

Third Grade Faculty Bios

3A Lead Teacher, Mr. Kratz

My name is Jeremy Kratz, and this is my second year at Great Hearts Academies. I have five years of experience in the classroom in various capacities, and also have a background in insurance and mortgage banking. I grew up in northern Indiana and have lived in Arizona for 21 years. My wife Amy and I have two children here at Archway Trivium West, in 3rd and 5th grades. I enjoy hiking and the great outdoors, traveling with my family, history, grilling, and music. I look forward to my second year with Great Hearts and helping instill truth, beauty, and goodness into the lives of our scholars.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Kratz

jkratz@archwaytrivium.org

3A Teacher Assistant, Ms. Shannon

My name is Maria Shannon and I have been at Archway Trivium West for five years. This will be my first year in 3rd grade. I have lived in Avondale for 19 years and I have three daughters. I love to cook, sew, read, and craft. It is my pleasure to work with your child this year.

Sincerely,

Maria Shannon

MShannon@archwaytrivium.org

3B Lead Teacher, Mrs. Manson

I am delighted to begin my first year of teaching with Great Hearts this year. I grew up in Phoenix with a detour to Tacoma, WA where I attended University of Puget Sound. I received my BA in Spanish and a Masters in Teaching. I taught 2nd and 3rd grade for 8 years in Tacoma before our family moved back to Goodyear. I love to cook, spend time with my family, read, and craft. My oldest son will be in third grade this year and my other son will be a kindergartner. We are all excited to start school together this year!

Sincerely,

Kathy Manson

kmanson@archwaytrivium.org

3B Teacher Assistant, Mrs. Hays

My name is Retta Hays, and I am excited to be returning to Archway Trivium West, because I love working with children. My degree is in accounting, and I have a fifteen year work history in Criminal Justice. In my first year at Archway Trivium West, I was a teaching assistant in the third grade; during my second year, I assisted in the second grade. I returned to the third grade for

my third year and am delighted to remain on the team and work with Mrs. Manson as her teaching assistant. I am looking forward to helping guide our students in their search of truth, goodness, and beauty.

Sincerely,
Retta Hays
rhays@archwaytrivium.org

3C Lead Teacher, Mrs. Carmichael

My name is Nathalia Carmichael, and I am delighted to be teaching your children this year. This is my fourth year at Archway Trivium West, and I am overjoyed to continue to be a part of the Great Hearts community. I graduated with honors from Biola University and the Torrey Honors Institute, where I studied English literature through a Great Books program. I love to read and travel in my spare time, and am currently developing my skills as a knitter. I am looking forward to learning and growing with your children in pursuit of the true, the good, and the beautiful.

Sincerely,
Nathalia Carmichael
nkane@archwaytrivium.org

3C Teacher Assistant, Mrs. Semenza

My name is Kim Semenza, and this is my ninth year at Archway Trivium West. I seek knowledge and appreciate nature. I have a son and daughter who will be graduating from Trivium Prep this school year. We have been a part of Trivium from 2011 to present, and I am blessed to be a part of this remarkable community. I enjoy paper crafting and spending time with my family and dogs. I am excited to be assisting Mrs. Carmichael. We will do great things this year as we care for your child.

Sincerely
Kim Semenza
ksemenza@archwaytrivium.org

Specials Teachers

3rd Grade Art, Mrs. Wright

It is with great pleasure to welcome you to a new year at Archway Trivium West. It is a joy to be teaching 2nd-5th grade art again this year. This will be my fifth year teaching at ATW and I feel truly honored to be a visual arts teacher here.

My love of creating began in my own early education where I was fortunate to have inspirational teachers from elementary through high school AP art. I graduated with my Bachelor's in Interior Design from Northern Arizona University and worked in the field for several years prior to teaching, and went on to complete my Master's in Art Education from Arizona State University. I

am excited to share my passion for creativity with such young minds and share an exploration of wonder and reason as we seek truth, goodness, and beauty in art.

This year, we will delve into great works of art as we learn how to view them in the light of their historical context. We will learn how to identify the various elements and principles of art used in these works, and how to interact with them with wonder and reason. When exposed to a rich classical curriculum through high expectations and a supportive environment, scholars are given the opportunity to understand and create beautiful works of art. I hope to see students expand their visual vocabulary, grow in their curiosity, and flourish in their creativity. I want to thank you for your support and opportunity to work with you and your child so that we can have a successful year.

Sincerely,
Clare Wright
ckober@archwaytrivium.org

3rd Grade Spanish, Sra. Hamilton

My name is Andrea Hamilton and I am excited to return for my 9th year to Archway Trivium West! I am very lucky to be able to share my love of the Spanish language with your scholars. I grew up in a bilingual home and received a degree in Spanish and Human Communication from Bethel University in St. Paul, MN. I have raised my three children bilingually and look forward to not only sharing the Spanish language with the scholars, but Hispanic culture and customs as well.

Sincerely,
Sra. Hamilton
ahamilton@archwaytrivium.org

3rd Grade Music, Ms. Cornell

It is with great joy and excitement that I will begin my fourth year directing and providing music instruction for the Kinder through 3rd grade scholars. I have had a life-long love of music that began with playing the clarinet and transitioned into a vocal performance and directing focus. I additionally love the guitar and I am continuing my own classic training on this amazing instrument.

I graduated from ASU and sang in the ASU women's choir and also studied opera at Glendale Community College with a focus in the Opera Theatre workshop program. Currently, I participate in the Church at Litchfield Park adult choirs and direct Music Together West, an early childhood music program. I was also an artist with the Skywalk records label where I composed and published original works. I am so excited to bring my passion and varied musical experiences in conjunction with the Great Hearts classical approach to your scholars. Music is the international language that connects us all together. It sets the foundation and can deepen understanding in all subjects. The classical music experience offered at Great Hearts is one

which will endure for a life-time, not fleeting or a trend that will fade, but rather one to enrich our lives and build upon this life through time. I love teaching music because I see firsthand the difference the experience can make in all developmental stages. Music is a gift we can return to again and again, even if we have set it aside for a time.

Sincerely,
Karla S. Cornell
kcornell@archwaytrivium.org

3rd Grade PE, Ms. Taylor

Hello! My name is Kristin Taylor and I am excited to be your scholar's Physical Education teacher this year. This is my sixth year teaching at Archway Trivium West. I grew up in Southern California and earned my Bachelor's degree from California State University Fullerton. My love for sports started in Kindergarten when I played on my first basketball team! I played basketball, volleyball, soccer, and ran track & field in middle and high school. I then earned a place on the crew team in college and it was there that a love of running, weight lifting, and exercise science also began to unfold. I feel privileged to be a part of introducing our scholars to the world of sports and fitness. I am looking forward to a wonderful year and for the opportunity to get to know you and your scholar!

Sincerely,
Kristin Taylor
ktaylor@archwaytrivium.org

Student Support

Reading Specialist, Mrs. Irwin

My name is Karen Irwin and I am the reading specialist at Archway Trivium West. I grew up in west central Illinois, graduated from Eastern Illinois University, and later received my Master's in Education from Arizona State University. I have been teaching for over 30 years and this is my sixth year working at Archway Trivium West. The reading specialist is responsible for identifying scholars that may have a reading difficulty and working with scholars, teachers, teacher assistants, and parents to provide necessary reading interventions. At Archway Trivium West, we administer the Dibels (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) Next assessment to help identify scholars that may be having difficulty in reading, and the 95% Group Phonological Awareness Screener, and/or the 95% Group Phonics Screener.

Sincerely,
Karen Irwin
kirwin@archwaytrivium.org

School Nurse, Mrs. Schooley

My name is Denise Schooley and I have the honor of being the school nurse during the 2019-2020 academic year. I have worked at Archway Trivium West for the past three years. This will be my second year as the school nurse. I am very excited to continue in the nurse role and serve your scholar's health care needs. My 20 years of diverse healthcare experience has allowed me to be the nurse I am today. I look forward to continuing to create loving and trusting relationship with your scholars.

I will be at Meet the Teacher Night to collect completed Asthma, Food Allergy and Seizure Actions plans with your scholar's medications. All medications prescribed by a provider must be in the original container with the prescription label. All Epi-pens must be in a set of two.

Please feel free to reach out to me by phone or email at any time regarding your child's health care concerns or needs.

Sincerely,
Denise Schooley
dschooley@archwaytrivium.org

School Counselor, Mrs. Boerckel

My name is Kelly Boerckel and this is my second year as the counselor at Great Hearts! I have been working with children, teens, and families since 2005 through various inpatient behavioral health settings, residential treatment centers and the public education system. I am starting my 12th year in education and 7th year as a school counselor.

My husband & I have two children, Drew (11) and Ainsley (8), as well as two dogs. Deagan (12) is a chocolate Labrador and Gunner Blue (1) is an English Bulldog. When I'm not working you can find me at a swim meet or a lacrosse game cheering on my kids! I was born and raised in Texas and have lived in Arizona now for 1 year and we are loving it here!

I am looking forward to working with your students this school year. Helping students to grow and thrive emotionally, socially and academically is my greatest passion.

Sincerely,
Kelly Boerckel
kboerckel@triviumprep.org