



New Faces - New Roles

Dear WSOC Community Members,

It is with great pleasure that we announce, on behalf of the College of Teachers, the hiring of new faculty members who recently joined our faculty, or will join our WSOC family this coming school year. The process of meeting, interviewing, and vetting the candidates has been a joy. These faculty members bring their own vibrancy and experience to our Waldorf family, and have been attracted to WSOC by our commitment to Waldorf pedagogy, our full curriculum, and our strong community.

All of these talented teachers (some new, some returning in new capacities) are pleased to be joining our community and working with our students. We are delighted to welcome them to the Waldorf School of Orange County with the care and support needed to ensure a successful transition into our community.

Regards,

Sara Rodelo and Tom Corcoran
College of Teachers Co-Chairs

First Grade Teacher- Gloria Chang

Gloria Chang is the first grade teacher for the Class of 2034. Gloria has been a valued colleague in our community since 2015, serving as a handwork assistant teacher, grades 1-3 assistant teacher, 3rd grade gardening teacher, and substitute teacher. She completed her Waldorf grades training in June 2018, and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Ohio State University and a Masters of Education from New York University. Gloria and her husband are the proud parents of two WSOC students, Lauren in rising grade 10 and Katherin in rising grade 5.

High School Practical Arts / Art Teacher - Andrea Crozier

We are pleased to welcome Andrea Crozier to our High School Practical Arts program. Before coming to WSOC as our lower school Spanish teacher, Ms. Crozier most recently worked at The Garden City Waldorf School, teaching Fiber Arts to grades 7- 12 and History through Architecture in the high school. She is happy to get back to her "roots" as an art teacher.

Choir Teacher - Lisa Taylor

Lisa Katherine Taylor teaches high school and grades choir. She returned to Southern California in 2020 after nine years in Hawaii where she taught music at Malamalama Waldorf School and K-6th grade in the public schools. She founded and directed Ānuenu Children's Chorus, Ānuenu Glee Club, and a children's musical theater summer camp in collaboration with local performing arts groups. She worked as a music and vocal director on several musical theater productions including "Gypsy" and "Beauty and the Beast" at the Historic Palace Theater in Hilo and "Aladdin Jr." at the University of Hawaii, Hilo. For many years, she performed as a vocalist at Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, and Universal Studios and continues to perform in local community theater. She received a Music Therapy Degree from Chapman University in Orange and has worked with children with special needs for over 20 years.

High School Resource Teacher- Lorri Valenzeula-Mier

Lorri Valenzuela-Mier is the high school resource teacher, a newly-created role. Ms. Valenzuela-Mier holds a BA in research psychology from the University of Colorado, and pursued this area of study in a masters program at California State University, Long Beach. She is a graduate of WSOC's Adult Education program and most recently was the main lesson teacher for the class of 2025. Ms. Valenzuela-Mier and her wife are the parents of three children, all of whom attended WSOC.

Grades & High School Practical Arts / Woodwork - Jack Bryant

Jack Bryant completed his Waldorf Teacher training at WISC in 2000, taking his first teaching assignment at the Santa Fe Waldorf School in New Mexico. Beginning in 2001, Jack has been teaching sculpting and practical arts full time at Highland Hall Waldorf School, where he served as Whole School meeting facilitator for three years and as a member of the governance Leadership Team, College of Teachers, Board of Trustees. During summers, Jack has traveled extensively through China, teaching in many Waldorf Teacher Training courses and is the founder and director of Waldorf Institute for Practical Arts Teacher Training courses in Beijing, Chengdu and Shanghai. Jack is also the founder and director of WPAT, the Waldorf Practical Arts Training program in Los Angeles. Jack brings more than 30 years of practical experience to his teaching, working in the building and construction trades.

Lower School Spanish Teacher - Iris Ortiz

Iris Ortiz was born in Mendoza, Argentina. She holds degrees in Teaching and in Piano and Theory, both from the National University of Cuyo, Argentina. Ms. Ortiz moved to California with her husband and daughter in 1977 and in the next few years had two more children. She began teaching piano as a private teacher and soon discovered Waldorf Education. Iris became the Spanish teacher at Highland Hall Waldorf School in Northridge, LA., where her three children also attended.

For the past 30+ years, Ms. Ortiz has taught Spanish at Waldorf Schools (Highland Hall, Journey, WSOC, and currently at Maple Village). She has also taught Spanish to teachers in LA County as well as Spanish and Music at YMCAs and Montessori schools. She infuses her passion for music in all of her lessons, and is currently teaching Spanish and piano lessons privately.

Ms. Ortiz has 5 grandchildren who are her heart and soul, two of whom are here at WSOC.

Grades 1 - 8 Handwork Teacher - Angie Meier

Beginning this fall, Angie Meier will teach handwork to grades 1 through 8. Previously, she served as the handwork teacher for grades 1 through 6. Ms. Meier has been a fundamental and highly influential part of the WSOC handwork program since 1997, and looks forward to expanding her role on our campus.