

Evergreen Faculty and Staff

John DeMarchi, Head of School—Mr. DeMarchi is beginning his seventh year at Evergreen School. He holds a B.A. in Political Science and Studio Art from Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, and a M. Ed. from John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. He has served as Associate Head of School at The Woods Academy in Bethesda (2001-2011) and as Middle School Coordinator at Concordia International School Shanghai (1997-2001). He has also taught at Hong Kong International School (1995-1997) and Cincinnati Country Day School (1992-1995). Mr. DeMarchi recently served on the Board of Directors at Global Garden Public Charter School. He is married and has two children.

Vipada Musick, Business Manager/CFO— Mrs. Musick is beginning her fifth year with Evergreen School. She comes to Evergreen with eleven years of financial management experience in IB World Schools-International Baccalaureate. In addition, she has experience in the private sector including health care, internal audit and manufacturing. Mrs. Musick received a Bachelor of Accountancy from Chulalongkorn University in Thailand and an MBA from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She is a Certified Internal Auditor by the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Lourdes Buenafior, Office Manager — Mrs. Buenafior, who is beginning her tenth year at Evergreen School, has a well-rounded background. She has Bachelor's degree in Psychology and her Montessori credentials for Early Childhood Education. She has worked at Julia Brown Montessori School and at City Montessori Plus School in the Philippines. Before she did her training, Mrs. Buenafior worked in the Philippines in two administrative positions: as an Executive Assistant for the Commissioner of the Civil Service Commission and as the Head Public Relations Officer for an international corporation. Mrs. Buenafior is married and has an 9-year-old son.

Brenda Ssali, Assistant to the Business Manager- Mrs. Ssali is beginning fifth year at Evergreen School. Originally from Uganda, Mrs. Ssali holds a Master's Degree in International Legal Studies from the Washington College of Law at the American University. She also has both an accounting background and experience working in a private school setting, as she worked at the Landon School from 2006 to 2013. She is an advocate for both human rights and humanitarian law. In her free time, Mrs. Ssali volunteers with international organizations such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch. She is also active as an alumna at American University, doing research on various humanitarian issues. Mrs. Ssali is married and has two children.

Carrie Weitzman, Director of Admissions- Mrs. Weitzman is beginning her fourth year at Evergreen. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and obtained her American Montessori Teaching Certificate in Elementary Education from the Princeton Center for Teacher Education. After being a head teacher at a local Montessori school for five years, she decided to start a family. She served on the Parent Council at Mater Amoris Montessori School for six years, first

as vice-president and then as president. She filled her days with running both philanthropic and social events such as the annual silent auction. She also gave tours and educated prospective parents about the school and about the Montessori educational philosophy in general. She lives in Highland, Maryland with her husband and children.

Stephanie Ugol, Director of Auxiliary Programs—Mrs. Ugol is excited to be beginning her third year at Evergreen School. She holds a BFA in Theatrical Design from the University of Georgia and an Associate Degree in Visual Communications from the Art Institute of Atlanta. She previously served for five years as Director of Center of Youth & Family/Camp at the District of Columbia's Jewish Community Center, running programs for children of all ages and their parents. She mostly recently directed the summer camps at Sandy Spring Friends School for five years. She is married and has one daughter.

Janee Sturdivant, Assistant Director of Auxiliary Programs —Ms. Janee is beginning her fourth year at Evergreen School. She holds a BA in psychology with a focus on school psychology. She has volunteered and worked in both child development centers and schools, and was responsible for children from 2-10 years of age. Most recently, Ms. Janee worked at Howard University Middle School, where she started as a teacher's assistant and later became a substitute teacher for children in grades 6, 7, and 8. She has her 90-hour Child Care Certificate and worked as the Lead Extended Day Teacher at Evergreen and as the Assistant Director for Evergreen Summer.

Faculty

Oscar Berrios, Extended Day Teacher — Mr. Oscar is beginning his third year at Evergreen School. He is currently a student at Montgomery College, studying Physical Education.

Roxana Berrios, Spanish Teacher & Primary Teaching Assistant — Ms. Roxana is beginning her fourth year at Evergreen School. Originally from El Salvador, she recently became an American citizen! Prior to beginning at Evergreen, she was a teacher assistant in the Montgomery County Public School system. In addition, she has worked with children at her church for more than 10 years as well as serving as a nanny for various children with whom she is still in contact today! Ms. Roxana has three children with her husband of 29 years.

Laura Bowen, Primary Teacher— Mrs. Bowen is beginning her third year at Evergreen School. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Sarah Lawrence College, where she studied Visual Arts and Literature. She worked as a graphic designer until her experience as a volunteer tutor sparked her passion for education. Mrs. Bowen has spent the past four years as an assistant at Franklin Montessori School in Washington, DC, working with children ages 2 to 6. She completed her internship at Franklin and holds

an Early Childhood Credential from the Institute for Advanced Montessori Studies at the Barrie School in Silver Spring.

Carol Conn, Primary Teaching Assistant—Mrs. Conn, who is beginning her nineteenth year with Evergreen School, has 16 years of experience as a Montessori teacher’s assistant. She worked with Mrs. John at Aspen Hill Montessori School for two year. Mrs. Conn also served as a Kindergarten Assistant with MCPS. Mrs. Conn also is one of our Early Bird teachers and supervises our Primary Nap Program.

Sarah Davis, Movement/PE/Dance Teacher— Ms. Davis is beginning her first year here at Evergreen School. She is a graduate of Juniata College and majored in English. She has extensive experience in dance and has worked as an instructor at Rock Creek Dance Academy since 2012. Ms. Davis is a Level I Certified Cecchetti instructor. She was a counselor and dance teacher at Evergreen this summer as well.

Himali Dias, Primary Teacher— Mrs. Dias is beginning her sixth year here at Evergreen School. Mrs. Dias comes to Evergreen with 12 years of Montessori classroom experience. She was a primary classroom co-teacher at Julia Brown Montessori where she worked with two-and-a-half year olds in a Montessori setting. She received her Montessori preschool diploma from the Montessori School of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Caitlin Garry, Music Teacher & Librarian— Mrs. Garry, who is beginning her eleventh year with Evergreen School, has a B.A. in Music from Gettysburg College. She has taught music for the past 16 years. She has experience teaching music both in public school and in various Montessori school environments. She also assists in our Front Office. When not teaching or giving piano lessons to her students, Ms. Garry sings with the National Philharmonic Chorale and Singers. She is a certified Orff-Schulwerk teacher.

Trish Hannon, Elementary Teacher—Mrs. Hannon returned to Evergreen in 2015. She began her teaching career as an intern with Ms. Liotta 28 years ago! Since that time, she has taught in the Primary and Lower Elementary divisions at the Barrie School. Mrs. Hannon has earned a Master’s degree in Education and a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science. She holds Montessori certifications in both Early Childhood and Elementary. Mrs. Hannon has 8 years of teaching experience in Early Childhood classrooms and 18 years of teaching experience in Elementary classrooms.

Felicia Hatziyannis, Elementary Teacher—Mrs. Hatziyannis, who has been with Evergreen School for 24 years now in a variety of capacities, holds a B.A. in Humanities with a minor in theater as well as her Montessori credentials for children ages 6-9. She also is our School Bus Driver. Her child is enrolled in our Primary Division.

Gera Herdman, Primary Teacher & Art Teacher – Mrs. Herdman is beginning her first year here at Evergreen. She is passionate about the Montessori philosophy through her experience at Village Montessori in Gaithersburg and as part of the teacher credentialing program at Montgomery Montessori Institute. She served as Associate Preschool Teacher at the Bender JCC Early Childhood Center. Mrs. Herdman is a graduate of Towson University with an art and design major.

Lynn Lyles, Toddler Teaching Assistant—Ms. Lyles, beginning her ninth year with Evergreen School, has 5 years of experience as a teaching assistant with children ranging in age from infants to 5 years old. She has her 90-hour Child Care Certificate and an assortment of other classes related to child care. She is currently working towards her Montessori certification for toddlers.

Ana Moreno, Toddler Teacher—Ms. Ana is beginning her sixth year here at Evergreen School. She worked at Shady Grove Hospital as their C.U.I.R Secretary. She has worked over 6 years as a teacher for a Sunday School at Iglesia de Dios and has an experience in working with children from 2-12 years of age. She is currently completing her Montessori certification for toddlers and her degree in Bio Technology and Child Psychology at University of Maryland.

Thes Perrin, Primary Teacher— Mrs. Perrin returned to Evergreen in 2015 and is beginning her seventh year with Evergreen School. She has a B.A. degree in Business Administration and her Montessori credentials to teach children ages 2-1/2 to 6 years old. She completed her internship year in the Philippines and worked with Julia Brown Montessori before coming to Evergreen School. Her children are enrolled in our Primary and Elementary divisions.

Brittany Thomas, Toddler Teaching Assistant – Ms. Brittany is beginning her first year here at Evergreen. She has experience in Montessori Toddler classrooms including time at Love of Learning Montessori and Julia Brown Montessori, both in Columbia, Maryland. She also served as a nanny to a 14-month old.

Rebecca Tobin, Primary Teacher—Ms. Tobin is beginning her eighth year at Evergreen. She has an M.A. and B.S. from Syracuse University in Childhood Studies. She obtained an AMS Montessori certificate at The Montgomery Montessori Institute. She began her career teaching Montessori at Franklin Schools followed by Woods Academy, both in Maryland. In addition, she has worked at other local independent schools, including The Jewish Primary Day School, and most recently Green Acres. Ms. Tobin has 16 years of teaching experience.

Fiola Van Der Meer, Primary Teaching Assistant – Mrs. Van Der Meer is beginning her first year here at Evergreen. She has an extensive teaching experience in the Netherlands, her native country. She

taught ten years at De Floriant Catholic Elementary School in The Hague/Rotterdam region. She has also taught elementary grades at NVTC Dutch School in Paris and at Lycee International, Saing-Germainen-Laye in the Paris region. Since coming to Montgomery County with her family in 2016, she has worked at the Dutch School here. Her three children are currently enrolled in MCPS middle and high schools.