folk and cultural arts practices to build more just, abundant futures for everyone. Marion Voices documents local arts cultures and communities, builds livelihoods for North-Central Ohio cultural artists, and teaches a wide range of documentary arts, public history, and cultural work skills to young people ages K-12. In 2020, Marion Voices launched the Marion Voices in the Schools Folklife + Cultural Arts Residency: a dynamic folk arts in education residency that, in 2022, will connect Marion County folk artists to over 900 students in three school districts in Marion County. Marion Voices also runs an annual community cultural arts festival, the Marion

Black Joy Summerfest, which takes place in June, and they have launched exhibits, books, and programming across the county, including Marion County's first-ever Black History Walking Tour Book.

Jess Lamar Reece Holler – Jess is a community-based cultural organizer, oral historian, public folklorist, documentary artist, and historic preservationist living and working in North-Central Ohio. Jess co-founded Marion Voices Folklife + Oral History Program and serves as their Executive Director and lead documentary arts/public history educator. She is also the Principal at Caledonia Northern Folk Studios, which is a cultural arts, historic preservation, and non-profits strategy capacity-building consultancy, helping cultural organizations across North-Central Ohio. Jess is also an active historic preservationist with the downtown historic preservation and development firm Public Square Heritage Futures, which is currently working to rehabilitate Caledonia, Ohio's 1897 Temple & Masonic Block Buildings on the Public Square into renovated storefronts for a revitalized downtown. This historical site was the home of Jess's grandparents' grocery store, Reece's Market, from 1933 to 2010. Find Jess at caledonianorthern.org || marionvoices.org || [@reecesmarket](https://twitter.com/reecesmarket)

Rosalyn Holmes

Rosalyn worked at a company called Emerson Network Power for 32 years as a Contract Administrator. She was laid off from them and landed a position with School Choice Ohio as an Office Manager Interim. Then, in 2013 to present, she was hired at Columbus Academy as a C.A.S.E. Lead. She teaches Sugar Art classes during Summer Experience because she is also a professional cake decorator. For fun, Rosalyn takes boxing lessons with a professional boxer along with playing pickleball.

Hoover Sailing Club Staff

Jamie Jones - Coach Jones has coached youth, high school and collegiate sailors for over 30 years. He's currently the Program Director of Hoover Sailing Club's Learn to Sail program, the Head Racing Coach for the Denison University Sailing Team and the Head Coach of the Central Ohio High School Sailing Association, comprising 13 local Central Ohio High Schools. Jamie was STEM Instructor Certified through US Sailing's Reach program in 2014 and is a US Sailing Level 3 instructor. He's currently serving US Sailing as the Regional Training Coordinator for our area, as the Junior Championship Chair. He sits on the Community Sailing Committee providing guidance to all Learn to Sail programs in the Midwest. In 2017, Jamie was recognized by US Sailing as its Outstanding Organizational Leader and followed it up by winning the St. Petersburg Trophy for his work on the Ida Lewis Regatta at Mentor Harbor Yachting Club in 2018 and Thistle Nationals in 2021. He's currently serving US Sailing as the Regional Training Coordinator, the Junior Championship Chair and Regional Race Officer for our region.

Inspiration to Movement Staff

Rachel Nace is the Director of the Dance Program at Inspiration to Movement, Inc., where she teaches Intermediate and Advanced classes as well as the Adult Program. She began her study of dance in 1982, and danced in pre-professional and professional companies for 11 years. Rachel has studied with many companies and teachers throughout Pennsylvania and Maryland. An accomplished teacher, Rachel has taught dance to students of all ages since 1991, served as Ballet Mistress for Greater York Youth Ballet, and has guest taught and choreographed at regional ballet companies. She completed master teacher John White's Teaching Program in July of 2003. In 2015, Rachel decided to embark on a journey to create a Professional Contemporary Company based in Columbus, OH. Oyo Dance Company is a non-profit Company that emphasizes diversity in terms of dancers, artistic repertoire, and performance styles.

Dr. Ihab Ismail, Ph.D./ College Prep By Design LLC

Dr. Ihab Ismail is an experienced college prep educator and works with middle and high school students in ACT, SAT, PSAT, mathematics, and sciences. Over 90% of his students achieved top 1-5% results and 99% of them achieve their desired scores. His students earned admissions to their top colleges and received generous academic scholarships. Dr. Ismail is currently a faculty of molecular biology and genetics and the Advisor for Research Projects at Loomis Chaffee. He is a certified ADHD Educator and in the process of getting certified as an Independent Educational Consultant from IECA. Please visit www.collegeprepydesign.com to learn more.

Amy Jackson

Miss Amy is excited to be returning to Columbus Academy for her 8th year of “best days ever!” Originally hailing from the Cleveland area, Amy moved to Columbus for college at Capital University in 2014, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education. Amy currently teaches K-2 general music in Washington Court House, OH, as well as voice, piano, and ukulele lessons in Bexley. When she’s not spending time with the little people, she enjoys crafting, watercolor painting, cooking, and singing in the St. Joseph Cathedral Choir.

The Jones Chess Academy/ Kyle Jones

Kyle Jones has coached chess at more than 20 schools over the past 23 years. Kyle graduated from The Ohio State University with a B.S. in Psychology, is completing his Master’s in Early Childhood Education, earned his Protecting God’s Children certification, and has achieved the titles of Candidate Master (classical) and National Master (blitz) from the United States Chess Federation. Currently, he is ranked in the 99.5+ percentile for all players online in the world! From player to coach, Kyle has been a part of more than 40 state championship titles and 15 national titles. He became the first chess coach in national high school history to field the top two teams in the highest division in the same year. Moreover, he was crowned the 2015-16 State of Ohio Speed Chess Champion (3rd title overall). Additionally, he was honored by Fox Sports Ohio, the Dispatch, 10tv, the Governor, the Mayor, the Board of Education, the Senate and the House of Representatives for his chess achievements.

JumpBunch of Central Ohio Staff

Since 2008, JumpBunch of Central Ohio has provided a friendly introduction to sports and fitness for kids to thousands of central Ohio children. From the music to the activities and equipment, every aspect of JumpBunch has been carefully researched and developed to be both fun and beneficial to the development of young minds and bodies. Today, children all over the country, from preschool through sixth grade enjoy a wide variety of JumpBunch programs. JumpBunch camp programs have brought features such as positive leadership, safe and colorful equipment, and engaging themed curriculum that make kids want to be active to Columbus Academy’s Summer Experience since 2015. For more information, go to JumpBunch.com.

Rae Kennedy

Rae Kennedy is starting her 2nd summer (2023) teaching at Columbus Academy's Summer Experience, and she has just completed her 15th year in the field of education. She enjoys teaching all ages, but middle school is her favorite because she believes that there are so many lessons to be taught! She is a mother, educator and seamstress who, during the day, teaches 8th Grade Humanities. In her free time, she loves spending time with her 8 year old son, watching him build LEGO sets and having lightsaber battles. She also enjoys laughing with her friends and family, binge watching tv shows and movies, sewing, and all things pop culture. She looks forward teaching your children and having a wonderful Summer Experience!

Beth Kohland

Beth Kohland joined Columbus Academy as a lead teacher in our Explorers Program in 2019. Before joining CA she taught at The Wellington School in the 3-year-old and kindergarten classes. Beth is a former co-head teacher for 2-4 year-olds at Westport Weston Cooperative Nursery School in Connecticut, and a former head teacher at Beansprouts Nursery School in Park Slope, Brooklyn, New York, where she worked with ages 2-5. She earned a B.A. in theater studies at University of Surrey in London, England, and her M.S. in education from Brooklyn College in New York. Outside of work, she loves to go for walks with her husband Ryan, and daughters (Virginia '34 and Victoria '36), gardening, and chatting with family and friends in New York. A little-known fact about Beth is that she worked for Nickelodeon and had a few cameo appearances on “U-Pick Live.”

Riley Langdale

Riley Langdale is studying Entertainment Arts and Art Education at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan. She shares her love of art with K-12 students through the Community Arts Partnership, supporting after school educational programs in metropolitan Detroit. Her artwork, which specializes in

stop-motion and experimental animation, has been showcased at CCS's Student Exhibition and accepted to film festivals around Michigan. As an Ohio native, Riley spends her free time in the summer bird watching at the Audubon and studying art at CMOA.

Ron Leach

Ron has a Bachelor of Science in Health and Physical Education as well as a Masters of Education in Sports Education. He has 25 years of teaching experience from Northside Christain School, where he spent 12 of those years as their Athletic Director, combined with 17 years of teaching at Columbus Academy. Ron has been coaching soccer for a long time, and has been the boys' Varsity coach at Northside Christain School, Columbus Academy, and Bexley High School for the last 38 years. He also coached club soccer for 15 years.

Little Scholars Staff

Little Scholars is an educational services company based in Richmond, Virginia. It was founded in 2006 by Stephanie and Rodney Jefferson, who have backgrounds in economics, business, special education, and psychology. Their belief is that every child can be a scholar when learning creates smiles. They provide after school programs, summer camps, tutoring, and program management to schools across the US. Through their Summer Camps, they help students gain new knowledge and fresh confidence while having a lot of fun along the way. Their motto is, "We Exist to Enrich Children's Lives, Make Learning Fun, and See People Smile."

Nick Master

Nick has been at CA coaching baseball for 6 years now, working at the varsity level. He has spent the last year helping the offseason athletes in the weight room. Before that, he attended and graduated from Olentangy Orange High School and Ohio State where he played baseball collegiately (as a pitcher) for The Ohio State University at Newark. In his free time, he likes to stay active by walking his dog, golfing, and anything having to do with being outside. Nick spends his summers coaching baseball at the college level, working with college baseball players home for the summer, as well as other high school aged athletes ranging from 14-18.

Jennifer McGinnis

This is Jennifer's 13th summer working at Columbus Academy Summer Experience. She went to Cal State Long Beach and majored in Liberal Studies along with her teaching credential. She is a fifth grade teacher at Johnstown Intermediate School during the school year, and in her free time she loves crafting, traveling, reading and spending time with her children. She says she looks forward to crafting at camp every year!

Amy McLaughlin

Amy McLaughlin has taught music in the lower school at Columbus Academy since 2005. Outside of her main role, she also serves as the Community Coordinator for her division. Prior to joining the Academy community, Amy worked as a traveling elementary music teacher at the West Claremont School District near Cincinnati and was also a graduate teaching associate while she completed her master's degree at The Ohio State University. She is a recipient of the Milt Taylor Innovation Grant, the Putnam Grant, and the Dream Big Grant at CA, along with several music-based honors for outstanding achievement. In addition, she graduated summa cum laude as both an undergraduate and a graduate, and is also a member of Sigma Alpha Iota and Mortar Board, both national honor societies. Amy and her husband Matt, a service writer at Auto Emporium Inc., have two sons, Daniel Solis '28 and AJ McLaughlin '35.

Kathy Mendenhall, Jr. Counselor Coordinator

Kathy Mendenhall has worked at Columbus Academy since 2012 and currently serves as Special Programs Assistant and one of the CASE supervisors for our after-school program. She has also worked with our Summer Experience Program since 2014. Her initial role at Academy was as a part-time substitute teacher for CASE before becoming a long-term substitute and snack and nutrition Coordinator. As the supervisor for CASE, Kathy is responsible for helping to oversee staff and students in the program,

onboarding new CASE employees, mentoring and coordinating the Upper School CASE Assistants, floating to support each grade group, and serving as a substitute as needed. She is also responsible for ordering and distributing snacks to all grade levels and managing and tracking all invoices from SAGE Dining Services. Kathy assists the Special Programs Office with various administrative support for Summer Experience. For Summer Experience, Kathy originally began working in its after-care before becoming the Coordinator of the Junior Counseling Program and instructor for Interpretive Dance Camp. Her role as Coordinator includes parent and student orientation, placement, monitoring and mentoring of Junior Counselors, and weekly evaluations and reviews. During high school, Kathy studied and completed theatre and music training in a vocational performing arts school and later studied various forms of dance at Iveline's School of Ballet, Dublin Dance Center, and BalletMet. She is currently pursuing a business administration degree from Franklin University with an expected graduation in the spring 2023. Kathy holds a managing Cosmetology license from the Ohio State School of Cosmetology and previously owned, managed, and worked at KMendenhall Salons. Kathy returned to the stage after 36 years in the spring of 2019 as Lena Younger, "Mama," the lead role in *A Raisin in the Sun*.

Hunter Minor

From Pickerington, Ohio, Hunter Minor is your everyday, midwestern, charcuterie loving, older brother, who happened to fall in love with the world of theatre. He fell down the rabbit hole when he saw a production of *Alice in Wonderland* at Pickerington Community Theatre. After the show, there was an announcement advertising their upcoming auditions for *Bye Bye Birdie*. After his 37 Bar Cut of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and a flawless dance call in his soccer sneakers, Minor booked the role of Randolph McAfee. It was all over then. He seamlessly transitioned from a sports kid to a theatre boy all over the Columbus theatre scene and booked his dream training school when he got into Wright State. Even though the training was his favorite thing of higher education, he was seen in *Urinetown*, *Crazy For You*, *If/Then*, and *The Addams Family* (Gomez). He also was seen in *Angels in America*, *The Normal Heart*, *The Artistic Director of WSU class of 21's StuCab*, many other Jubilee Directing Lab shows, and Assistant Artistic Director of the inaugural Parking Lot Fringe Festival. Hunter currently lives in the Short North where he works with Short North Stage, Columbus Children's Theater, his own voice and acting studio, and Columbus Academy teaching and performing all day long.

Molly Murphy

Molly Murphy is a lead kindergarten teacher and joined the Lower School faculty at Columbus Academy in 2018. She served as the team leader for kindergarten from the fall of 2019 to the spring of 2021. Molly earned a B.S. in Spanish and International studies from Capital University. After completing the certification from the American Montessori Society, she returned to Capital for additional training in early childhood education and completed her state licensure. Prior to Academy, she taught at the New Albany Montessori School and the St. Joseph Montessori School. Molly and her husband Artie enjoy camping and swimming with their children and can be seen cheering them on at their basketball and lacrosse games.

Jeff Nagle

Jeff Nagle is an independent science writer, writing tutor, and freelance historical consultant. Trained as a historian of science at the University of Pennsylvania, this is his third summer teaching at Columbus Academy Summer Experience.

Lindy Newman

Lindy Newman joined the Academy family in 2020 as a Lower School Science Teacher, and has been playing around in the woods of CA ever since. She is a lover of the creek, an appreciator of bugs, and a connoisseur of shiny rocks. Prior to her work at Academy, she spent 2 years as camp director at Adventure Academy Day Camp, 4 years doing outreach at COSI, and many wonderful summers as a camp counselor. Lindy currently lives in Clintonville and spends her free time embroidering, swing dancing, camping, and biking the trails of Columbus (though not all at once).

Neal O'Brien

Neal O'Brien serves as assistant director of athletics, has worked at Columbus Academy since 2013, and taught on campus since 2015. He arrived on campus as a coach in the middle school before teaching fifth grade social studies for two years. Neal has been the head coach of our middle school lacrosse team since 2014, and led the team to it's second state championship in 2019. Under his leadership, the team finished runners-up in 2018, and has made three, final four appearances. He has a B.A. in history from Otterbein University and a M.A. in military history from American Military University.

Score More Camp Staff/ Ron McClendon

Coach Ron McClendon is a current certified PT ACSM, Former HS Varsity Girls Basketball Coach (8+ years), and Sports Performance expert (20+ years of coaching/training/consulting) that is highly coveted in the basketball community for his innovative and results driven techniques. He excelled as a high school and college player (University of Southern Indiana) as a True Point Guard. His understanding of the game and personal approach mixed with his ability to connect with his athletes sets him apart. Players always talk about how they took their game to the "next level" after being coached by him. Ron is the co-owner of Midwest Basketball Consulting, founder of Determined Athletic Training|Ohio Premier Basketball, and is involved with groups that conduct clinics and camps all over the U.S. He has successfully placed 75 girls/boys with full athletic scholarships and is currently working with boys, girls, men and women, including summer development of current college/pro players. Coach McClendon is the Director at Shoot2Score Camp, and coaches at Make a Play Skills camp, several Prospect Camps, and International "I'M Determined" College Prospect Camp.

Charlotte Price

Charlotte Price is the Middle School Assistant Librarian and a CASE Lead for explorers and Pre-K. This is her first year at Columbus Academy. She got her MLIS at Syracuse University and has experience working as an english tutor. She also has been published 3 times and does disability and human computer interaction research. Charlotte is hoping to get certified in ELA and special education. She also have a background in diversity and inclusion work within librarian science and information science.

Heather Rakosik

Heather Rakosik, is a Physical Education faculty member, a varsity assistant girls' basketball coach, and field hockey coach at Maumee Valley Country Day School in Toledo, Ohio. She spent the last three years at The Columbus Academy, as a PE teacher. She also served as a basketball and lacrosse coach. Heather also held several positions in Wooster, Ohio, including coordinator of student programs/student life at The Ohio State University-ATI and as a program manager at The Village Network. In addition, she taught and coached softball and basketball for 18 years at Kenyon College, Bucknell University, Ohio Wesleyan University, Hiram College, and Defiance College. A cum laude graduate of Muskingum University, Heather holds a B.A. degree in health and physical education and a master of arts degree in education from Defiance. This is Coach Rakosik's 3rd summer directing the CA Summer Experience Girls' Basketball Camp.

Anne Ramsey

Anne Ramsey began teaching in the Lower School at Columbus Academy in 2008 and has been in her current role as a fourth grade teacher since 2016. Anne started as a fourth grade associate teacher for seven years on campus, covering classrooms during four different maternity leaves. She also previously served as a substitute teacher at Academy and in Granville Elementary and Intermediate Schools. Anne holds a B.S. in education from The Ohio State University where she graduated magna cum laude, as well as a M.A.Ed. from Mount Vernon Nazarene University. She also earned dean's list recognition and the President's Award for superior academic achievement throughout her undergraduate and graduate career. Anne and her husband, Chris, have three boys as well as four cats, two dogs, and two clownfish.

Kimberly Reiner

Kimberly Reiner teaches mathematics in the Upper School at Columbus Academy. Originally from Illinois, Kimberly earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Northern Illinois University. Upon completing

her degree, she moved to Ohio and earned two teaching licenses from Capital University in grades 7-12 Integrated Mathematics and 7-12 Integrated Language Arts. After teaching for a few years, she enrolled in a master's degree program from Case Western Reserve University and studied Social Administration and Social Work. She found that this degree has helped to foster deeper relationships with students and to meet them where they are so they can reach their full potential. Kimberly also has experience in instructing music, art and theatre. Away from school, Kimberly likes to spend time with her husband, Matthew, and their two daughters, Katie and Lizzie. She likes researching mathematics, playing the violin and taking nature walks with her family.

Resolute Lacrosse

Brooke Delara - Brooke began playing lacrosse at Olentangy Orange High School in Lewis Center, Ohio. She then continued her athletic career by playing collegiate lacrosse at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio. Academically, Brooke graduated from Capital with 3 all-conference academic honor selections and 2 IWLCA academic honor awards. Brooke was a 4-year starter while playing midfield for the Comets where she led her team to the program-first, regular season conference and tournament wins. While playing at Capital, Brooke became a 3-time first team all-conference selection, 2-time IWLCA all-region selection, and the 2022 conference midfielder of the year. In her final season with the Comets Brooke broke several school records while also leading the NCAA in points for the year. Brooke will now look forward to joining the Resolute team and becoming the Head Varsity coach at Olentangy Berlin High School.

Royal Arts Fencing Academy Staff

Royal Arts Fencing Academy has been around for 22 years, during most of which, they have taught fencing camps at Columbus Academy. Lead by Julia Richey, a 13-year member of the Russian National Team, and her team of professional coaches, the fencing experience is always fun and exciting.

Beth Rusnak

Beth has been teaching art at Columbus Academy since December of 2021. She teaches Middle School Art and Upper School Art Foundations. Prior to Academy, Beth taught art at Cornerstone Academy in Westerville and has previous experience as a substitute teacher in Gahanna, New Albany and Westerville City Schools. She earned a B.F.A. from Ohio University and received a Recognition of Excellence on the Praxis tests. Beth has three boys, ages 11, 9 and 6. She also loves helping students to see the world with an artistic lens, and looks forward to working with Summer Experience campers to help them express their creativity.

Donna Saide

Donna Saide has taught in the lower school at Columbus Academy since 2004 and has been teaching third grade since 2015. She also serves as the lower school math curriculum coordinator and assists with the after-school homework club. She has taught grades K-3 at Academy and has previously served as a lower school diversity community coordinator. Prior to joining Academy, Donna taught kindergarten, first grade and fourth grade for a combined 10 years at Bow Elementary School in New Hampshire. She is a graduate of Notre Dame College where she earned a B.A. in elementary education and a M.Ed. in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in elementary reading.

Katie Sasser

Katie has over two decades of experience in counseling and education. She has worked with children through adults in clinical and educational environments. In her free time, her passions are for gardening and reading.

Cierra Sawyer

Cierra is a current student at The Ohio State University majoring in early childhood education with a licensure for Pk-grade 5, and will graduate May 6, 2023. She has worked as a paraprofessional for Columbus City schools for 5 school years. She is also a Registered Behavioral Technician who provides in home ABA services. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling with her husband and two children.

Darren Schehl

Darren has an associate's degree in Accounting/Computer Science from ICM school of business Cleveland. He has worked for Cleveland Compuware on the Lincoln Electric Project, for Accenture on a NOAA project in Washington DC area, and over the last 17 years, for Nationwide Insurance. Darren received his private pilot's certificate in 1992, purchased an airplane in 2016, earned the FAA Fixed wing light sport repairman certificate in 2022, and currently has nearly 900 flight hours. His favorite aviation activity is flying Young Eagles with EAA (Experimental Aviation Association) where he has flown 318 kids to date and is the current President of EAA Chapter 9. He is currently waiting on the arrival of an aircraft kit to build a Vans RV12si, which should be delivered this April. Darren and his wife Sally have three children: Neva, graduated from CSG now Freshman at University of Cincinnati, Elliott junior at CA and Henry freshman at CA.

Kelsey Schott

Kelsey Schott graduated with a Fine Arts degree from Columbus College of Art and Design. From 2007-2012 she was the Artist in Residence at the Pomerene Center for the Arts in Coshocton, OH where she taught art lessons and summer art camps. Kelsey enjoys painting portraits and landscapes, primarily working with oil and watercolor mediums. She lives in Gahanna, Ohio with her husband and three children.

Michelle Schroeder-Lowrey

Michelle Schroeder Lowrey is an actor/musician and artist educator. She teaches music/movement/drama in the CA Lower School and Hogwarts Summer Satellite in the summer. Michelle is a founding member of the Available Light Theatre company, mom to Eleanor, wife to Jon, and dog mom to Tellie and Chase. She spends every winter break watching all the Harry Potter movies in order.

Ralph Schudel

Ralph joined Columbus Academy in Fall 2021 and he currently oversees Athletic Communications and Creative Services, along with College Athletic Recruiting for our Viking student-athletes. He also serves as a substitute teacher across all three divisions. Prior to his arrival at CA, Ralph served as Ohio Dominican Women's Soccer Assistant Coach & Brand Manager for four seasons. He transitioned into an administrative role at ODU, serving as Assistant Sports Information Director for two years while he completed his Master's Degree in Sport Management. Ralph also was the Academy Director for Locker Soccer Academy in Powell, Ohio, and its club team Locker Elite. He has also worked for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and Great Midwest Athletic Conference (G-MAC) as a Tournament photographer. Outside of school, he covers the Columbus Crew for Massive Report and the Columbus Blue Jackets for Columbus Wired. He also freelances as a statistician at Ohio Dominican University and Denison University.

Mckenzie Shalosky

Mckenzie Shalosky has a partial degree in theater and a bachelors degree in music education. She loves playing her trumpet in the Westerville Community band and NACHO street band. She has performed in shows with theater companies such as Columbus Children's theater, Butterfly Guild, and Emerald city players. Mckenzie loves reading, thrifting and planting in her free time.

SoundBody Music and Dance Staff

Adam Maynard is the Owner and Founder of SoundBody Music and Dance, which has a mission to empower people of all ages to experience joy, confidence, and expression through music and movement. Adam was a professional competitor in Ballroom Dancing for over ten years, winning many titles in both Smooth And Rhythm styles and becoming a finalist in the United States Classic Showdance Championship. He has also been a touring musician and member of the Central Ohio Symphony Orchestra. Adam holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from The Ohio State University and a Master of Dance degree (licentiate) from Dance Vision International Dance Association.

Brian Stier

Brian received a B.S. from Bowling Green State University and a M.B.A. from Indiana University. He was previously employed by Worthington Christian High School as a Business Teacher, and prior to that spent 15 years working in various business and finance positions. Currently, Brian is a High School Business Teacher for Dublin City Schools and an Assistant High School football coach for Columbus Academy. In his free time, he enjoys reading, home improvement projects, watching movies, and travelling.

Claire Thompson

Claire Thompson has taught physical education in the Lower and Middle School at Columbus Academy since 2021 and is entering her 16th year of teaching overall. She is involved in Viking athletics coaching JV girls golf and middle school girls basketball. A native of Northeast Ohio, Claire holds a B.A. in physical education from Ohio Wesleyan University and a M.S. from Canisius College. In her time at OWU, Claire was a successful and decorated student-athlete setting many softball pitching school and league records, some that even stand to this day. She enjoys attending and coaching her children in youth athletics, reading historical fiction, listening to and making music, and spending time at the lake or cabin with her family. Claire and her husband Adam have four children: Hayden, Austin, Maddy '31, and Ellery.

Title Boxing Club Westerville Staff

John Buerger - Growing up, John played basketball until he was 18 years old and then he joined the United States Army. In the army, he was introduced to an entirely different level of physical conditioning. After he left the army at age 21, he went to college to major in Sports and Fitness Management. After college, John managed a golf course for eight years. He put on a lot of weight during this time and joined TITLE Boxing Club a few years later. He fell in love with the workout and became a trainer after eight months of being a member. John lost 61 pounds along the way.

Drake Zargoza - Drake grew up in Columbus, Ohio and has always enjoyed combat sports and martial arts. During Drake's sophomore year he visited TITLE Boxing Club Westerville and found the skill of Boxing. It fueled his passion for self-defense. As his boxing knowledge improved to a higher degree, he lost weight and developed a lot more confidence, gaining discipline in all aspects of his life. Falling in love with the culture of TITLE Boxing Club Westerville, he became a Trainer in 2021 and has motivated and changed lives for the better ever since.

Seth Nicholson - Seth joined TITLE when he was in middle school. Needing a healthy way to work on his fitness goals and learn self-defense at the same time, he started his journey and soon became skilled at Boxing. Once he was old enough to get a job, the first place he wanted to sharpen the tools needed to be successful career wise was at TITLE Boxing Club Westerville as well. Even though Seth is in the 12th grade, he is very mature and is currently helping the old and young alike achieve whatever it is they are working on fitness and wellness wise.

Kristen Van Gundy

Kristen is a certified Language Arts teacher from Columbus, Ohio. She attended The Ohio State University and later received her post-baccalaureate teaching credentials from Otterbein University. She is in her sixth year at Columbus Torah Academy where she teaches students in grades 7-12, including AP Literature and Composition. In her free time, she enjoys reading, hiking with her two dogs, and baking.

Bill Walker

Bill Walker is a 25-year veteran instrumental and vocal music teacher for the Columbus Public Schools, who has also done composing and improvising residencies through the Ohio Arts Council, at The Thurber House, and in Days of Creation Arts Camps. Bill has also composed music for dance in many styles including modern dance at the University of Minnesota and The Ohio State University, as well as a ballet score for a Columbus Dance Theatre ballet. He loves encouraging creative music making in all forms and has also been obsessed with photography since long before the digital age. Having fun with young people exploring music and the visual world is what it's all about for him!

Jeff Warstler

Jeff Warstler joined the Columbus Academy faculty in 1999 and currently teaches physical education in our lower school. He has been the head varsity boys basketball coach for 11 years (159-87 career record), and was named District 10 Coach of the Year in 2019-20. Jeff has also served as head coach of our junior varsity and varsity boys and girls tennis programs, having been named OTCA & NFHS State Coach of the Year for boys tennis in 2014 and 2016 as well as Mid-East Coach of the Year in 2017. Prior to arriving at Academy, Jeff worked for Golfsmith, Hackers Helper, Winding Hollow, and Earthworks Landscaping. He earned a B.A. in physical education from Denison University. Jeff and his wife Sarah have five children: Cobi '16, Carter '20, Claudia '22, Tucker '31 and Rhett.

Marc Wurtzman

Marc has over 20 years of coaching experience at various tennis and country clubs. He also coached at the collegiate level at Kenyon college, The University of Wisconsin-Madison, and The Ohio State University between the years 1999-2005. In 1993 he became the New York State High School Singles Champion. He then went on to play for The Ohio State University and became their team captain, earning another Singles championship in 1997. Currently, Marc is the boys and girls varsity tennis coach at Columbus Academy, where he was dubbed Columbus Academy Girls Coach of the Year in 2020. He is also a tennis teaching professional at Olympic Indoor Tennis.

Renee Zamora

Renee Zamora has experience teaching preK-12 and is a local artist. She taught art at Bishop Hartley High School along with several other schools around Columbus. She has taught in a variety of programs for the Columbus Museum of Art, and currently is a homeschool educator for her children and co-op group. Renee is also a local artist who works with printmaking, mixed media, and assemblage. Her recent work is inspired by different types of Mexican folk art and is focused around themes of memory, traditions and history.

Tracy Zinn

Tracy Zinn began working as a lower school associate teacher at Columbus Academy at the start of the 2022-23 school year. She has over 30 years of experience working in education as a teacher and after-school care provider, most recently as a PreK teacher at Liberty Early Education Center. Tracy has also taught kindergarten in Columbus City Schools, Columbus School for Girls, Creative Play Center and Joyland Preschool, as well as time spent as a lead teacher at Ascension Lutheran Preschool. She holds a B.S. in elementary education from Bowling Green State University and a M.A. in education from The Ohio State University. Tracy and her husband Doug have three children and a sweet pup named Elise.