



SMMUSD Teaching Artists 2018-2019

Kelly Adams, Music Teaching Artist: Roosevelt, Franklin

Kelly Adams has been studying music since she joined her elementary school's French choir at age 5. She began her training in classical music at the San Francisco Conservatory, and then progressed to musical theater and pop songwriting/performance. Kelly is a twice-over graduate of the University of Southern California; she received a Bachelor of Music in Music Industry, and a Master of Arts in Music Education. In 2013, she fell in love with Kodály's revolutionary methods and ideology, and became certified under Dr. Kathy Hickey and Dr. Kurt Cereske. She continues to build Kodály-based curricula for Los Angeles music education programs, and also incorporates material from her Orff certification. When she's not teaching, Kelly performs, writes and records with the band Karmina, and sings in feature films (*Pan*, *The Lorax*, *The Hive*). www.karmina.com

Ann Barron, Visual Arts Teaching Artist: Muir, Will Rogers

Ms. Ann Barron is a professional graphic artist and has been a P.S. ARTS Teaching Artist for over 15 years. She attributes her success in the classroom to her ability to create a "safe space" in the studio, where she provides opportunities for the student artists to revel in their creations and discuss the process from initial vision to finished art piece. Ms. Barron received her A.A. from Pasadena City College and a Commercial Art Certificate from Los Angeles Trade Tech in graphic arts.

Riley Berris, Theater Teaching Artist: Roosevelt

Riley Berris graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a B.A. in Theatre. She also received her Master's of Education from UCSB. She is an actor, teacher, and director from Santa Barbara, CA. For four years, she headed the theater department at San Marcos High School and in the summer, she acts as Associate Artistic Director of On the Verge Summer Reperatory Company. Some of her favorite plays she as directed are *Into the Woods*, *The Laramie Project*, and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Some of her favorite roles she has played include Katurian in *The Pillowman* and Izzy in *Rabbit Hole*. She is very excited to be working with P.S. Arts as a teaching artist so she can share with, learn from, and teach the incredible students in Los Angeles.

Angie Bradshaw, Visual Arts Teaching Artist: Franklin, Webster

As an arts educator, Angie Bradshaw creates a playful, process-driven space where learners can explore visual art mediums and concepts. She has taught visual arts from preschool through high school ages in a variety of setting. As an artist, Angie's work combines classical art training with interests in digital tools, modern abstraction, and design. Angie earned her BA at the University of Richmond and has completed coursework in visual art and education at Santa Monica College.



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Amber Carroll, Music Teaching Artist: Point Dume, Webster

Amber Carroll is a Teaching Artist who has worked for P.S. ARTS since 2006. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from the Crane School of Music and her Master's Degree in music education from Ithaca College with a focus in Voice. While in school at Ithaca College she also acted as Master Teacher for the undergraduate music education students. Amber has over 17 years of experience teaching music. Born and raised among the tradition of Barbershop music, Amber sings in a 2-time world championship Sweet Adelines chorus "Harborlites". This hobby feeds Amber's interest in American folk music and art. She is also a skilled classically trained singer who loves to share her love of the beauty of the human voice with her students. Students in Amber's class can expect to sing, move, create, explore, and play. When she's not in the classroom, Amber enjoys being a mom to her two young boys. She likes photography, running, cycling, and pretending that she's still 15 years old by flipping around at her weekly gymnastics class.

Julia Chanin, Music Teaching Artist: Roosevelt, Grant, Franklin

Julia Chanin is a saxophonist, vocalist, and dedicated music teacher. Julia received her B.A. from Wesleyan University in Music and Latin American Studies and is passionate about working with kids and teens through the lens of social-emotional learning and world music. She incorporates her training in international Orff-Schulwerk method teaching by integrating movement, games, storytelling and improvisation into every lesson. Julia has taught music and arts integration in public schools in Richmond, CA, and at a therapeutic program on the Big Island of Hawaii. When Julia is not teaching she performs with local soul, funk, and folk bands, and leads wilderness trips for teens and adults. Julia recently relocated to LA from the Bay Area and is excited to help build musical community teaching TK-2nd grades at various schools in the Santa Monica Unified School District with P.S Arts!

Goreti da Silva, Theater Teaching Artist: Point Dume

Goreti da Silva graduated from York University with an Honor's B.A. in French and English and a B. Ed. from University of Toronto. She has taught elementary, middle and high school to both youth and adults. She was the Acting Head of the ESL department at the inner city high school at which she taught. Goreti moved to California to pursue her dream of acting; and, is currently represented both commercially and theatrically. In 1993 she won the Michael Grossman Most Inspirational Award, which is given to theatre actors who inspire others both on stage and behind the scenes. And, that is what and how I teach today. My goal is to have every student in my class be as equally wonderful on and off stage. I teach acting skills, respect and the importance of community. And, in so doing, I learn something every day from my students. It's truly inspirational to me.



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Nicole Fisher, Visual Arts Teaching Artist: Juan Cabrillo, Point Dume

Born in New York and raised in Los Angeles, Nicole Fisher has always been involved with art in some capacity. She has a BFA in Ceramics from California State University Long Beach, was Publicity and Publications Director for the University Art Museum, and worked in PR and Marketing for the Ahmanson Theatre. After starting a family, she began her photography business, which celebrates her love of art and children. She also works in mixed media and painting, and her art is in several private collections.

After many terms on the PTA, building a school library, and other volunteer opportunities, she again blended her two favorite passions... art and kids by becoming the K - 5 Art Instructor at Juan Cabrillo Elementary in Malibu. Nicole is now part of the P.S. Arts teaching artist team, and has taught art at all three Malibu elementary schools. This past spring, Nicole received an Excellence in Education award from Malibu's Optimist Club. She is a passionate believer in the critical role that art education plays in a child's growth, and believes that everyone is an artist. Her role as a teacher, is to create a space that is inspirational and nurturing, so that each child develops the confidence to find their own unique and creative voice. <http://nicolefisher.me/>

Hilary Hahn, Visual Arts Teaching Artist: McKinley

Hilary aims to provide high quality arts programming for children at all levels. Her career takes her everywhere from SMMUSD to Montessori classrooms. Hilary currently teaches art at McKinley elementary in Santa Monica. In the classroom, Hilary enjoys inspiring elementary children to develop their budding art skills and explore their talents. Her program explores materials, incorporates technique, connects to world arts, and encourages creativity. Her focus is on the process of art-making and the power of art that leads to discovery and invention. Hilary earned her BFA from the University of LaVerne, earned a diploma of International Studies in France and completed a Set Design apprenticeship at Vassar College. During the summer months, she oversees the Summer Program for the Brentwood Art Center and offers private art workshops throughout Los Angeles.

Heather Lowe, Visual Arts Teaching Artist: McKinley

Ms. Heather Lowe became a P.S. ARTS Teaching Artist in 2011 and has been a working artist since 1995 whose art is exhibited nationwide. Ms. Lowe has taught art classes to both children and adults in a variety of mediums, workshops for teachers on integrating arts into the curriculum, and a weekend class on family crest symbols at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles. She has attended numerous Arts for Educators workshops at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, participated in classes at Barnsdall Art Park, San Francisco Art Institute and the PBS TeacherLine, and received her A.A. from City College of San Francisco.



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Matt MacFarland, Visual Arts: Muir

Matt received his MFA from Otis College of Art in 2003 and has been teaching ever since, including over six years at P.S. Arts. He is a contemporary artist and cartoonist whose ongoing graphic narrative *Dark Pants* follows a mysterious pair of pants through Los Angeles as they impact the lives of whomever wears them. MacFarland has also compiled his 14+ years of teaching experience into a self-published comic *The Teaching Chronicles*. He enjoys introducing students to a wide spectrum of art materials and approaches and has a fundamental conviction that everyone is able to draw. His work has been written up in *The Los Angeles Times*, *Comics Bulletin*, *Comics Grinder*, *Artillery*, and *X-tra Online*. His artwork has been featured at such venues as 356 Mission Road, the Vincent Price Museum, Armory Center for the Arts, and Torrance Museum of Art. He has never said no to a free sandwich. www.mattiemac.com

Lonnie Martinez, Visual Arts Teaching Artist: Grant , Franklin, Roosevelt

Ms. Martinez started her career over 30 years ago at P.S. 41 in New York City teaching music. She has been a fixture in Santa Monica elementary schools for 15 years teaching both art and music. Her professional career as an artist and musician has taken her around the world. As a back-up vocalist, she has opened for Sting, Elton John, and James Taylor. For 5 years she operated the popular art hang out "Crafts around the Corner" on Ocean Park Boulevard in Santa Monica. She is pleased to be joining the P.S. ARTS family in 2014 as they embark on their new journey with the Santa Monica-Malibu expansion.

Julianna Ostrovsky, Visual Arts Teaching Artist: SMASH

Ms. Ostrovsky is a visual artist currently living in Los Angeles. She is a "community artist" and her practice is to make art a process understood and authentically experienced by all. Promoting desire to think creatively and problem solve collectively. As a Teaching Artist she has instructed a range of visual arts workshops for Adults and grades K-12 at Extended Learning OTIS School of Art and Design. Julianna Ostrovsky is working hand in hand with local natural body care company, Soaptopia in a Community Arts Celebration project, at the Whole Foods Markets throughout California and Arizona; Julianna is featuring vintage cast iron bathtubs with custom murals of local cultural vignettes. She is a recipient of City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) Artist in Residence Cultural Grant 2014-15. Julianna has joined PS Arts and the ReDiscover Center as an Artist in Residence.

Kristy Pace, Theater Teaching Artist: Franklin, SMASH, Webster

Ms. Pace has an MA in Theatre Education from Emerson College, she has produced and directed productions from Boston to Los Angeles for the past 19 years. Her company, Pocket Full of Tales, has been producing/directing educational shows for families since 1999. Recent credits include Producing *Equus*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Avenue Q* for the Morgan Wixson Theatre. Directing *Brave Irene* and *The Amazing Bone* at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre. Directing *Peter Pan*, *The Nifty Fifties*, *The Rockin' Tale of Snow White* and *Princess Whatshername* for Kenter Canyon Charter School. Writing and directing "The Knight Who Was Afraid of the Dark" for several runs in Boston and LA. Some of her favorite projects include Directing *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Baby With the Bathwater* and *Maggie Magalita* for Theatre 1 in Boston. She currently is the Director of multiple after-school, in school and vacation theatre programs in both Boston and Los Angeles.



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Sarah Peters, Theater Teaching Artist: McKinley

Sarah Key Peters has been a teaching artist since 2003, teaching theatre, music and dance, specializing in curriculum and program development. She has taught a variety of ages, and in 2007 developed and launched World Citizen Baby, a multilingual, multicultural music and movement program. Sarah has an MA in Applied Theatre Arts from the University of Southern California. In June 2013, she worked with The Center for Theater of the Oppressed in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, working with various communities and using Theatre of the Oppressed for social change and healing. She has facilitated workshops and designed curriculum for multiple organizations and age groups including, P.S. Arts, Inside Out Community Arts, The Unusual Suspects Theatre Company, Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network, Agency Arts, Aimee Arts Productions and Rogue Artists Ensemble.

Davida Raffa, Visual Arts Teaching Artist: Grant, Franklin, Roosevelt

Ms. Raffa started teaching art in Santa Monica elementary schools over 20 years ago. Art and horses were her two passions as a child growing up in the Hollywood Hills. As a youth she explored many career options including exercising racehorses, stunt riding, and scuba diving before her love for clay sculpture became her main focus. As a T.A. at Santa Monica College in the ceramics program over 27 years ago she met her husband also an artist/sculpture. He introduced her to glassblowing, glass sculpture and glass casting. They now work in a studio with two out of three of their children making glass art. As an instructor she feels great satisfaction working with elementary school students providing them with an opportunity to make their own art, clay is one of her favorite medium. She expresses that student do not get much of a chance to work with clay in a classroom setting, it is a fantastic material.

Martha Ramirez-Oropeza, Theater Teaching Artist: Edison

Ms. Martha Ramirez is a Theater Teaching Artist at Edison Language Academy, where she designs and implements a theater program for K-5 that is entirely in Spanish. Prior to becoming a Teaching Artist for P.S. ARTS, she was an actor, director, and administrator for the Mascarones Theater Group, which was one of Mexico's leading independent indigenous theater groups that brought choral poetry, a blend of the choruses of Greek theater and dance choreography, to the workers of Mexico. In addition to her work in the theater, Martha is also an accomplished visual artist who specializes in illustration and murals. She has taught and conducted workshops at Universidad Nahuatl, University of California, Los Angeles, University of California, Santa Cruz, and Columbia University.