

PAM Educator Advisory 2025–2026

First Year

Adina Rubenstein (she/her) is a science teacher currently living in Portland and discovering many of the wonders of the Pacific Northwest. Before relocating, Adina lived and taught in Michigan for 25 years. There, she served on the Detroit Institute of Arts' Teacher Advisory Group helping to create professional development resources for educators, curriculum resources for students, and collaborating with different areas of the museum. She loves learning and seeing how science, materials, history, art, and culture all come together to create and express the human experience- how we decide to showcase and share its different aspects. Adina has spent a portion of her career traveling the globe with students in a variety of academic international travel programs experiencing and learning about the world, forging lasting connections, and delighting in how the students grow into change agents and global citizens. During the school year she teaches science at Sam Barlow High School in the Gresham-Barlow School District. She earned her Bachelors in Interdisciplinary Sciences from Michigan State University and her Masters in Science Education from the University of Michigan.

Aleksandr Chernousov is a teaching artist and visual storyteller, serving as a Courtesy Researcher in the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Department at the **University of Oregon**. He has received several grants, including a Fulbright Grant, an Andy Warhol Foundation grant through PICA, a Beaverton Small Art Grant, an RACC Arts3C grant, and an Oregon Arts Commission grant. He has also participated in international art residencies and recently contributed to Oregon Humanities magazine and Beyond the Margin. Aleksandr is passionate about working with local Oregon communities, combining visual storytelling and theater. He developed a course on visual memoirs for high school and college students, where participants interview immigrants and create visual memoirs based on their stories. He uses unique methods to help participants discover their own voices while preserving the voices of the original storytellers. Making such stories heard and keeping them authentic are the main goals of this course and Aleksandr's approach to the arts. He currently considers Oregon his home.

Andy McAlister is an artist and middle school teacher working in the North Clackamas school district. Originally from Indianapolis, Andy studied creative writing at Indiana University and earned his MAT from Portland State. This year, he is transitioning from the language arts classroom to teaching cooking, sewing, and other life skills as a Home Ec teacher at **Alder Creek Middle School**. He also serves as an adjunct professor at **Lewis & Clark**, teaching a course on integrating visual arts into the Language Arts classroom. His personal artistic practice focuses on assemblage and collage, using driftwood and repurposed trash as favorite mediums. He lives in North Portland — look for him at Kelley Point Park, walking his dog Clover and searching for buried treasure.

Cat Monroy's teaching career has spanned 28 years, including 18 as a reading and dyslexia specialist. She has a great love of learning: the science of reading, how to meet students where they are at cognitively or emotionally, as well as learning new art forms, her favorite being mixed media and book arts. She believes art, in its many forms, can transform a child's life, fulfilling a need for expression, and create joy! She hopes her commitment and involvement in PAM will help bring a greater connection to East County schools where she currently teaches at **Salish Ponds Elementary** in the Reynolds School District.

Erica Stavis is a fourth-generation public school educator dedicated to creating learning environments where all students feel supported, connected, and inspired. Erica has worked as a teacher and school leader in New York City, New Orleans, and Portland - three vibrant urban centers that have shaped her commitment to educational equity. She currently serves as the Director of Contracted Alternative Schools at **Portland Public Schools**, where she ensures that students have access to flexible, empowering pathways that honor their unique strengths and needs. In addition to her work in education, Erica is a photographer and artist who believes in the power of creativity to drive connection and change. She strives to integrate her artistic lens into her professional work, approaching challenges through collaboration, storytelling, and a deep belief in the wisdom of the community.

Janice Yang started nurturing a deep interest in the arts and in museums ever since she visited museums for the first time as a child. She continued her arts exploration in college, earning her B.A. in History of Art from Cornell University and her M.A. in Arts and Humanities Education from New York University. Janice enjoyed delving into museum operations when she joined the curatorial team at the Guggenheim Museum and was able to participate in the many facets of organizing exhibitions. She subsequently facilitated student access to educational opportunities while working at a community foundation's arts education initiative and at a nonprofit organization that provided high school students with mentoring, summer program scholarships, and college access support. Currently, Janice is the Director of Student Engagement at **Reed College**, where she oversees programs that help students build community, cultivate personal growth and leadership skills, and partake in unique enrichment experiences on campus and throughout Portland.

Jesus Escobar is a dedicated artist from Salem, Oregon, with over 15 years of experience in abstract and non-representational art, focusing on form and color through squares and rectangles. He began his artistic journey in high school, continued at Chemeketa Community College, and teaches art at the Keizer Art Association, where he has received awards for his digital work. In addition, Jesus works in the Youth Development Department at the **YMCA**, providing nurturing childcare for elementary students in the Salem-Keizer School District, fostering growth and creativity. Inspired by everyday life, he believes art reflects life's complexities and invites deeper dialogue. Jesus aims to bridge personal expression with community engagement, inspiring future artists to discover their unique voices.

Maggie Hubacher (she/her) is originally from Charlotte, North Carolina. She graduated with a Bachelor of Art in Studio Art from the University of South Carolina, and a Master of Arts in

Teaching from Lewis and Clark College. She was an active member of arts-based leadership program Playing for Others in NC, working to provide fully inclusive arts programming for children and teenagers with disabilities. She worked in Chiang Mai, Thailand facilitating therapeutic art experiences in local schools and hospitals. She moved to Portland in 2017 to serve as an AmeriCorps member in Title 1 elementary schools, teaching play-based connection and skillbuilding through the organization Playworks. While with Playworks, she designed a series of murals and worked with community members to bring them to life on the walls of Rockwood Preparatory Academy. She currently teaches fourth and fifth grade in the Parkrose School District, where she leans heavily on arts integration across all subjects, employs project-based learning, and engages students with the Scottish Storyline approach. When she is not teaching or exploring local art, she can be found riding her bike or tackling a crossword puzzle (ideally not simultaneously).

Shannon Crowner-Jones (she/her) is an educator, curriculum designer, and museum enthusiast who relocated to Oregon from Maryland in 2022. She completed graduate coursework in Museum Studies at the University of San Francisco and proudly served on the inaugural staff at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. Her work has been nationally recognized with an award from PBS and a feature on “The Kelly Clarkson Show” for her creative, inclusive approach to education. In Oregon, Shannon has led STEM-based teaching at OMSI, managed community partnerships, and now manages Black and Brown-focused internships and youth-centered projects for a local nonprofit, **ELSO, Inc.** She knows firsthand how powerful and lasting museum education can be, and is passionate about helping create meaningful and accessible experiences for learners of all ages and backgrounds. When she isn’t working, you can find Shannon jamming on the Zumba or line dance floor, reading books, and exploring the PNW with her husband.

Third Year

Ashley Clemens (she/her) moved to Oregon in 2004 to study English and Spanish at the University of Oregon, where she graduated with a BA and a Masters of Education in Teaching and Learning. She is 16 years into her career teaching high school Language Arts, and in that time has led state and district initiatives in Ninth Grade On-Track systems, middle-to-high school transition programs, equitable grading and assessment models, and early college credit attainment. Ashley has lived and taught in Germany, The Netherlands, and in Oregon, where she currently teaches Language Arts at Cleveland High School in Portland. She was previously the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program Coordinator, an Instructional Coach, and an IB DP Language and Literature teacher at **Hillsboro High School**. Ashley believes in the transformative power of relationships and the importance of exploring the arts in order to critically examine one's identity and perspective in the context of their global community. In her roles, she works to ensure equitable access to supportive and rigorous academic opportunities for all students by leveraging her power and privilege to subvert harmful social and educational systems. She lives in SW Portland with her husband and son and in her free time, tends her garden, plays soccer, and makes pottery.

Katie Seidl was born and raised in the Pacific Northwest and has lived in Portland for 16 years. Katie currently serves as a district administrator for equity and inclusion in the **Camas School District** where she designs and facilitates professional development for staff, advocates for educational access for students, organizes community events and connections for students and families, and supports school principals in equitable practices. She has been an educator for 14 years, including as a high school English Language Arts teacher, as a leader of an integrated arts and academics program, as a teacher in a project-based high school, and as a dean of students in a middle school. The arts have always been where Katie returns for grounding and creativity. Katie tap danced her way through childhood, played the flute, and continues to dabble in painting, photography, jewelry making, floral arranging, graphic design, and fashion and styling. Katie sees art as a medium for learning that drives curiosity and exploration in students at any age or level. This natural journey promotes a growth-mindset and offers all students a way to access learning, and this is where Katie sees the power of the arts in education. As a life-long creative learner, Katie challenges others to see new perspectives and notice the minutia that makes our world beautiful.

Michelle Swinehart is an avid fan of all things story. She had the pleasure of living stories through her work at StoryCorps, Narrative 4, Portland Art Museum's Object Stories and The Right Brain Initiative. Michelle received a MAT from Lewis and Clark College in Secondary Art Education and holds an MFA in Art and Social Practice from **Portland State University**. She is currently an Assistant Teaching Professor in PSU's interdisciplinary general education program and School of Art. She lives on [Full Plate Farm](#) in Ridgefield, Washington, with her husband, three kids, and a whole bunch of vegetables.

Tamarind Arnold was born in Compton, California, and moved with her family to Oregon during her elementary years. Her work experience for the past 25+ years has been with the Portland Public Schools District. The positions she's held from current to past include: Transition Specialist for both **Franklin and McDaniel High Schools**, Paraeducator K-12, Paraeducator Post-High School Community Transition Program, Parent Organizer for the Portland Schools Alliance and a Parent Volunteer while she and her husband reared their three boys during their elementary school years. Tamarind has always been an advocate for education and the arts. She has a passion to present a greater opportunity, to bring diverse perspectives, and to share the art world with historically marginalized communities, who may not have had exposure. She works with youth, families, and in collaboration with community-based organizations and the faith community to assist youth in their goals. Many of these families have never stepped into a museum and would greatly benefit from the experience it brings. Tamarind is a champion of the diverse students she works with and always looks to ensure diversity, equity, and inclusion in every aspect of her life. Tamarind firmly believes and acts upon the words of educator Rita Pierson: "Every child deserves a champion; an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they can possibly be." On a personal note, Tamarind enjoys traveling, the arts, eating at local restaurants, and spending time with friends and family, especially her grandchildren.

Tracy Miranda is a Visual Arts educator living and teaching in Portland, Oregon. She started her art journey where she grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, eventually studying Art and Art History at University of Maryland. Ready for adventure and a change of scenery, Tracy moved to Portland in 1998, enrolling at Lewis and Clark to earn an MAT in Art Education. In 2000, she began teaching middle school students at a Title 1 school and has been learning, loving, and living the middle school vibe ever since. Tracy's main goal in teaching her students is to create "out-of-the-box" thinkers who can respect and appreciate the differences they experience in the art room and their lives. She has taught at **Lane Middle School** since 2014.

Ximena Keogh Serrano is an assistant professor of Spanish and Latinx Studies at **Pacific University**. Her areas of specialization lie at the intersection of Latin American and U.S. Latinx literary and cultural studies, and studies in gender and sexuality. In her research, she explores themes of borders, migration, and belonging across a range of literary texts, visual art, film, and performance in the Americas. In addition to her teaching and scholarship, Ximena is also a poet. Her poems have appeared in journals and anthologies, including *The Chiricú Journal*, the *Journal for Latina Critical Feminism*, among others.

Fourth Year

Allen Koshewa, originally from Atlanta, Georgia, thinks that good teaching focuses on creativity, caring, and communication. He has taught abroad in Asia, Europe, and Central America during his 43-year teaching career, as well as in public schools and universities in the U.S. His MS in Applied Linguistics and PhD in Language Literacy have informed his work with English Language Learners. Allen is the author of the ethnography *Discipline and Democracy: Teachers on Trial* as well as poetry, memoirs, and essays. His photography has won awards and has been published in several magazines, most recently in *Wild Roof Journal* and *Multiplicity*. Whether teaching kindergarten students to use drawing to understand science or teaching teachers how to integrate art and drama in their classrooms, he has devoted much of his career to integrative inquiry that emphasizes the visual and performing arts, social justice issues, and writing. Allen retired in Portland in 2020 after seven years in Shanghai, China and enjoys having more time for cooking, gardening, travel, and creative pursuits such as playing and singing jazz.

Alodie Janel Lopez (she/her, Puerto Rican and Mexican American) is originally from New York. She now teaches K-8 Art at **Winterhaven School** in Southeast Portland. Alodie graduated from Ithaca College with a BS in Cinema and Photography. In 2000, she moved to Portland and freelanced in the Portland theater scene for a few years as a sound technician, prop master, and scenery artist. After a few years of freelancing, Alodie earned her master's in Education from Portland State University. She taught general education in the younger elementary grades for 14 years before becoming a specialized Visual Arts Teacher. Alodie is passionate about teaching art to children. She has witnessed first-hand how art education enhances children's learning and provides a positive and healthy outlet for expression. Through art, children learn

how to express themselves in a variety of ways, take risks, make decisions, be reflective, be open to different points of view and be creative. Art has always played an instrumental role in her life. She grew up in a home that valued art, spending countless hours in museums with her mother and sister. Her mother engaged Alodie and her sister in discussions about what they observed and felt about the art they saw. Those experiences taught her about the diversity of people, cultures, and perspectives, which have influenced Alodie in her own art. Alodie enjoys learning about and using different art mediums, as this expands her abilities as an artist and a teacher. When she isn't teaching, Alodie enjoys sharing museums and art making with her four-year-old daughter Alia.

Brad Wipfli is an Associate Professor and Interim Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs in the **OHSU-PSU School of Public Health**. He earned his PhD in Exercise Science from Arizona State University in 2008, and was a researcher at OHSU prior to joining the faculty at Portland State University in 2016. In his research, he focuses on identifying behavioral and environmental strategies that positively impact physical and mental health. He also investigates the ways in which small changes in health behaviors can impact physiology and clinical indicators of illness and disease.

Dora Lisa Chavez (she/ella) is a proud Chicana that was born and raised in Oregon. She currently works as the Museum Educator at the **Oregon Historical Society** and is responsible for the K–12 and college/university school tours program. Before joining OHS, Dora Lisa was a classroom educator for 10 years. She has worked with students in preschool through third grade, providing bilingual Spanish-English wrap around services for students and their caregivers through culturally responsive programming in East County in Multnomah County. Dora Lisa holds a B.A. in art history from Portland State University. In her spare time, Dora Lisa can be found at a coffee shop, record store, bookstore, or at the beach with her family and two dogs Sainty and Saucy.

Eugena “Gena” Fields is a professional art educator at **Park Academy School** in Lake Oswego which serves students in grades 3–12 with Dyslexia and other learning differences. Gena has taught and studied art in Portland most of her life. She has a bachelor's in Drawing, Painting, and Printmaking, and a master's in Education, both from Portland State University. During her time in college, she also painted murals for children's spaces and taught art part time so she could spend more time with her own children. She has been teaching art for the past 17 years, and has taught at almost all levels, including preschool, in the Forest Grove and David Douglas school districts. Her most recent position prior to Park Academy was at a K-12 charter school in North Portland, where she was able to collaborate with colleagues and create art lessons that were based in the constructivist learning approach.

“Indigo” Caryn Corwin grew up in Des Moines, Iowa then attended the University of Iowa earning her bachelor of Studio Arts and teacher certification for Art grades K-12 in 1993. After graduating she worked at Camp Westwind on the Oregon Coast and fell in love with Portland. The city felt like a village with kind creative people, clean water, beautiful trees, and a thriving

bike culture. Her first job was selling flowers downtown a block from Pioneer Square where she continued to be inspired by the people who call Portland home. Through the years she has taught Art in many settings with all ages from summer camp, after-school programs, her in-home art studio “Art with Indigo,” as a visiting artist in PPS schools, and as an adjunct professor at PSU for students earning their elementary teaching degree. In 2008 she received her Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from PSU. After 11 years as a middle school self-contained teacher at **Sunnyside Environmental School**, she has her dream job teaching Art to K-8 students. In her classroom community, she strives for a culturally responsive environment where all students feel seen and heard, where there is space for multiple perspectives and it is safe to share unique lived experiences. She believes all humans are artists and creators; we just need to find the mediums that speak to us. Creating and looking at art helps heal from trauma and boosts self-esteem. She finds peace in her garden, adventure through travel, and laughter with her friends and family.

Joanne Kim earned a BA in History and Classical Civilization from the University of California-Los Angeles and a JD from Boston College Law School. While working on programming for a museum and archive of Cold War material culture, Joanne found she so enjoyed sharing her passion for the archival materials and their associated historical narratives with others that she decided to just do that full time and became a teacher through Teach for America. She completed her coursework to become certified in secondary education at Loyola Marymount University and taught social studies at the middle and high school levels in Los Angeles before moving to Oregon to better commune with the electric green moss and daffodils of Portland. She joined Northwest Academy as an English/Humanities teacher, happily dissecting the hero's journey while debating issues of cosmologies in conflict with her students and then served as the Head of High School. Joanne has now come full circle to marry her studies in law and education as Director of Faculty Services at **Lewis & Clark Law School**. She is so thrilled and fulfilled to continue her teaching practices in dialogue with the arts at PAM.

PPS Arts Standing Member

Eleanor LeClair is the Visual & Performing Arts (VAPA) Operations Lead for **Portland Public Schools**. Through this role, she supports dance, music, theatre, and visual arts programs across the district. This support includes the coordination of district-wide festivals and events, purchase & distribution of instructional materials, and project management of VAPA initiatives. Prior to joining the VAPA team, Eleanor graduated from Florida State University (FSU) with a Bachelor of Arts in Music - Percussion. Her musical practice led her through summers with Carolina Crown Drum & Bugle Corps and Round Top Festival Orchestra, as well as two years serving as a dance accompanist for the FSU School of Dance. After finishing her studies Eleanor began her career in arts administration, growing program/event coordination and project management skills in organizations such as the Council on Culture & Arts in Tallahassee, Interlochen Arts Summer Camp, and Saturday Academy (Portland, OR). Outside of office hours,

Eleanor is an enthusiastic dance student, a budding cook, and a doting mother to her cats Jello and Martini.

Past Members

2023–2025

Kelsey Ferreira, Portland Community College
Ondrea Bell Levey, Gresham High School
Reagan Lê, Oregon State University
Sarah Wolf Newlands, Portland State University

2022–2025

Olivia Jones-Hall, Literary Arts
Christina Thompson, Benson Polytechnic High School
Elisabeth Herrera-Very, Portland Public Schools
Erin Ryono Werner, Sunset High School
Li Ezzell, Portland Public Schools

2023–2024

Stephanie Madrid, Portland Parks

2021–2023

Erika Alabarca, Roseway Heights Middle School
Dora Lisa Chavez, Fairview Elementary School
“Indigo” Caryn Corwin, Sunnyside Environmental School
Bill Griesar, PhD, NW Noggin, Portland State University, and OHSU
M. Michelle Illuminato, Portland State University
Joanne Kim, Northwest Academy
Tiffany Koyama Lane, Sunnyside Environmental School
Alyson Osborn, Multnomah Arts Center and Portland State University
Ximena Keogh Serrano, Pacific University
Marcelle Valladares, Catlin Gabel School
Ezra Whitman, Roosevelt High School

2019–2022 (extended one year due to Covid shutdown)

Mimi AlSuhaimi, Laurelhurst K-8 and Lewis and Clark College
Carolyn Hazel Drake, Portland Public Schools Visual & Performing Arts
Kirk Ellis, St. Mary’s Academy
Katie Gillard, Beaverton High School
Cynthia Carmina Gómez, Community and Civic Engagement, Portland State University
William Kendall, Artist Mentorship Program (AMP)
Michael Koopman, Kids Community Learning Center



Brandi Kruse, Springwater Trail High School
Lisa Notman, Portland State University and Northwest Academy
Anna Scarpino, Sabin Schellenberg Career and Technical Center
Anmarie Trimble, University Studies, Portland State University

2018–21 (extended one year due to Covid shutdown)

Patrick Bowden, Oregon Health and Science University
Courtney Ferrari, Valley Catholic School
Subashini Ganesan, Natya Leela Academy and New Expressive Works (N.E.W.)
Charlene Martinez, Oregon State University
David Martinez, Portland Public Schools
Jessica Orellana Lima, Rex Putnam High School
Franky Stebbins, H.B. Lee Middle School
Hoan Tran, Gresham High School

2019–20

Jason Lamb, Central Oregon Community College (COCC), Bend, Oregon

2018–19

Isatou Barry, IRCO/Africa House
Derrais Carter, Portland State University, Black Studies

2017–19

Carrie Brown, Faubion School with PPS Indian Education at Native Montessori Preschool
Ilsa Bruer, Benson High School
Greg Hellman, Oregon City High School
Dori King, Oregon Episcopal School
Jeff Leake, Portland State University, University Studies and NW Noggin
Mary Levy, Lake Oswego High School
Dawn Nelson, Forest Grove High School
Emily Squires, Center for Equity & Inclusion
Charles Sanderson, Wellness, Business and Sports School in Woodburn, Oregon
Conrad Schumacher, Centennial Park School and Portland State University, University Studies
Abigail Steichen, Corbett Arts Program with Spanish (CAPS) at Springdale School
Lilly Windle, Lincoln High School

2017–18

Kristen Brayson, Portland Public Schools Arts Teacher on Special Assignment
Emiko Konomi, Portland State University School of Business
Tara Nunimaker, Academy of International Studies at Woodburn

2016–18

Laresa Beck, Beach Elementary School

Marcie Brewer, Portland Jewish Academy
Matt Chalmers, Alder Creek Middle School
Andrea Chunga-Celis, Chicas Youth Development Program at Adelante Mujeres
Mariam K Higgins, Catlin Gabel School
Andy Kulak, Jefferson High School
Nicole Penoncello, Buckman Elementary School
Clay River, Native American Youth and Family Center Early College Academy
Jeanne Sheets-Sagoo, Center for Advanced Learning
Ben Taylor, Native American Youth and Family Center Early College Academy

2016–2017

Cornel Pewewardy, Portland State University, Indigenous Nations
Rina Shriki, Grant High School

2015–2017

Loren Chasse, Rigler Elementary
Breck Foster, Lake Oswego High School
Michela Grohn, Creative Science School
Annie Knepler, Portland State University, University Studies
Veronica Ledoux, Catlin Gabel High School
Sue Pritzker, Childpeace Montessori School
Caitlin Scott, Education Northwest
Alissa (Penna) Tran, Molalla High School
Lynn Yarne, Grant High School

2015–2016

Hanne Gradinger Duncan, Laurelhurst School
Jennifer Shelton, South Meadows Middle School
Peter Towson, Jefferson High School

2014–2016

Brett Bigham, Multnomah Educational Service District
Wren Christopher, Scappoose and St. Helens school districts
Carolyn Hazel Drake, Centennial High School
Lisa Jarrett, Portland State University School of Art + Design
Melanie Morris, West Sylvan Middle School
Wendy Thompson, University of Portland
Pamela Wilson, Capitol Hill Elementary
Michelle York, George Middle School
Christopher Zinn, Portland Waldorf High School

2013–2015

Susie Bartley, Franklin High School



Matt Chalmers, Alder Creek Middle School
Katie Gillard, Cedar Park Middle School
John Holloran, Oregon Episcopal School
Julie Jansen, International School
Laurie LePore, Riverdale High School
Lynn Malzahn, Ainsworth Elementary School
Randy Maves, Madison High School
Kathy Mitchell, St. Mary's Academy
Swapna Mukhopadhyay, Portland State University
Sarah Wolf Newlands, Portland State University
Donald Rose, Beaumont Middle School
June Satak, West Albany High School
George Zaninovich, Catlin Gabel School