

# CIRCLE CHRISTIAN UPPER SCHOOL

## 2018-19 Instructor Bios

### Fundamentals (7<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

#### English 7

**Miss Sarah Bryant** holds a B.A. in English from Rollins College and is a Circle Christian School graduate. She has a passion for imparting a love of writing and literature to middle school students. She is thrilled to be leading students on this exciting journey. Miss Bryant has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

#### English 8

**Miss Sarah Bryant** holds a B.A. in English from Rollins College and is a Circle Christian School graduate. She has a passion for imparting a love of writing and literature to middle school students. She is thrilled to be leading students on this exciting journey. Miss Bryant has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

#### Pre Algebra 7, 8

**Mrs. Nancy Carlson-Greenough** holds a B.S. in Mathematics from Illinois State University. She has been a certified math teacher for over 25 years and has been part of Circle Christian for more than 10 years as a homeschooling parent to her daughters, Abbey and Hannah. Mrs. Carlson-Greenough believes deeply in the parent-directed education model and the way it helps strengthen students in their God given talents and abilities. Knowing that math can give many students, and families anxiety she strives to help build a basis of understanding to eliminate many of these fears and feelings so students can find success. Mrs. Carlson-Greenough taught math with Circle Christian School in the past and most recently has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2017.

#### Algebra I, Honors

**Mrs. Nancy Carlson-Greenough** holds a B.S. in Mathematics from Illinois State University. She has been a certified math teacher for over 25 years and has been part of Circle Christian for more than 10 years as a homeschooling parent to her daughters, Abbey and Hannah. Mrs. Carlson-Greenough believes deeply in the parent-directed education model and the way it helps strengthen students in their God given talents and abilities. Knowing that math can give many students, and families anxiety she strives to help build a basis of understanding to eliminate many of these fears and feelings so students can find success. Mrs. Carlson-Greenough taught math with Circle Christian School in the past and most recently has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2017.

#### Life Science 7

**Ms. Laura Miller** holds a BA in Biology from University of Minnesota with a minor in Fine Art. She has taught over the last 15 years, both art and science classes, as well as had the pleasure of homeschooling her two children with Circle from K-12. Ms. Miller loves the parent-directed education model that CCS provides for its families and students and is very excited to be back teaching at her children's alma mater. With her science and art degrees, Ms. Miller appreciates the complexities and intricacies of God's creation, in awe of our Creator. She enjoys sharing her passion with her students. Her desire is for students to get excited to learn more about Him and the work of His hands from the tiniest single-celled organism to the largest blue whale, from the laws of gravity to the law of nature, as well as to steward and preserve His beautiful creation using their unique, God-given, talents and individual abilities.



### **Physical Science 8, Honors**

**Ms. Laura Miller** holds a BA in Biology from University of Minnesota with a minor in Fine Art. She has taught over the last 15 years, both art and science classes, as well as had the pleasure of homeschooling her two children with Circle from K-12. Ms. Miller loves the parent-directed education model that CCS provides for its families and students and is very excited to be back teaching at her children's alma mater. With her science and art degrees, Ms. Miller appreciates the complexities and intricacies of God's creation, in awe of our Creator. She enjoys sharing her passion with her students. Her desire is for students to get excited to learn more about Him and the work of His hands from the tiniest single-celled organism to the largest blue whale, from the laws of gravity to the law of nature, as well as to steward and preserve His beautiful creation using their unique, God-given, talents and individual abilities.

### **World History 7, Winter Springs Campus**

**Mrs. Michelle Stewart** holds a B.S. in Secondary Education, Social Studies from the University of Oklahoma. In addition to homeschooling her own children for 18 years, Mrs. Stewart's teaching experience includes HOUSE and Foundations Art classes, as well as Fundamentals and High School history classes for the last several years. She is dedicated to teaching a Biblical worldview. Seeing students grow in the grace and the knowledge of Jesus Christ has been her greatest joy. Mrs. Stewart has been teaching in various capacities with Circle Christian School since 2005.

### **World History 7, Winter Park Campus**

**Mrs. Jane Hill** holds a B.A. in Missions and Cross Cultural Studies with a Minor in History from Ouachita Baptist University. She has had the privilege of going on many mission trips spanning the nation from coast to coast and foreign mission trips to Israel, Jordan, Guatemala, Spain, and Morocco. Her current mission has been, by far, the most rewarding: the mission of teaching their four children! She has been homeschooling since 2006. The past 5 years she has been blessed to partner with Circle on her family's homeschool journey. Jane has also had the great joy of teaching with Circle's Foundations program as well as having the great delight of directing Circle's First Stage Players since 2015. Teaching History will give her a unique avenue to pour into Middle School students and encourage them in all that God has for them. Her desire is that they will so clearly be able to see how God, for His own glory, has woven "His-story" through America and throughout the entire World!

### **Civics 8: A History of Freedom, Winter Springs Campus**

**Mrs. Michelle Stewart** holds a B.S. in Secondary Education, Social Studies from the University of Oklahoma. In addition to homeschooling her own children for 18 years, Mrs. Stewart's teaching experience includes HOUSE and Foundations Art classes, as well as Fundamentals and High School history classes for the last several years. She is dedicated to teaching a Biblical worldview. Seeing students grow in the grace and the knowledge of Jesus Christ has been her greatest joy. Mrs. Stewart has been teaching in various capacities with Circle Christian School since 2005.

### **Civics 8: A History of Freedom, Winter Park Campus**

**Mrs. Jane Hill** holds a B.A. in Missions and Cross Cultural Studies with a Minor in History from Ouachita Baptist University. She has had the privilege of going on many mission trips spanning the nation from coast to coast and foreign mission trips to Israel, Jordan, Guatemala, Spain, and Morocco. Her current mission has been, by far, the most rewarding: the mission of teaching their four children! She has been homeschooling since 2006. The past 5 years she has been blessed to partner with Circle on her family's homeschool journey. Jane has also had the great joy of teaching with Circle's Foundations program as well as having the great delight of directing Circle's First Stage Players since 2015. Teaching History will give her a unique avenue to pour into Middle School students and encourage them in all that God has for them. Her desire is that they will so clearly be able to see how God, for His own glory, has woven "His-story" through America and throughout the entire World!

### **Introduction to Culinary 7, 8**

**Mrs. Christine Cheesman** holds a BFA in Arts Education from East Carolina University. She has been teaching students in public, private, and homeschool sectors since 1999. Christine has a love for teaching and a heart for encouraging the unique gifts God has placed in all of us. She loves to watch students break free from fear by creatively thinking outside the box and making bold choices for Jesus. Mrs. Cheesman is currently writing a "whole" foods cookbook that infuses her love of recipe creation, design, clean eating, and fitness. She has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2017.



## **STEM Quest 7, 8**

**Mr. Thomas Cole** is a 2014 graduate of Circle Christian School and is currently attending the University of Central Florida pursuing a degree in education. Mr. Cole believes that the most significant purpose of education is to prepare and instruct young people how to be successful in life and give them the tools to succeed. With a heart and passion for mentoring the next generation in leadership, faith, and life, Mr. Cole incorporates these intrinsic goals into all aspects of study. Teaching from a scientific inquiry methodology, Mr. Cole seeks to inspire young students to enjoy thinking and solving problems. Mr. Cole has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

## **ARTS: Actors Lab**

**Mrs. Danielle Stinespring** is excited to be a part of the Circle Theatre team, as it combines two of her passions: Theatre and Middle/High School Students. With a BFA in Acting from Elon University, Danielle knew God would one day use her talent and passion for acting in a creative way. While at Elon, Danielle became proficient in the craft in both the classroom and on the stage. Having been the Youth Pastor at Acts Two Church for over two years, Danielle is passionate about seeing young people recognize their potential for full, abundant, and effective lives in Jesus! Combining her professional training in a wide range of acting techniques, enthusiasm for the craft, and excitement for encouraging and activating young people, Danielle believes Circle Theatre Program is the perfect fit!

## **ARTS: Circle Studio Players**

**Mr. Jake Theriault** was born and raised in the warming rays of Southern California, with a song in his heart and stars in his eyes. While the song and the stars have yet to be correctly diagnosed as arrhythmia and cataracts, he has continued to pursue his lifelong dream of acting on the silver screen. The director of a number of award-winning short films, Jake came on board as the Studio Players Director in the fall of 2015. From a historical perspective, stepping into the role of Studio Players Director was a natural step in Jake's life, since he was in the inaugural group of Studio Players in the Fall of 2007. Jake hopes to pass on the knowledge and experience that he gained at Circle to the next generation of actors. There's no creative team he'd rather be a part of, unless Warner Brothers decided to team him up with Academy Award-winning cinematographer Roger Deakins to make Jake's science-fiction-magnus-opus *The Hollow Sun*. Then he'd totally be a part of that creative team instead. Mr. Theriault has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

## **ARTS: Songwriting Essentials**

**Miss Sarah Bryant** holds a B.A. in English Literature from Rollins College and is a Circle Christian School graduate. During her time at Rollins, Miss Bryant had her writing published in the Rollins Newspaper, the Rollins Literary Magazine, and was mentored in both creative writing and poetry, in addition to the art of rhetoric. She has a passion for imparting a love of writing and literature to middle school students. In addition to her love for writing, Miss Bryant began songwriting in her early teens. She won the Cocoa Beach Singer-Songwriter contest two years in a row, and shortly after recorded her debut album. While at Rollins, Miss Bryant took one year of intensive music classes, including music theory and songwriting. She has played in numerous bands and duos and is currently part of a band that will begin recording an original demo in 2017. Miss Bryant plays a variety of instruments, but finds that her passions always come back to writing poetry and composing songs. Miss Bryant has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

## **ARTS: 2-Dimensional Studio Art 1**

**Mrs. Elizabeth Quigley** holds a B.S. degree in Interior Design from Florida State University where she was able to discover her artistic ability through various avenues within the design and art industries. She has a heart for encouraging students to find their creative potential within themselves. Her own personal journey has lead her to a new passion for art as a way of worshipping and connecting to our Heavenly Father. She and her husband, Ryan, have been blessed with the opportunity to educate their two children through Circle since 2013. Mrs. Quigley has served as a volunteer in different capacities at Circle as well as taught Kindergarten for the Explorations program. She also teaches the Amazing Artists class for 4th-6th graders.

## **ARTS: 3-Dimensional Studio Art 1**

**Ms. Laura Miller** holds a BA in Biology from University of Minnesota with a minor in Fine Art. She has taught over the last 15 years, both art and science classes, as well as had the pleasure of homeschooling her two children with Circle from K-12. Ms. Miller loves the parent-directed education model that CCS provides for its families and students and is



very excited to be back teaching at her children's alma mater. With her science and art degrees, Ms. Miller appreciates the complexities and intricacies of God's creation, in awe of our Creator. She enjoys sharing her passion with her students.

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# CIRCLE CHRISTIAN UPPER SCHOOL

## 2018-19 Instructor Bios

### High School (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades)

#### **Humanities, American, Honors (Integrated English 1, American History, Bible/Worldview) Winter Springs**

**Mrs. Yvette Carrillo** holds a B.S. in Organizational Leadership from Biola University in California. She has taught to a variety of ages in both private and homeschool environments. A strong believer in a Christ-centered education, her experience includes being a director in a national tutoring organization. She is passionate about teaching integrated studies in history and literature through the exposition of a biblical worldview enabling students to develop critical thinking and synthesize knowledge across disciplines. Mrs. Carrillo and her husband, Mario, have four children ages nine to nineteen. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, camping and exploring the world in adventures with her family. She teaches the American Humanities integrated block at the Winter Springs Campus. Mrs. Carrillo has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2018.

#### **Humanities, American, Honors (Integrated English 1, American History, Bible/Worldview) Winter Park**

**Mrs. Katie Moore** holds a B.S. in English Language Arts Education from the University of Central Florida. She is also a Circle Christian School graduate. Mrs. Moore taught high school and middle school gifted English in Seminole County beginning in 2009. She was honored as Seminole County's Middle School Rookie Teacher of the Year and was a finalist for the Florida Council of Teachers of English (FCTE) Teacher of the Year Award. She loves Jesus, her family, students, and life-long learning. She has a passion to see students understand history and literature all through the lens of a strong biblical worldview. She and her husband Mike, a Worship Pastor, had their first child in April 2015. She teaches the American Humanities integrated block at the Winter Park Campus. Mrs. Moore has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

#### **English 1 Honors**

**Mrs. Tibby Westcott** holds a B.Ed. in English and Education from Chester College, England and a Masters in Education from Morling College in Sydney, Australia. She taught Middle School English in England for five years. For over twenty years, as a missionary with New Tribes Mission in Papua New Guinea, Mrs. Westcott taught English to students from several countries, other missionaries, and PNG nationals for grades 8-12 at Numonobi Christian Academy. Mrs. Westcott wrote NCA's 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade English curriculum. Additionally, she taught the distinguished IGCSE Literature and Language courses from Cambridge University and AP English Literature and Language. She will continue teaching English I and II on both campuses. Mrs. Westcott has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2013.



### **English 2 Honors**

**Mrs. Tibby Westcott** holds a B.Ed. in English and Education from Chester College, England and a Masters in Education from Morling College in Sydney, Australia. She taught Middle School English in England for five years. For over twenty years, as a missionary with New Tribes Mission in Papua New Guinea, Mrs. Westcott taught English to students from several countries, other missionaries, and PNG nationals for grades 8-12 at Numonobi Christian Academy. Mrs. Westcott wrote NCA's 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade English curriculum. Additionally, she taught the distinguished IGCSE Literature and Language courses from Cambridge University and AP English Literature and Language. She will continue teaching English 1 and 2 on both campuses. Mrs. Westcott has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2013.

### **English 3, Honors**

**Mrs. Angela Daniel**, holds a B.A. in English Literature and has completed graduate work in Philosophy with Literature of Antiquity at Rollins College. Diverse educational training in areas such as differentiated instruction, experiential learning, the neuroscience of understanding, and learning in virtual environments gives her a well-rounded approach to incorporating higher order thinking using developmentally-appropriate methods. The belief that every student can learn if given the proper support, techniques, and time allows her to approach students with an unmitigated enthusiasm and optimism. Mrs. Daniel has taught AP, honors, and standard English in public and private sectors, in both live and virtual environments. She will be teaching English 3, 4 Honors with Circle Christian School. Mrs. Daniel has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **English 4, Honors**

**Mrs. Angela Daniel**, holds a B.A. in English Literature and has completed graduate work in Philosophy with Literature of Antiquity at Rollins College. Diverse educational training in areas such as differentiated instruction, experiential learning, the neuroscience of understanding, and learning in virtual environments gives her a well-rounded approach to incorporating higher order thinking using developmentally-appropriate methods. The belief that every student can learn if given the proper support, techniques, and time allows her to approach students with an unmitigated enthusiasm and optimism. Mrs. Daniel has taught AP, honors, and standard English in public and private sectors, in both live and virtual environments. She will be teaching English 3, 4 Honors with Circle Christian School. Mrs. Daniel has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **Dual Enrollment - English Composition 1**

**Mrs. Karen Hussey** holds a B.A. in English, an M.Ed. in English Language Arts Education, and has completed coursework toward her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction. She has taught 8th graders through graduate students and has worked for UCF teaching writing to adults in the workforce. For the past 6 years, Karen has loved homeschooling her children through CCS and happily joined Circle's staff in 2017 as a Curriculum and Instructional Specialist. She will be teaching Dual Enrollment English Composition 1 and 2. Mrs. Hussey has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2018.

### **Dual Enrollment - English Composition 2**

**Mrs. Karen Hussey** holds a B.A. in English, an M.Ed. in English Language Arts Education, and has completed coursework toward her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction. She has taught 8th graders through graduate students and has worked for UCF teaching writing to adults in the workforce. For the past 6 years, Karen has loved homeschooling her children through CCS and happily joined Circle's staff in 2017 as a Curriculum and Instructional Specialist. She will be teaching Dual Enrollment English Composition 1 and 2. Mrs. Hussey has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2018.

### **Algebra 1, Honors**

**Mrs. Nancy Carlson-Greenough** holds a B.S. in Mathematics from Illinois State University. She has been a certified math teacher for over 25 years and has been part of Circle Christian for the past 9 years as a homeschooling parent to her daughters, Abbey and Hannah. Mrs. Carlson-Greenough has previously taught at Circle in the math department and is excited to be back! She believes in the parent-directed education model and believes it helps strengthen students in their God given talents and abilities. Knowing that math can give many students, and families anxiety she strives to help



build a basis of understanding to eliminate many of these fears and feelings so students can find success. She has been teaching at Circle Christian School since 2017.

### **Algebra 2, Honors**

**Mr. Dana Mosely** holds a B.S./M.A. in Math Education from Louisiana State University. Mr. Mosely has broad and deep experience in teaching math from middle school through college. As a sought after developer of math video curriculum he has published math instructional videos for several major textbook companies and co-owns the Chalkdust Company which produces a variety of instructional resources. Known by a generation of students as “Mr. Chalkdust”, he brings a lifelong love of math together with a compelling belief that every student should be confident in math and prepared for the challenges of our STEM focused world. He has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **Geometry, Honors**

**Mr. Dana Mosely** holds a B.S./M.A. in Math Education from Louisiana State University. Mr. Mosely has broad and deep experience in teaching math from middle school through college. As a sought after developer of math video curriculum he has published math instructional videos for several major textbook companies and co-owns the Chalkdust Company which produces a variety of instructional resources. Known by a generation of students as “Mr. Chalkdust”, he brings a lifelong love of math together with a compelling belief that every student should be confident in math and prepared for the challenges of our STEM focused world. He has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **Geometry, Honors**

**Mrs. Melody Washington** spent two years teaching the Orange County Public School’s Chapter One Math Program and ten years in private tutoring in high school and College Algebra prior to teaching at Circle Christian School. She inspires students to think of math in unique ways, embrace STEM inquiries, and encourages all learners to reach for new heights in academic achievement. Mrs. Washington also coaches students in math skills over the summer to increase student proficiencies through Circle’s Summer Math Intensives. Mrs. Washington has taught multiple levels of Math at Circle Christian School since 2003.

### **Math Analysis/Analysis of Functions**

**Mrs. Melody Washington** spent two years teaching the Orange County Public School’s Chapter One Math Program and ten years in private tutoring in high school and College Algebra prior to teaching at Circle Christian School. She inspires students to think of math in unique ways, embrace STEM inquiries, and encourages all learners to reach for new heights in academic achievement. Mrs. Washington also coaches students in math skills over the summer to increase student proficiencies through Circle’s Summer Math Intensives. Mrs. Washington has taught multiple levels of Math at Circle Christian School since 2003.

### **Dual Enrollment - College Algebra**

**Mr. Dana Mosely** holds a B.S./M.A. in Math Education from Louisiana State University. Mr. Mosely has broad and deep experience in teaching math from middle school through college. As a sought after developer of math video curriculum he has published math instructional videos for several major textbook companies and co-owns the Chalkdust Company which produces a variety of instructional resources. Known by a generation of students as “Mr. Chalkdust”, he brings a lifelong love of math together with a compelling belief that every student should be confident in math and prepared for the challenges of our STEM focused world. He has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **Dual Enrollment - Pre Calculus/ Calculus 1**

**Mr. Dana Mosely** holds a B.S./M.A. in Math Education from Louisiana State University. Mr. Mosely has broad and deep experience in teaching math from middle school through college. As a sought after developer of math video curriculum he has published math instructional videos for several major textbook companies and co-owns the Chalkdust Company which produces a variety of instructional resources. Known by a generation of students as “Mr. Chalkdust”, he brings a lifelong love of math together with a compelling belief that every student should be confident in math and prepared for the challenges of our STEM focused world. He has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.



### **Biology, Honors**

**Mrs. Sheri Bond** received her B.S. in Biology from Georgia College & State University in Milledgeville, GA. She conducted medical research for UNC-Chapel Hill Lineberger Cancer Center. Her focus has been on Preventative Health as it relates to education, non-invasive testing, and healthy lifestyle. She worked as an Instructor for the American Red Cross' Workplace Training Program. She specialized in Bloodborne Pathogen Training, AED (Automated External Defibrillator) training, and CPR/First Aid Training. She trained over 1,000 individuals. Mrs. Bond is passionate about igniting a love for science in her students. She loves to reveal our Creator God's master design through science. She is thrilled to be a part of the Circle Team. Mrs. Bond has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2017.

### **Biology, Honors**

**Mrs. Christy Wood** has a B.A. in Environmental Studies and Civic Urbanism from Rollins College in Winter Park, FL. She has worked for local governments in the science fields of biology, limnology (study of lake and stream habitats), ecology, and botany for twenty years before starting her second season of life as a homeschool mom to her two sons. Her purpose statement is to honor God by nurturing and stewarding His creation. Mrs. Wood has a passion for Christ, her family, the environment, ecology, sustainable agriculture, community involvement, the arts, and the wonderment of their interconnectedness. Mrs. Wood also teaches lower school extra-curricular science and is excited to bring the same passion for learning to her Honors Biology students in upper school. She has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2014.

### **Marine Science, Honors**

**Mrs. Christy Wood** has a B.A. in Environmental Studies and Civic Urbanism from Rollins College in Winter Park, FL. She has worked for local governments in the science fields of biology, limnology (study of lake and stream habitats), ecology, and botany for twenty years before starting her second season of life as a homeschool mom to her two sons. Her purpose statement is to honor God by nurturing and stewarding His creation. Mrs. Wood has a passion for Christ, her family, the environment, ecology, sustainable agriculture, community involvement, the arts, and the wonderment of their interconnectedness. Mrs. Wood also teaches lower school extra-curricular science and is excited to bring the same passion for learning to her Honors Marine Science students in upper school. She has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2014.

### **Chemistry 1, Honors**

**Mr. Brian Snyder** holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Messiah College, in PA, in 1988. He also holds a PA Level I Teaching Certificate, which he earned from Messiah College in 1994. He has been teaching high-school Chemistry at Circle since 2006 and previously taught Physical Science and lower school Math. His love for students and his subject matter leaves an impression on his students, and has created many surprised chemistry majors. Mr. Snyder has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2003.

### **Chemistry 2, Honors**

**Mr. Brian Snyder** holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Messiah College, in PA, in 1988. He also holds a PA Level I Teaching Certificate, which he earned from Messiah College in 1994. He has been teaching high-school Chemistry at Circle since 2006 and previously taught Physical Science and lower school Math. His love for students and his subject matter leaves an impression on his students, and has created many surprised chemistry majors. Mr. Snyder has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2003.

### **Dual Enrollment - Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology**

**Dr. Kathleen Nemeč** holds a B.S. in Molecular Microbiology and a Ph.D. in Bio-Molecular Sciences from the University of Central Florida. Having homeschooled her son through Circle many years ago, Dr. Nemeč's deep desire is to empower students to reach their God given potential. "For me science is simply learning about the Creator by studying His Magnificent creation." She has a passion for making difficult subjects feel intuitive by breaking down the parts until understanding takes place and then building on that solid foundation for unending success. Dr. Nemeč has been teaching with Circle since 2014.



### **Physics 1, Honors**

**Dr. Kathleen Nemec** holds a B.S. in Molecular Microbiology and a Ph.D. in Bio-Molecular Sciences from the University of Central Florida. Having homeschooled her son through Circle many years ago, Dr. Nemec's deep desire is to empower students to reach their God given potential. "For me science is simply learning about the Creator by studying His Magnificent creation." She has a passion for making difficult subjects feel intuitive by breaking down the parts until understanding takes place and then building on that solid foundation for unending success. Dr. Nemec has been teaching with Circle since 2014.

### **World History, Honors**

**Mr. Tim Backus** holds a B.A. in Political Science, with post-graduate work in International Relations, from the University of Central Florida. He's also a graduate from the Colson Fellows program, a biblical worldview program developed and led by the late Chuck Colson. He's taught biblical worldview in many environments. He's also written numerous articles and essays on cultural issues from a biblical perspective. Mr. Backus is a former Marine and has taught martial arts and self-defense tactics to the general public, municipality Police and deploying military police personnel for over 35 years. His passion is to defend and instill the truth of God to all he meets, for the glory of Christ. He is excited about unveiling God's story in history with students. Mr. Backus, his wife, Leah, and their son Ethan live in Lake Mary. Mr. Backus has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2016.

### **World History, Honors**

TBD

### **American History, Honors**

**Mr. Michael Simmonds** hold a B.A. in Psychology from Stetson University. He has taught Music and Social Sciences at the secondary level in both public and private schools. For the last several years, Mr. Simmonds has been teaching Worship Band in the Circle Arts Program. Since 1993, Mr. Simmonds has served as the Pastor for Worship, Children, and Families at Covenant Community Church. He also provides corporate leadership training session around the world through MDS Team and Leadership Development. As a second-generation immigrant, Mr. Simmonds is passionate about helping students appreciate the uniqueness and wonder of American History. Mr. Simmonds and his wife Gretchen (CCS Frameworks teacher) educate their three children through Circle Christian School. Mr. Simmonds has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2010.

### **American Government, Honors and Economics, Honors**

**Mr. John Warren** holds a B.S. in Business Management from Bob Jones University and a MBA from The University of West Florida. His delight for teaching developed as an adjunct professor of finance at The University of Central Florida. His most recent delight has come from exploring the Word of God with students in his Bible classes (World Religions & Philosophy; Ethics/Semantics & Logic) at Circle. He brings his love of Jesus, love of students, and his passion for truth to the next generation. Mr. Warren and his wife, Connie, have one child, Sarah (CCS class of 2016), who is currently enrolled in the Honors Program at FSU. He has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **World Religions / Philosophy**

**Mr. John Warren** holds a B.S. in Business Management from Bob Jones University and a MBA from The University of West Florida. His delight for teaching developed as an adjunct professor of finance at The University of Central Florida. His most recent delight has come from exploring the Word of God with students in his Bible classes (World Religions & Philosophy; Ethics/Semantics & Logic) at Circle. He brings his love of Jesus, love of students, and his passion for truth to the next generation. Mr. Warren and his wife, Connie, have one child, Sarah (CCS class of 2016), who is currently enrolled in the Honors Program at FSU. He has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **Computer Programming: Python & Pi**

**Mr. Darrin Patek** holds B.S.E.E/M.S.E.E degrees in Electrical Engineering from the University of California San Diego and the University of Southern California. Mr. Patek has a broad range of experience in both Hardware and Software Engineering from his long career in the Electronics Industry. He holds several patents and has had several of his designs displayed at conferences in his respective industry. In addition, he prepares and presents technical training for other



Engineers and at yearly conferences. Prior to his career, in the Electronics Industry, he served in the U.S. Navy Nuclear Power Field, in both the operation of Nuclear Reactors and an instructor in the Reactor Training Division. He believes in lifelong learning and takes online courses to expand his knowledge in the fast paced and ever growing technology fields. He believes to succeed in your education, or in your career that a strong understanding of the fundamental principles are a necessity. He seeks to instill in his students a strong sense of curiosity and the will to excel as a key part of his classroom instruction. Mr. Patek has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2017.

### **Principles of Engineering**

**Mrs. Carrie Udowychenko, P.E.** holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Florida and is also a registered Professional Engineer for the state of Florida. Mrs. Udowychenko has a passion for STEM education and helping students develop their God-given talents. She has been an engineering mentor for the FIRST Robotics team, Exploding Bacon for the last 3 years and believes that hands-on learning helps students to understand and apply mathematical and scientific principles. Her goal is to help students love learning and develop problem solving skills that can relate not only to math and science but also to life. "My favorite part of teaching is when a student solves his or her own problem, feels that sense of accomplishment, and grows in confidence." Mrs. Udowychenko has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2018.

### **Dual Enrollment Introduction to Web Design & Development**

**Mrs. Annette Franklin** holds a M.A in Internet Marketing from Full Sail University and a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Mass Communications with a minor in Biblical Studies from Biola University. She is a graduate of the Startup Institute in New York City where she specialized in Business Development and Sales. Mrs. Franklin is the Co-Founder of DNA Venture Partners, a boutique firm specializing in growth marketing and customer development. Mrs. Franklin has worked as an executive coach and business consultant for online businesses teams around the globe for the past 7 years. She will be teaching the dual enrollment Introduction to Web Design and Development course. She has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2018.

### **Speech 1 and Debate 1 (Performing Fine Arts)**

**Mrs. Angela Daniel**, holds a B.A. in English Literature and has completed graduate work in Philosophy with Literature of Antiquity at Rollins College. Diverse educational training in areas such as differentiated instruction, experiential learning, the neuroscience of understanding, and learning in virtual environments gives her a well-rounded approach to incorporating higher order thinking using developmentally-appropriate methods. The belief that every student can learn if given the proper support, techniques, and time allows her to approach students with an unmitigated enthusiasm and optimism. Mrs. Daniel has taught AP, honors, and standard English in public and private sectors, in both live and virtual environments. In addition to Speech and Debate, she will be teaching AP Literature and Composition and AP Language and Composition with Circle Christian School. Mrs. Daniel has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **Psychology**

**Mrs. Donnalisa Cornejo** holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from University of Central Florida and an M.B.A. from Golden Gate University in San Francisco, CA. She also has 18 graduate credits in Psychology from Florida State University. She spent 12 years as an officer in the United States Air Force. Her military career included both working on research and development and test and evaluation of various missile systems and teaching Air Force ROTC at the University of Southeastern Louisiana in Lafayette, LA. She is currently in the Air Force Inactive Ready Reserves. She homeschooled her 3 children for 19 years, teaching and participating in several co-ops. She is presently an adjunct in the math department at Daytona State College. She is very excited to begin a new journey, which is an answer to several years of prayer, at Circle Christian School teaching from a Christian worldview a subject she finds fascinating, Psychology. Mrs. Cornejo has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2018.

### **Dual Enrollment Intro To Psychology**

**Mrs. Donnalisa Cornejo** holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from University of Central Florida and an M.B.A. from Golden Gate University in San Francisco, CA. She also has 18 graduate credits in Psychology from Florida State University. She spent 12 years as an officer in the United States Air Force. Her military career included both working on research and development and test and evaluation of various missile systems and teaching Air Force ROTC at the



University of Southeastern Louisiana in Lafayette, LA. She is currently in the Air Force Inactive Ready Reserves. She homeschooled her 3 children for 19 years, teaching and participating in several co-ops. She is presently an adjunct in the math department at Daytona State College. She is very excited to begin a new journey, which is an answer to several years of prayer, at Circle Christian School teaching from a Christian worldview a subject she finds fascinating, Psychology. Mrs. Cornejo has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2018.

### **Leadership: A Strengths Perspective**

**Mrs. Cindy Pilling** holds a degree in Business Management and Marketing. Homeschooling her own children launched her second career: 12 years in curriculum sales during which time she was mentored by master teacher and author, Jessica Hulcy, of KONOS Character Curriculum. She began teaching history in the *Foundations* program, a history-based, integrated program for (at that time) K-12. Mrs. Pilling led the *Foundations* program and authored the program curriculum including history, Bible/church history/worldview, science, visual arts, and performing arts. The heart of her teaching, training, and writing has always been engagement that seeks to employ and expose the strength of the individual student. Her passion is for students and their parents to identify and appreciate their unique personal design and purpose for which they were created in order to pursue their potential with confidence. Mrs. Pilling has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2002.

### **French 1, Honors**

**Bryna Cannon** holds a B.A. in English from the University of Central Florida. She graduated Circle Christian School in 2004 and has been involved in a variety of Circle programs since she returned to teach in 2009: HOUSE, Foundations, Frameworks, Fundamentals, and High School. Though she studied English in college, her love of language is broader than just reading, writing, analyzing literature, and linguistics. During her time at UCF, she discovered her passion for the French language and has immersed herself in it ever since. She is excited to share this beautiful, useful language with her students. In her spare time, she loves working in children's ministry with her husband and fellow CCS graduate, Rob, and spending time with her daughter, Jemma. She has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2009.

### **French 2, Honors**

**Bryna Cannon** holds a B.A. in English from the University of Central Florida. She graduated Circle Christian School in 2004 and has been involved in a variety of Circle programs since she returned to teach in 2009: HOUSE, Foundations, Frameworks, Fundamentals, and High School. Though she studied English in college, her love of language is broader than just reading, writing, analyzing literature, and linguistics. During her time at UCF, she discovered her passion for the French language and has immersed herself in it ever since. She is excited to share this beautiful, useful language with her students. In her spare time, she loves working in children's ministry with her husband and fellow CCS graduate, Rob, and spending time with her daughter, Jemma. She has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2009.

### **French 3, Honors**

**Bryna Cannon** holds a B.A. in English from the University of Central Florida. She graduated Circle Christian School in 2004 and has been involved in a variety of Circle programs since she returned to teach in 2009: HOUSE, Foundations, Frameworks, Fundamentals, and High School. Though she studied English in college, her love of language is broader than just reading, writing, analyzing literature, and linguistics. During her time at UCF, she discovered her passion for the French language and has immersed herself in it ever since. She is excited to share this beautiful, useful language with her students. In her spare time, she loves working in children's ministry with her husband and fellow CCS graduate, Rob, and spending time with her daughter, Jemma. She has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2009.

### **Spanish 1, Honors**

**Mrs. Melissa Herrera** holds a B.A. in Spanish and Elementary Education. With study abroad and missionary experience in Mexico, South America, and the Caribbean, Mrs. Herrera has a heart for Spanish-speaking people and their cultures. She has taught beginning and intermediate Spanish classes to a variety of ages in private, homeschool, and tutoring scenarios and she has also taught at the elementary level for Collier County Public Schools from 1998-2001. Her years in education have afforded her training and experience in a variety of different learning styles, learning techniques, and learning strategies. She strives to provide a rich and comfortable classroom atmosphere where students can learn with confidence. Currently Mrs. Herrera is homeschooling her four children. Mrs. Herrera has been teaching with Circle



Christian School since 2015.

### **Spanish 2, Honors**

**Mrs. Melissa Herrera** holds a B.A. in Spanish and Elementary Education. With study abroad and missionary experience in Mexico, South America, and the Caribbean, Mrs. Herrera has a heart for Spanish-speaking people and their cultures. She has taught beginning and intermediate Spanish classes to a variety of ages in private, homeschool, and tutoring scenarios and she has also taught at the elementary level for Collier County Public Schools from 1998-2001. Her years in education have afforded her training and experience in a variety of different learning styles, learning techniques, and learning strategies. She strives to provide a rich and comfortable classroom atmosphere where students can learn with confidence. Currently Mrs. Herrera is homeschooling her four children. Mrs. Herrera has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **Culinary Arts 1**

**Mrs. Christine Cheesman** holds a BFA in Arts Education from East Carolina University. She has been teaching students in public, private, and homeschool sectors since 1999. Christine has a love for teaching and a heart for encouraging the unique gifts God has placed in all of us. She loves to watch students break free from fear by creatively thinking outside the box and making bold choices for Jesus. Mrs. Cheesman is currently writing a “whole” foods cookbook that infuses her love of recipe creation, design, clean eating, and fitness. She has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2017.

### **Culinary Arts 2**

**Mrs. Christine Cheesman** holds a BFA in Arts Education from East Carolina University. She has been teaching students in public, private, and homeschool sectors since 1999. Christine has a love for teaching and a heart for encouraging the unique gifts God has placed in all of us. She loves to watch students break free from fear by creatively thinking outside the box and making bold choices for Jesus. Mrs. Cheesman is currently writing a “whole” foods cookbook that infuses her love of recipe creation, design, clean eating, and fitness. She has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2017.

### **ARTS: Circle Theatre Company**

**Mrs. Linda Novak** grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. Her love for performing landed her a spot on the Center Stage Dance Team, a top-level dance company in Cleveland. Linda competed there for 10 years, and received training in tap, jazz, ballet, lyrical, and hip hop. She won numerous awards for her groups and solos. She went on to earn a BFA in Musical Theatre from Kent State University. Linda has performed across the country at several professional theatres and has appeared in television shows, most notably *Pan Am*; film (*The English Teacher*), commercials and ads for Disney Water Parks, Beef O’Brady’s, Olive Garden, and many more. She performed at a Kinect: Xbox 360 event in Times Square with Grammy Award winning singer Ne-Yo and English rapper Lady Sovereign. She moved to Orlando in the fall of 2012, and has been performing at SeaWorld and Universal, including shows such as *O’ Wondrous Night* directed by Broadway director B.T. McNicholl, *Bands Brew & BBQ*, *Just for Kids*, *Surprise Squad*, and *Spooktacular*. Linda teaches dance and musical theatre in the Orlando area. She loves being able to share her passion of performing with all ages. Mrs. Novak has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2014.

### **ARTS: Circle Studio Players**

**Mr. Jake Theriault** was born and raised in the warming rays of Southern California, with a song in his heart and stars in his eyes. While the song and the stars have yet to be correctly diagnosed as arrhythmia and cataracts, he has continued to pursue his lifelong dream of acting on the silver screen. The director of a number of award-winning short films, Jake came on board as the Studio Players Director in the Fall of 2015. From a historical perspective, stepping into the role of Studio Players Director was a natural step in Jake’s life, since he was in the inaugural group of Studio Players in the Fall of 2007. Jake hopes to pass on the knowledge and experience that he gained at Circle to the next generation of actors. There’s no creative team he’d rather be a part of, unless Warner Brothers decided to team him up with Academy Award-winning cinematographer Roger Deakins to make Jake’s science-fiction-magnus-opus *The Hollow Sun*. Then he’d totally be a part of that creative team instead. Mr. Theriault has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.



### **ARTS: Songwriting Essentials**

**Miss Sarah Bryant** holds a B.A. in English Literature from Rollins College and is a Circle Christian School graduate. During her time at Rollins, Miss Bryant had her writing published in the Rollins Newspaper, the Rollins Literary Magazine, and was mentored in both creative writing and poetry, in addition to the art of rhetoric. She has a passion for imparting a love of writing and literature to middle school students. In addition to her love for writing, Miss Bryant began songwriting in her early teens. She won the Cocoa Beach Singer-Songwriter contest two years in a row, and shortly after recorded her debut album. While at Rollins, Miss Bryant took one year of intensive music classes, including music theory and songwriting. She has played in numerous bands and duos and is currently part of a band that will begin recording an original demo in 2017. Miss Bryant plays a variety of instruments, but finds that her passions always come back to writing poetry and composing songs. Miss Bryant has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **ARTS: 2-Dimensional Studio Art 1**

**Mrs. Elizabeth Quigley** holds a B.S. degree in Interior Design from Florida State University where she was able to discover her artistic ability through various avenues within the design and art industries. She has a heart for encouraging students to find their creative potential within themselves. Her own personal journey has led her to a new passion for art as a way of worshipping and connecting to our Heavenly Father. She and her husband, Ryan, have been blessed with the opportunity to educate their two children through Circle since 2013. Mrs. Quigley has served as a volunteer in different capacities at Circle as well as taught Kindergarten for the Explorations program. She also teaches the Amazing Artists class for 4th-6th graders. Mrs. Quigley has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.

### **ARTS: 3-Dimensional Studio Art 1**

**Ms. Laura Miller** holds a BA in Biology from University of Minnesota with a minor in Fine Art. She has taught over the last 15 years, both art and science classes, as well as had the pleasure of homeschooling her two children with Circle from K-12. Ms. Miller loves the parent-directed education model that CCS provides for its families and students and is very excited to be back teaching at her children's alma mater. With her science and art degrees, Ms. Miller appreciates the complexities and intricacies of God's creation, in awe of our Creator. She enjoys sharing her passion with her students.

### **ARTS: Acting 1/2**

**Mrs. Linda Novak** grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. Her love for performing landed her a spot on the Center Stage Dance Team, a top-level dance company in Cleveland. Linda competed there for 10 years, and received training in tap, jazz, ballet, lyrical, and hip hop. She won numerous awards for her groups and solos. She went on to earn a BFA in Musical Theatre from Kent State University. Linda has performed across the country at several professional theatres and has appeared in television shows, most notably *Pan Am*; film (*The English Teacher*), commercials and ads for Disney Water Parks, Beef O'Brady's, Olive Garden, and many more. She performed at a Kinect: Xbox 360 event in Times Square with Grammy Award winning singer Ne-Yo and English rapper Lady Sovereign. She moved to Orlando in the fall of 2012, and has been performing at SeaWorld and Universal, including shows such as *O' Wondrous Night* directed by Broadway director B.T. McNicholl, *Bands Brew & BBQ*, *Just for Kids*, *Surprise Squad*, and *Spooktacular*. Linda teaches dance and musical theatre in the Orlando area. She loves being able to share her passion of performing with all ages. Mrs. Novak has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2014.

### **ARTS: Acting 3/4**

**Mrs. Danielle Stinespring** is excited to be a part of the Circle Theatre team, as it combines two of her passions: Theatre and Middle/High School Students. With a BFA in Acting from Elon University, Danielle knew God would one day use her talent and passion for acting in a creative way. While at Elon, Danielle became proficient in the craft in both the classroom and on the stage. Having been the Youth Pastor at Acts Two Church for over two years, Danielle is passionate about seeing young people recognize their potential for full, abundant, and effective lives in Jesus! Combining her professional training in a wide range of acting techniques, enthusiasm for the craft, and excitement for encouraging and activating young people, Danielle believes Circle's Theatre Program is the perfect fit! Mrs. Stinespring has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2015.



## **ARTS: Dance Repertory**

**Mrs. Linda Novak** grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. Her love for performing landed her a spot on Center Stage's Dance Team, a top-level dance company in Cleveland. Linda competed there for 10 years, and received training in tap, jazz, ballet, lyrical, and hip hop. She won numerous awards for her groups and solos. She went on to earn a BFA in Musical Theatre from Kent State University. Linda has performed across the country at several professional theatres and has appeared in television shows, most notably *Pan Am*; film (*The English Teacher*), commercials and ads for Disney Water Parks, Beef O'Brady's, Olive Garden, and many more. She performed at a Kinect: Xbox 360 event in Times Square with Grammy Award winning singer Ne-Yo and English rapper Lady Sovereign. She moved to Orlando in the fall of 2012, and has been performing at SeaWorld and Universal, including shows such as *O' Wondrous Night* directed by Broadway director B.T. McNicholl, *Bands Brew & BBQ*, *Just for Kids*, *Surprise Squad*, and *Spooktacular*. Linda teaches dance and musical theatre in the Orlando area. She loves being able to share her passion of performing with all ages. Mrs. Novak has been teaching at Circle Christian School since 2014.

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## **Non Credit Electives**

### **Summer Math Success for Class Placement**

**Mrs. Nancy Carlson-Greenough** holds a B.S. in Mathematics from Illinois State University. She has been a certified math teacher for over 25 years and has been part of Circle Christian for the past 9 years as a homeschooling parent to her daughters, Abbey and Hannah. Mrs. Carlson-Greenough has previously taught at Circle in the math department and is excited to be back! She believes in the parent-directed education model and believes it helps strengthen students in their God given talents and abilities. Knowing that math can give many students, and families anxiety she strives to help build a basis of understanding to eliminate many of these fears and feelings so students can find success. She has been teaching at Circle Christian School since 2017.

## **Competitive Academic Teams**

### **CyberPatriots Coach**

**Mr. Tom Lyon** holds a Master's degree in computer science from Webster University. He became involved in the Air Force Association's Cyber Patriots program while serving as Information Technology officer for the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) squadron he is part of. While competing with that team he became interested in promoting this experience to Circle Christian School. He looks forward to establishing a Circle team that is capable of securing computer operating systems and knowledgeable of network design fundamentals. During the day he works for Bank of America supporting a large SAP / DB2 environment. He holds a Master's degree in computer science from Webster University. He is a former enlisted naval petty officer and spent six years working on F-14 Tomcats and F-4 Phantoms.

### **Entrepreneurship Coach**

**Mrs. Cindy Pilling** holds a degree in Business Management and Marketing. Homeschooling her own children launched her second career: 12 years in curriculum sales during which time she was mentored by master teacher and author, Jessica Hulcy, of KONOS Character Curriculum. She began teaching history in the *Foundations* program, a history-based, integrated program for (at that time) K-12. Mrs. Pilling led the *Foundations* program and authored the program curriculum including history, Bible/church history/worldview, science, visual arts, and performing arts. The heart of her teaching, training, and writing has always been engagement that seeks to employ and expose the strength of the individual student. Her passion is for students and their parents to identify and appreciate their unique personal design and purpose for which they were created in order to pursue their potential with confidence. Mrs. Pilling has been teaching with Circle Christian School since 2002.

