

KEYS TEACHER BIOGRAPHIES

(Updated Sept. 2018)

Ayers, Michael: Michael serves as a certified interpreter for the Deaf. He has a strong understanding of Deaf culture and is gifted with interpreting music as well as sermons, speeches, conversation, and drama. He holds an Associate in Applied Science in ASL - English interpretation from Tidewater Community College and is working on a degree in human services. He has an amazing testimony of how God got hold of him, miraculously healed him, and made him a new man in Christ Jesus. His life is a walking testimony of the mighty work of our Father to change a life in an amazing way. Michael currently teaches ASL I, II, and III at KEYS.

Blake, Cheryl: Cheryl earned her bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology from the University of Michigan and her master's and nursing degrees from the Hurley Medical Center School of Nursing, where she received the Outstanding Graduate of the Year award. Cheryl is a registered nurse who gives CPR instruction, administers standardized testing, and instructs nursing students at the Medical Careers Institute in Virginia Beach. A veteran homeschooler, Cheryl homeschooled her daughter, Kelly, for 12 years. Cheryl currently teaches Biology, Anatomy and Physiology, Psychology with Christian Perspectives, and Forensic Science at KEYS.

Boystel, Gary: Gary earned his bachelor's degree in history from Capital University, a Master of Aeronautical Science from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, and a Master of Divinity from Regent University. A retired officer of the U. S. Air Force, Gary flew a variety of fighter jets and other aircraft in 5 countries during his 22 years of service. Gary and his wife Kim homeschooled their children, both of whom graduated from KEYS, and Gary serves on the KEYS Board of Directors. Gary currently teaches Government and Economics, U. S. History, World History, and Virginia History at KEYS.

Bryan, Cindy: Cindy graduated from the University of South Carolina with both a bachelor's and a master's degree in music education. While there, she gained valuable teaching experience working with beginning classes and private students, as well as directing orchestras in the USC String Project under the direction of Robert Jesselson and Pamela Tellejohn-Hayes (co-author of Essential Elements). She went on to teach music (K-12) and to direct several choirs at Okinawa Christian School International while her husband served in the USAF and they were stationed in Japan. She also played with the Okinawa Symphony Orchestra and taught private violin lessons. Upon returning to the states, Cindy taught beginning strings in Norfolk public schools until the birth of her two girls, who are homeschooled. She has been a guest conductor for All-City events in Virginia Beach and Newport News as well as an adjudicator for local orchestra festivals. Cindy is currently Assistant Concertmaster of Symphonicity as well as a member of the St. James String Quartet and Legacy. Cindy currently teaches

Beginning Strings, Intermediate Strings, Advanced Strings, and Chamber Strings at KEYS.

Bunch, Harriett: Harriett holds a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education (K-8) and special education (K-12) from James Madison University; post-graduate studies include courses taken at Texas Woman's University. Harriet taught various elementary, middle, and high school courses—along with special education—to public school students before embarking on the journey of homeschooling her own four children. Her eldest daughter graduated with the KEYS class of 2009. One of Harriet's favorite passages from the Bible is Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths" (NKJV). Harriett currently teaches Elementary Science I, Elementary Language Arts I, Cultural Geography, and Physical Geography at KEYS.

Castillo, Mary: Mary Castillo earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology from Liberty University and a master's degree in Pastoral Counseling from Liberty Theological Seminary. As a military wife, she taught in a number of Christian schools for grades 3-12. She has enjoyed homeschooling her own three children for all subjects. Mary currently teaches Intermediate Writing and Grammar and Elementary Language Arts II at KEYS.

Cook, Aaron: Aaron is a graduate of Virginia Tech, summa cum laude, with majors in music performance and music technology and minors in computer science and math. He served as rank captain for the Virginia Tech Drumline and as drummer for the Hokies Pep Band and has performed as part of the Showcase Performance Company at Carnegie Hall. He currently performs as a percussionist with Symphonicity and occasionally as a guest percussionist with Tidewater Winds. In addition to his technical proficiency, Aaron brings a rich understanding of the role that music can play in opening one's heart to the Lord. He is the worship leader at Abundant Life Fellowship in Chesapeake, Virginia, and the director of two regional worship ministries, David's Tent 757 and Burn 24/7 Hampton Roads. Aaron currently teaches Geometry, Beginning Percussion, Intermediate Percussion, and Advanced Percussion at KEYS and teaches private lessons.

Cover, Allyson: Allyson is first and foremost a wife, mother, and grandmother. She began teaching art in 1987 at First Baptist Christian School in Suffolk. After two years, she left the classroom to begin homeschooling. Ten years and two graduates later, she returned to the art classroom, first at Alliance Christian School in Portsmouth and later at KEYS. For the past several summers she has directed and taught a fine arts camp at Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church in Suffolk and private art lessons in her home. Allyson currently teaches Elementary Art, Art in Mixed Media, High School Drawing and Painting I, Studio Art and Set Design at KEYS.

Delgado, Ileana: Ileana earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education from Old Dominion University and has worked as an interpreter at CHKD hospital. She is a native of Puerto Rico and is fluent in both Spanish and English. She has also taught Spanish at homeschool co-ops in the area. She has a warm personality that the students love. Senora Delgado currently teaches Spanish I, II, III, and IV at KEYS.

Ebert, Debra: Debra earned a bachelor's degree in Journalism from West Virginia University as well as a master's degree in communication with a concentration on film and television writing and production from Regent University. She has taught English in the Virginia Beach Public High Schools in both core and honors programs. Debra is an accomplished keyboard musician and has coordinated many music programs for various churches over the years. Debra homeschooled her own daughter throughout high school. She has also been serving as Mrs. Parker accompanist for the vocal ensembles for the past two years at KEYS. Debra currently teaches British Literature at KEYS.

Estes, Edward: Ed earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in engineering from Virginia Tech in 1979, and a Master of Business degree from Old Dominion University in 1987. He became a Professional Engineer in 1983. He has worked for Westinghouse as a Quality Control engineer for the naval nuclear program, a civil engineer for MMM Design Group, and a structural engineer and project manager for the Naval Facilities Engineering Command where he was the design manager for numerous facility projects, which included the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth hospital replacement project and the Norfolk Naval Shipyard Pier 3 and Pier 5 replacement projects. He recently retired as the Executive Director for the Navy Crane Center, a command that provides cranes; and weight handling equipment policy, engineering, and training to Navy activities worldwide. Ed currently teaches Precalculus and Physics at KEYS.

Henaghan, Mary: Mary has had a passion for teaching and performing as long as she can remember. Singing since an early age, she performed with several choral groups and ensembles including two groups she put together - a jazz quartet and female barbershop quartet, sang with the California State Honor Choir, and even had the thrill of singing with Barry Manilow in 1983. Over the years, she has choreographed and directed skits and puppet performances, performed in multiple sketches at church, and directed a middle school youth drama ministry. Mary had the honor of being in the feature film "Cycle," in 2015, performed in the cast of *The Women* at The Little Theater of Norfolk (LTN) in 2016, and was the assistant director for *Noises Off!* in 2017, also at LTN. Mary is the Founder and President of CAST Family Theater which will open with its first show in the fall of 2017. She is also a member of the Board of Directors at The Little Theater of Norfolk. She views the theater and film industries as great mission fields, and her desire is to train and equip students to use their gifts to further the

kingdom of God and perform for an Audience of One. Mary and currently teaches Principles of Drama, Advanced Drama, and Technical Theater at KEYS.

Hudson, Susan: Susan attended Longwood University and Old Dominion University, earning a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She then taught in Virginia Beach public schools for five years. During that time Susan produced "On the Spot"—a quarterly television program featuring her students—and was named "Teacher of the Year." She is active in Masterworks, a local performing arts company, and has written and directed many children's musicals and ballets. Susan has homeschooled all her own children, and she was the co-founder of another successful homeschool co-op. Susan currently teaches Middle School Math, Pre-Algebra, General Science, Physical Science, and Earth Science at KEYS.

Marlins, Alexandra: Alexandra grew up in Virginia Beach and began her musical journey at age 5 with piano lessons from her mother. She picked up the violin in 6th grade, and since then has not stopped adding musical instruments to her arsenal. She spent many years in the Suzuki Strings of Hampton Roads and the Virginia Children's Chorus. Some of her favorite childhood memories include singing for President George W. Bush as part of Jamestown 1607-2007, touring Norfolk and London, England (twice!) with the VCC, and playing in jazz trios with her teachers. In high school, she decided to combine her passions for music and for children as a music educator. As a college student, she spent every spare moment teaching – private lessons, beginning strings classes, and elementary choir – and performing music corporately – Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Strings, Choral Union, and Percussion Ensemble. Now she continues performing with Symphonicity and the worship team at her home church. In her spare time, she loves knitting, baking, playing her ukulele, and playing video games with her fiancé.

McCormick, Amanda: Amanda received her bachelor's degree in music education from Old Dominion University, where she was principal flute in the ODU Wind Ensemble and the ODU Symphony Orchestra. In her senior year, Amanda performed the last movement of the Reinecke Concerto with the ODU Orchestra as the winner of their Young Artist Competition. She is a student of Patti Watters and a member of Sigma Alpha Iota. Amanda currently maintains a large flute studio in Chesapeake in addition to teaching at KEYS. Her students have been selected for District II and IV middle school and high school bands and the Governor's School for the Arts. She is a member of the advisory board of Hampton Roads Flute Flaire. Amanda currently teaches Beginning Band and Intermediate Band at KEYS. Please contact the KEYS office or Cindy Bryan at finearts@keysofva.org if you are interested in private lessons.

Moore, Delbra: Delbra earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Bob Jones University and a Master of Science from Ohio State University. She has taught a wide

range of classes including Biology, General Science, Psychology and Family Living, English and Composition, and interdisciplinary history, literature, and theology courses. Delbra has worked in both homeschool and private school settings and loves students. She has also mentored other teachers. Biblical worldview is the center of all that she does. Delbra teaches Earth Science and High School World History III at KEYS.

Moore, Brian: Brian earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from The Citadel and a Master of Arts in Public Policy from Regent University. He is retired from the US Navy where he worked as a Foreign Area Officer and a Special Warfare Officer. He has worked with young people for many years as a troop leader and committee member of the Boy Scouts of America in Washington, D.C., California, and Virginia. More recently, he served as the Southeastern Virginia Area Committee Chairman for Trail Life USA. Brian is pursuing a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership at Regent University and currently teaches Consumer Math at KEYS.

Parker, Sharon: Sharon graduated magna cum laude with a Master's of Music Education from Old Dominion University. While pursuing her degree, she was chosen to sing in the F. Ludwig Deihn Chorale, and she also performed in the opera Die Fledermaus. She performed in Richmond, Virginia at the Collegiate Composer's Symposium and in the Lincoln Center, in New York City, with the ODU Concert Choir. Old Dominion is also where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Music Education degree. Sharon has been a part of the homeschooling community for over 25 years through participating in co-ops with her four children, serving as Fine Arts Director of Oaktree Academy, directing award-winning homeschool choirs, and teaching private voice and piano lessons in her home. Kempsville Presbyterian Church is her home church, where she is on the worship team as a vocalist and in the Celebration Choir as an alto. Sharon currently teaches Elementary Music/Choir, Mixed Choir, and Concert Choir, and A cappella choir at KEYS.

Peterson, Eric: Peterson earned a Bachelor of Music degree with emphases in Theory and Classical guitar from Florida State University. He served in the U.S. Army as a guitarist and arranger/copyist. Eric has ministered as the worship leader in various churches over the years. Eric's full-time job is a computer technology specialist, managing software development, customer support, systems/business analyst, and software sales; however, his real passion is music. Eric is currently teaching Beginning and Advanced Guitar, and Praise Team at KEYS.

Shinn, Michelle: earned a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Berea College and a Master of Divinity in Theology from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. She has served as Laboratory Director for Element Analysis Corporation. She tutored students through Classical Conversations, volunteered with student ministry, and homeschooled her own children for thirteen years. Michelle currently teaches Chemistry at KEYS.

Spear, Svetlana Razjivina: Sveta is a native from Russia. She has taught languages for over twenty-five years. She majored in English and minored in Russian at the Tyumen State University in the USSR. As a young lady, Svetlana witnessed the inner peace of the Christians who lived in her native Russia. She wanted that peace as well and turned her life over to Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Svetlana currently teaches Russian I, II, and III at KEYS.

Stevens, Karen: Karen has been sewing for over 30 years, including 13 years of creating elaborate costumes as a seamstress for the Academie de Ballet and Dance Centre. Her experiences as a seamstress include wedding dresses, interior design projects, light upholstery, quilting, custom clothing design, and alterations. She is also skilled in various forms of needlework and other handcrafts, including scrapbooking and the creation of custom greeting cards. Karen currently teaches all levels of Sewing at KEYS.

Sitterding, Laurie: Laurie earned her bachelor's degree and collegiate teaching certificate in English, psychology, and theater arts from the College of William and Mary. Her post-graduate education includes coursework toward a Master of Arts degree in biblical counseling and toward a Master of Education degree in educational therapy. She taught in Virginia Beach public schools for four years before she began homeschooling her own four children. Laurie has been teaching guitar and piano lessons for over thirty years, and many of her students have gone on to play in a variety of worship contexts. In 2006, Laurie completed the NILD (National Institute for Learning Development) training to become a certified educational therapist, and she has been employed as an editor with HEAV (Home Educators Association of Virginia) since 2010. Laurie currently teaches Middle School Creative Writing at KEYS.

Totheroh, Gailon: Gailon Totheroh earned a master's degree in Public Affairs Journalism from Regent University and a bachelor's degree in German with a minor in chemistry from the University of Arizona. Gailon worked for CBN News as a general assignment reporter, Science & Medical Reporter, and Senior Reporter for over twenty years. He writes and develops print and video projects with his own company. Gailon is currently teaching American Literature, Journalism and Chemistry at KEYS.

Totheroh, Kathy: Kathy is an honor graduate from the University of Arizona, where she earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education with an English major and a Spanish minor; she also earned a Master of English degree with an emphasis in ESL (English as a Second Language) from Arizona State University. Kathy taught English, Spanish, and ESL for nine years in public and private schools in Arizona and Virginia, then homeschooled her own three daughters for over twenty years. Kathy served as academic director and teacher in two other homeschool support groups for ten years before becoming co-founder and academic director of KEYS. She loves challenging

students to become passionate in their walks with Christ. Kathy currently teaches Advanced Writing and Grammar, Writing for College and co-teaching American Literature at KEYS.

Wallace, Robert: Bob earned his associate's and bachelor's degrees in theology and history from Oral Roberts University (magna cum laude) and his Master of Arts in public policy and his Juris Doctor degrees from Regent University. He served as a member of the U. S. Coast Guard and then spent nearly 13 years in law enforcement, where he was twice honored as adjunct "Teacher of the Year" for his work with the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program. Bob became interested in biblical worldview studies after he left law enforcement and worked as the director of education for one of the top ten most influential grassroots, public policy organizations in the nation. He has become convinced of the need for solid, biblical worldview training, especially in light of the nation's and the church's devolving ability to translate principle into practice. A homeschooling parent himself, Bob currently teaches High School Worldview Analysis and Philosophy/Moral Challenges at KEYS.

Zimmerman, Nanette: Nanette holds a Bachelor of Science degree in life science with a minor in microbiology from Penn State University. She has taught in both Christian and public schools and has tutored in a number of settings. She also homeschools her own children. Mrs. Zimmerman is best known for her joy and her ability to thoroughly and clearly explain math concepts to students. She serves not only as a math teacher but also as a Christian mentor. Nanette currently teaches Elementary Science II, Biology, and Algebra I at KEYS.