



# ENRICH!

Dr. Weeks Elementary School

## WELCOME BACK!

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It's the second year the Syracuse University Enrichment team has the opportunity to work with Dr. Weeks students and we could not be more excited! This year we are focusing on project based learning where students get a hands-on experience in the classroom. We are not solely focused on the fine arts but are working to implement projects incorporating STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics). It is our vision that we will enhance education by providing students the chance to embrace their creative side.

We have lots of fun things planned for you to look forward to! To start the year off, we are bringing grade five students mountain biking at the Black River Education Center in Booneville, NY! The annual Art Gala will be held in November and an exciting inflatable planetarium will be set up in January. The second grade will return to the Strong Museum of Play in February and we can't forget STEAM Night in June! Stay tuned because we will have more fun things to announce!

*“Creativity is intelligence having fun.”*

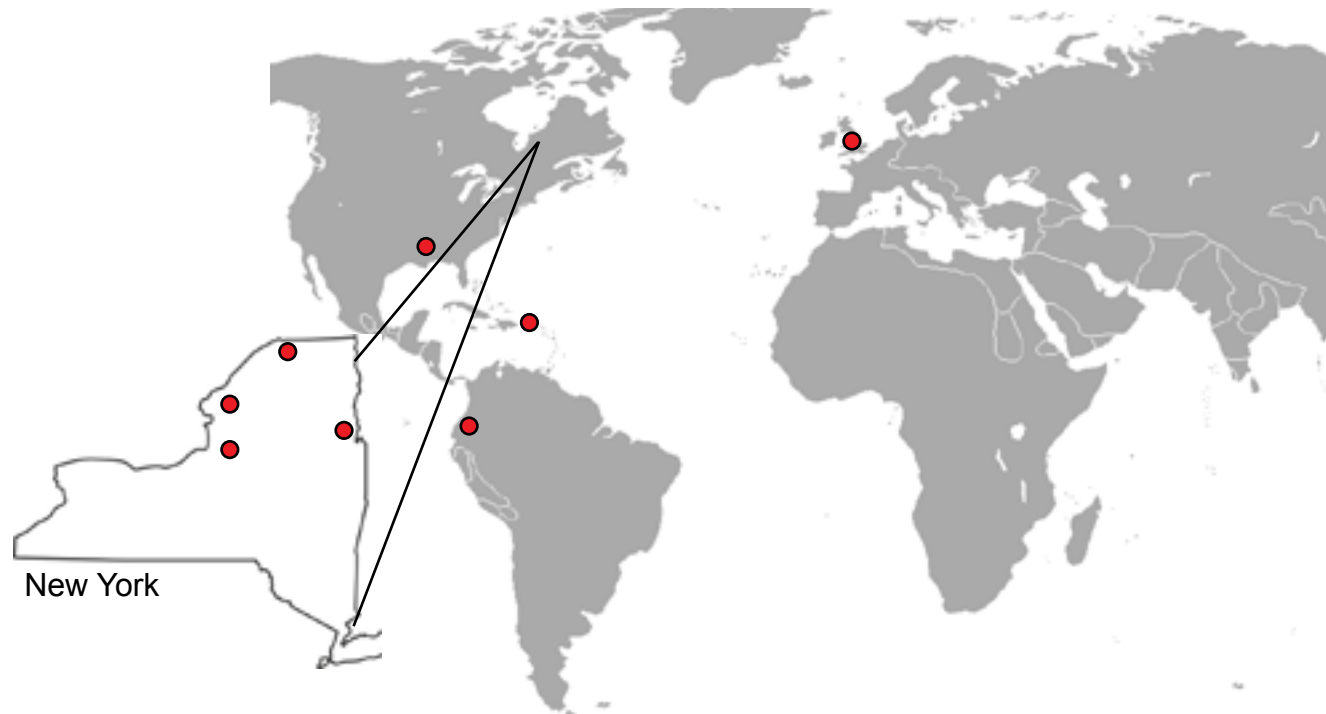
-Albert Einstein

## MEET THE STAFF!

With the start of a new school year, we thought it would be fun to introduce the enrichment staff and share a bit of information about each team member in this month's newsletter.

We interviewed the enrichment staff with the following questions. Let's see what they had to say!

1. Where were you born?
2. Where did you go to college and what did you study?
3. What do you like to do outside of school?
4. Who do you consider to be your role model and why?
5. What are you most excited about for the upcoming school year at Dr. Weeks?



The red dots on the map represent the different places we come from.

### Ms. Addison

1. Syracuse, NY
2. Houghton College- Education and English B.A.  
-Syracuse University- Inclusive Education
3. Play tennis, read books, and go hiking.



5. Having another opportunity to invest whole heartedly in the same community I grew up in.



### Ms. Babilonia

1. I was born in Queens but grew up in Puerto Rico. I'm Puerto Rican by heritage and fully bilingual.
2. My alma Mater is SU three times - First degree was a B.S. in Chemical Engineering then I returned in 2000 to pursue my passion- music - B.S. in Music Ed (2002), followed by M.S. in Music Ed (2006).
3. Outside of school, I teach piano and voice privately. I'm also the music director at my church which keeps me very busy.
4. Role models - too many - Sonia Sotomayor (first Puerto Rican Supreme Court justice); Eileen Collins (first woman astronaut to lead a space voyage); many Christian pastors and leaders; many musicians such as yo yo ma, Isaac Stern, Maria Argerich, Diana Krall and Alicia Keys.
5. Music is one of the great passions of my life. I'm excited whenever I can teach music to those that really want to learn.



### Mr. Brumfield

1. Syracuse New York
2. SUNY Cortland -Economics and Management BS  
SUNY Empire State college - Social Policy-Urban Issues
3. Watch children participate in sports and cheerleading and travel
4. My Father because of the decisions he made in raising his children by giving up his interest to support his family and for always being apart of our lives no matter what.
5. Teaching the student and learning from them.



### Ms. Cantello

1. I was born in Syracuse, NY
2. I went to Syracuse University and majored in Art Education, with a concentration as an undergrad in drawing and painting.
3. Outside of school I teach color guard. I enjoy camping, reading and being outside. I also like to spend time with family and friends.
4. My Aunt Terry is my role model. She's a teacher and inspires me to be a better teacher, be more involved and to continue to learn. She is consistent in her beliefs and teaching practices and is the kind of teacher I want to be more like.
5. This year at Dr, Weeks I am excited to see the growth students can make in a year. I love seeing students working creatively!



**Ms. Cofer**

- 1. Gloucester England
- 2. University of the West of England, Bristol- Fine Art B.A. -Syracuse University- M.F.A. Fiber/ Textiles
- 3. Hiking
- 4. Principal Reeve-Larham for her belief in every child's ability to learn and grow.
- 5. Experiencing the joy of 'making' with a school of nearly 1000 students and staff.



**Ms. Combs**

- 1. Queensbury, NY
- 2. SUNY Potsdam- B.F.A in painting and B.A. in psychology
- 3. hang out and make art with friends, go to music shows, singing, reading/writing poetry, hiking, rugby and volleyball, yoga, traveling
- 4. I've never really had a specific role model. I've always taken characteristics I like from different people and built them into my own image of a role model.
- 5. I'm most excited for building new relationships with students and teachers. And bringing all of that positivity into our creative projects!



**Ms. Colasacco**

- 1. Watertown, but I've lived in Syracuse for the last 12 years.
- 2. SUNY Osewgo and SU. I studied social work, art/sculpture and art education.
- 3. I like to play with my kids, read, cook, yoga, paint, and do fiber arts.
- 4. I look to my fellow teachers as role models. I like learning ways that I can become a better teacher from hearing their stories about success in their classrooms.
- 5. I am most excited to be helping students learn through creating art, music, and making projects.



**Ms. Fletcher**

- 1. Syracuse
- 2. SUNY Cortland- MST Childhood Ed. SUNY Albany- MS Educational Psychology
- 3. I like gardening and kayaking. I love my dog Chewy!
- 4. I look up to other teachers!
- 5. I am really excited for the new school year at Dr. Weeks and to be able to see the smiling faces of students. I look forward to seeing them put forth their best effort in projects.



**Mr. Ibarra**

- 1. Quito-Ecuador
- 2. Went to college at Newschool of Architecture & Design in San Diego - California
- 3. I like to explore new places, design furniture, work in architecture related assignments/gigs, fashion photography, play guitar, spanish poetry, cook, shop, wine tasting, etc
- 4. My mother is the best role model I have. She has taught me that if life is easy then ain't no worth living it but if life challenges you, then every second is worth a life time.
- 5. I love and enjoy teaching arts. Expanding the artistic knowledge in kids is one of the main tools that helps to transform the way they think and process information. I feel optimistic about the upcoming year because the great minds that we teach today are great minds that will create tomorrow.



**Ms. Massie**

- 1. Syracuse, NY
- 2. Herkimer CC, Onondaga CC, University of South Florida, Syracuse University- Sociology
- 3. Swim, hang out with friends, travel
- 4. My best friend and sister Heather. She has always helped me grow, learn, challenge myself, and become a better person.
- 5. Meeting the children and learning about the cultural diversity within the building.



**Ms. Tremblay**

- 1. Malone, NY
- 2. SUNY Plattsburgh- Art History B.A. -Syracuse University (current student)- M.A. Museum Studies, M.A. Arts Leadership
- 3. Explore new places!
- 4. Rachel Brathen because although she has gone through many struggles, she remains positive and motivates others to love.
- 5. To display student work so everyone can see their hard work!



**Ms. Robedee**

- 1. Franklinton Louisiana
- 2. I got my bachelors of fine arts in painting at Southeastern Louisiana University and my masters of fine arts in sculpture at Syracuse University.
- 3. I make artwork and ride my bicycle around the city.
- 4. My grandmother. She passed away last year and I am struck by the fact that she was kind to everyone she knew and made a difference in her family and community.
- 5. I am excited about the curriculum that the Enrichment staff has created. The projects are going to be so much fun to teach and I can't wait to see the kids faces when they have succeeded.

