



HPMS EXTRACURRICULAR INSTRUCTORS

101 Discoveries leads the chess program. Natasha Kalenchits is the founder of 101 Discoveries teaching math and chess. She is an ex-R&D Program Manager consulting as a venture technologist. Coach Farai Mandizha is an International Master with USCF rating of 2498. He is a brilliant strategic chess player and a very exciting coach.

Mr. Brendan received his Bachelors in Jazz Instrumental Performance from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA, where he studied Jazz, Classical and World Music. He has been teaching music lessons for over 11 years, and has been performing as a musician in small and large groups in the Philadelphia and NY area for over 16 years. He currently performs in an acoustic duo and four-piece band playing modern and classic rock music. He also composes instrumental and vocal music as a solo performer.

Bricks 4 Kidz classes provide an extraordinary atmosphere for children, where we learn, we build, we play . . . with LEGO Bricks. Programs are built around our proprietary model plans, designed by engineers and architects, with exciting themes such as space, construction, and amusement parks. Our specially designed project kits and theme-based models provide the building blocks for the Bricks 4 Kidz approach to educational play. At Bricks 4 Kidz, we believe that kids learn best through activities that engage curiosity and creativity.

Mr. Colin, a certified health & physical education teacher, is a lifelong soccer enthusiast. Starting at the age of 6, he played up through college where he was a member of the Marywood University Varsity Soccer Team. In addition to playing soccer, Mr. Colin is tailored to be a dedicated coach and received a minor degree in coaching from Marywood. Mr. Colin focuses on the basic skills, rules and concepts in order to help each child build a solid foundation. With a strong ability to determine each individual's strengths and weaknesses, he is able to further progress each child's talent. He strives for each child to strengthen their skills, but his true desire is to have the children enjoy the game itself while having fun through teamwork and being active.

Mr. Francesco & Ms. Michele are the team behind Films by Francesco, a boutique cinematography company specializing in documentary film & live events. With over a decade in the industry, our clients include Chelsea Clinton, Matt Damon & Lebron James as well as NYC's own Sirio Maccioni, Bloomberg & the Pataki family. www.filmsbyfrancesco.com/doc-films

Ms. Helen has a BA in Music in Vocal Performance from the College of Fine Arts at Boston University, a MA degree in Vocal Performance from Hunter College, and is a classically trained singer. Helen strives to instill a passion for music while providing a solid foundation in musical concepts and techniques. When Helen isn't teaching, she collaborates with composers on performances of new music and spends time with her husband, son Harry, and their two cats, Esther and Bertie.

Jersey City Children's Theater (JCCT) is a not-for-profit production and educational theater company that enriches the community by engaging them physically, intellectually, and intuitively through play based in the theater arts.

Jersey City Taekwondo has been in downtown Jersey City for over 20 years. Founded by Master Felix Claudio, our Martial Arts School has taught thousands of people how to obtain their goals and accomplish their dreams (not to mention get their Black Belts and get into serious shape)!

Mr. Jim, a certified PTR Instructor and owner of **Tennis Approach**, is a lover of the game and an avid player. He has been involved in the tennis world for well over twenty years. Having been schooled in a variety of teaching methods – both modern and traditional – Jim brings the experience of many to provide a singular teaching style that helps students learn and improve as quickly as possible.

Ms. Kelleigh, a national champion and international medal winner in fencing, is thrilled to teach fencing at HPMS. To read more about her, please visit this link: <http://olympic.ca/team-canada/kelleigh-ryan/>

Ms. Kim J. earned her Bachelor of Music in Performance from the State University of New York at Fredonia. Her degree is in Piano Performance with a concentration in pedagogy. After graduation, Kim has resided and taught piano, voice and guitar in several schools in northern New Jersey for the past 17 years. Kim's teaching philosophy is to meet the child at their level of ability and maturity. She has developed her own method of teaching. This is based on several key factors which include, her own development as a musician, her

experience with a wide range of students, and a familiarity with many lesson books. Kim is also a certified Pace and Suzuki piano instructor.

Ms. Lara has a M.A. in Children's Literature, Art & Oral History, from the Gallatin School at New York University (NYU) and her B.F.A in Painting with a minor in Art History from Colorado State University (CSU) in Fort Collins, Colorado. She also completed the academic phase of Elementary Montessori training at PCTE. Lara has over 10 years of experience as an Art and Museum Educator where she worked at the Metropolitan Museum of Art leading family gallery tours on site for the Start With Art Program (3-7yr olds) and teaching the Museum's encyclopedic collection to grades K-12 offsite for the program Met in the Classroom program. She also designed, implemented and taught children's art programs for the South Street Seaport Museum, Newark Museum, Hamilton Park Montessori School, YWCA-NYC T.A.S.C. After-School Art & Yoga Program at Murry Bergtraum High School in lower Manhattan and her own local art business Lila Art Studio.

Ms. Martha hails from Honduras and is a lead teacher in the Triangle Room. She has Montessori Certification through the Princeton Center of Teacher Education. Martha has 16 years of experience in Montessori in both Bridge and Early Childhood classrooms. She is the mother of four children, and Founded by two attended Montessori school, while three have volunteered at HPMS in the past. Martha is so proud that one of her sons has joined the HPMS staff as a Spanish teacher!

Rockasorri Music is a program that provides early childhood music for preschoolers as well. In keeping with the principles of the Montessori philosophy, we have pioneered a unique musical experience that allows young children to develop a natural interest in music.

Ms. Sarah M. has a BA in Mathematics from Lycoming College with a concentration in Business and Finance. Shortly after graduating college, she realized that the business world was not for her and put her mathematical skills to use to become a Teacher of Mathematics. She has experience teaching in both independent and public schools. Sarah enjoys traveling the world, in her spare time, and was able to study different forms of education while traveling throughout China.

Ms. Sasha has a MA in Psychology from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology and a BA in Psychology from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. Sasha also has AMS Early Childhood credentials from the Princeton Center for Teacher Education (PCTE) and the Montessori Applied to Children at Risk (MACAR-I) from the Shelton School in Dallas, TX. She loves fitness and teaching children about cardio and is excited to lead our cheer group again this year!

Mr. Sebastian has been playing percussion for 28 years. He has studied percussion from New Orleans, Brazil, Peru, and Cuba. As a dancer, Sebastian is committed to the preservation of zapateo, Afro Peruvian tap dance. He is a co-leader of Kalunga and presents concerts and school assemblies on Cuban and Peruvian dance and drumming. Sebastian is very active as a private teacher and clinician in the NYC/NJ area and finds working with young artists inspiring to his own practice.

Ms. Solange, our Kindergarten & Elementary Spanish Specialist, received her BA in Education as well as a M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education from the Women's University of Sacred Heart in Lima, Peru. She has worked with children for 27 years and for the last 12 years she has worked as a Spanish teacher in a Montessori setting. Solange lives in Ridgefield Park with her husband and two daughters, who both attend college. She is excited to join the school community and begin a new journey here at HPMS.