



Introducing Our ... Facilitators!



We thought you would like to know a little about the people who are offering the great sessions that we have! We appreciate their hard work and hope you and your children enjoy learning in our unique setting.

Adria Rollman

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I enjoy the Spanish language and had the opportunity to take two years of Spanish class in high school. It is important that my children learn to speak another language, and I thought it would be more effective in a group setting. Teaching a session at Twindly Bridge will provide that opportunity. I ordered a very nice, interactive, musical Spanish curriculum. I look forward to teaching Spanish to our kids in a fun-filled, exciting way that is easily retained and provides a foundation to build upon.

Bettina Mileur

bettina.mileur@matsuk12.us

Bettina is a certified teacher at Twindly Bridge Charter School.

Bob Frost

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I am a retired teacher. I taught for 33 years. Most of my years were in the elementary classroom as a regular teacher. Starting in 1991 I began working as a computer teacher; back before the internet, before everyone carried a phone in their pocket! One of the areas I became involved with while teaching was working with LEGO robotics and incorporating that into the curriculum.

I love working with kids, so I started looking for an avenue for that and found Twindly Bridge. I've taught classes with the LEGO Simple Machines materials. I also taught a class using the Mac computers. I enjoy working with computers (strictly a Mac user).

Camillia Larochelle

Camillia is a certified teacher.

Carmela Doney

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Hello my name is Carmela Doney and I have been a resident of AK for over 30 years. I am a graduate of the University of Alaska, and have worked within the University system for the last 10 years. Last year, after I lost my husband to cancer, I decided to make a life change and looked for something that would make me happy and would involve my family. While surfing the web, I discovered a franchise that sparked my interest. Now I am the proud owner of a Bricks4Kidz in AK. I look forward to working with you and your family.

Carone Lambert

carone_juliet@hotmail.com

I'm a mother of four children and have been homeschooling for three years. I'm a graduate of Wasilla High School and attended Mat-Su College where I received my floral design license in 1994. I have extensive experience in floral design, art, and a variety of crafting. My academic strengths include creative writing, language arts, and reading.

Cindy Jacobs

I taught school for over 30 years in various grade levels K-12 in both regular and special education.

Dena Luchsinger

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I am a Twindly Bridge Parent. I'm also the primary writing tutor at Mat-Su College, holding a master's degree in writing. I love my job as a tutor. Last spring, Mr. Backus helped me realize that I could do what I do at Mat-Su College at Twindly Bridge!

Emily Hardy

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Emily graduated from Colony High School. She worked as a massage therapist and nutritional therapist until she started a family. She started home schooling three years ago and has three kids, two dogs and a cat. And loves teaching.



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Jen Wood

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I am thrilled to be teaching a Horticulture class at Twindly Bridge. I have been gardening in Alaska for almost 16 years and have a passion for growing beautiful and edible plants from seed. Most of what I know about growing food in Alaska comes from experimenting in my own yard, taking classes locally and spending time with good friends who hold the proud title of "Master Gardener". I still marvel at the miracle of "seeds + dirt + sun = FOOD"

Jessica Wilson

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I have been practicing martial arts since 2000. I am a certified instructor in six martial arts. Full time professional instructor.

John Weetman

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My name is John Weetman and I would like to welcome you to an exciting 2014-2015 school year at Twindly Bridge Charter School. Although this will be my first year at Twindly, it will be my 29th year in the field of education.

I first came to Alaska in 1985 teaching at Fort Yukon where I taught: kindergarten; 5th/6th grade math/science; high school English, fine arts and business.

In the early 1990's I taught middle school in Juneau, then moved to Mountain Village for eight years teaching kindergarten and 7th grade. Then moved to the Valley in 2001 where I started my family and worked in administration for the MSBSD.

I feel my 11 years of varied teaching experience on the Yukon River and 18 years of administration lend well to Twindly Bridge Charter School. I look forward to meeting all of you, please feel free to stop in and say hello or give me a call or email if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

Judy Vanderwilt

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Judy Vanderwilt is the owner of BearPaw Archery of Wasilla, AK. She is NASP certified and hosts state shoots for the competitive archer. She is an enthusiast for the sport and enjoys sharing her passion with students.

Karen Olson

kdtsh@yahoo.com

Karen has been a volunteer facilitator at Twindly Bridge for several years. She spends many hours volunteering by teaching a variety of sessions to our students. Her classes are always well attended and she brings much enthusiasm & knowledge to her sessions.

Laurine Domke

Laurine is a certified teacher.

Lisa Tcheripanoff

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Lisa has been a volunteer facilitator at Twindly Bridge for several years. She spends many hours volunteering by teaching a variety of sessions to our students. Her classes are always well attended and brings much enthusiasm & knowledge to her sessions.

Madlen Penn

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Madlen Penn was born and raised in the capital city of Bulgaria – Sofia. After graduating high school, she moved to Trier, Germany to pursue a degree in English. There, Madlen worked at a private tutoring agency as a teacher for English, German, and Math for grades K-12. Her husband's employment by the US AF brought their growing family to AK five years ago.

Madlen considers independent problem solving to be the most important skill one needs to acquire. Thus, regardless of the subject she is teaching, her foremost goals are to help the child establish a can-do attitude and build a set of productive habits.



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Mardene Collins

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Mardene Collins is a retired MSBSD teacher and district office coordinator. She taught both elementary and middle school; teaching all subjects at the elementary level and math and literature/language arts at the middle school level. At the district office she coordinated professional development and assessment and most recently was the Talented and Gifted Coordinator.

Mardene has a BS from Brigham Young University in Therapeutic Recreation; teacher and administrative certifications from the University of Alaska; gifted education and distance learning endorsements from Utah State University; and mathematics endorsement and a MS from Portland State University in Curriculum and Instruction.

She has taught quilting classes for many years along with 4-H cooking and sewing. A recent achievement has been to become certified as a group exercise instructor. Her hobbies include quilting, sewing, music, reading, enjoying great summers in Alaska and her family.

Meggie Aube

meggieaube@hotmail.com

Education: Doctoral Degree in music.

Experience: Choir director at First Presbyterian church Wasilla. Choir director at Mat-Su Community Choir. Private lessons since 2001. T.A. at University of Iowa, Palmer Arts Council Percussion Camp, Amman Jordan Percussion teacher, PHS & PJMS Percussion Teacher.

Melanie Keenan

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Private music teacher in Wasilla since 1997. Instructed various ensembles & folk bands that perform throughout the state since 1997. Established & directed the Mat-su Folk Arts Camp in 2006 and 2007.

Taught violin and orchestra at Birchtree Charter School from 2010-2013. Assisted with instruction for the Mat-Su Youth Orchestra since 2011 to present.

Melissa Palaniuk

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Melissa is a home schooling parent of Twindly Bridge.

Michael Backus

michael.backus@matsuk12.us

Michael is a certified teacher at Twindly Bridge Charter School.

Natasha Bowers

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Natasha is a home school mom and has been a licensed and insured figure skating coach for 8 years. She is also a gold level certified judge for figure skating. She has over 15 years of dance, ballet, skating, and artistic movement experience along with choreography and theater training.

Sara Blydenburgh

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My name is Sara Blydenburgh, I have lived in Alaska for over 30 years, I have two children of my own and love to learn and play with them. For many years I was a technician supervisor for a medical pharmacy and recently left to spend more time with my children. I take great joy and pride in teaching my kids and working with them to learn new life skills. My family loves to explore the world around us and we enjoy inventing new and silly games out of everyday house hold chores. I'm excited to be helping TBCS and looking forward to a fun year.

Sarah Jasper

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I am a stay-at-home mother of four who also has a degree in practical nursing. My husband and I have homeschooled our children for several years, and we enjoy the opportunities it gives us to educate our children in the way that works best for the individual child. I teach because I believe we all have different gifts that we can share. I enjoy reading, sewing, being creative, and all things old and historical.



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Shane Laboucane

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I have been a private instructor and a professional entertainer for twenty years. I received a scholarship to the University of Texas El Paso for music education after high school. I currently play locally in Wasilla, and teach privately out of my home studio or at the student's home.

Stefanie Deal

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We are homeschooling parents who enjoy science and agriculture, among other things, with our children and free time. The best education tool is hands-on exploration!

Stephanie Sager

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Stephanie has a bachelors degree in Elementary Education. She subs regularly in the district and loves teaching. She has taught a few classes at Twindly Bridge in the past and is looking forward to teaching again this session.

Tennille Bradstreet

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This is my tenth year homeschooling. I have two elementary and two high school students, all at TBCS. In the past, I've been a receptionist, bookkeeper, office manager, clerk, waitress, brown thumb greenhouse worker, delivery driver, and college student. I enjoy reading, camping, fishing, working out, quilting, woodworking, home repair, and attempts at gardening. I led sessions on math games and typing at TBCS last year, and assisted or subbed other classes as needed. I look forward to helping your children learn the writing process with the Institute for Excellence in Writing (IEW) program, combined with Draw-Write-Now. They will compile a portfolio to bring home.

Theresa Walton

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Hello my name is Theresa Walton. I am a parent of three children the oldest being a fourth grader and the only one I have home schooled. I am Coaching the Battle of the Books (BOB) because of the excitement my daughter has when she is reading a book. This is my first session to teach at Twindly Bridge Charter School. My degree is in Early Childhood Education with an emphases in Special Education. I have experience working with ages birth - 103 with a wide range of abilities . I have been involved in Girl Scouts since I was a child, coached T-ball, and love to act. I enjoy listening to books on CD and watching the book come to life in my imagination.

My goal in this session is to build team work as they share the excitement of what they read, to encourage self confidence, and have fun.

Tim Kelly

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Mr. Kelly ("Coach" Kelly) has been working with youth shooters for nearly 20 years. He is a NRA Certified Pistol Instructor and NRA Range Safety Instructor He has coached two Jr. National Pistol Champion shooters with multiple pistol championships won. He also coached several adults to regional championship status. He is a Match director for USA Shooting Alaska Jr. Olympic Qualifier match.

Valerie Segerstrom

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Valerie is a certified teacher at Twindly Bridge Charter School.



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Verna Giani

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My name is Verna Giani, I am 31 years old, a wife, and a mother. I started my fitness journey alone as a personal endeavor to lose weight, over the last decade I have lost 80 pounds and went from a mostly processed, fast paced life style to one that is much more centered on healthier choices. In my personal training sessions with clients or while teaching PE to youth, or even during the seasons where I've coached High School sports I center everything on better personal choices and nutrition, and then start everyone at the beginning and work on any past injuries or muscle imbalances and slowly train them to be at the fitness level they desire... no task too big or small! We just all need to take it one day at a time! I would love to help you or your student on their fitness journey and look forward to meeting you!
