

**MEET THE  
EDUCATORS**

## **NOUVEL CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

**Gary Rocha** is in his 30<sup>th</sup> year in education. Gary received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Saginaw Valley State University and his Master's in Education from Central Michigan University. He is currently in his 22<sup>nd</sup> year of teaching art at Nouvel Catholic Central High School and his 20<sup>th</sup> year as an adjunct art instructor at SVSU.

His instructional philosophy is centered around getting his students prepared for the next level by challenging them to reach their fullest potential. He believes that his purpose as a teacher goes beyond the teaching of art by responding to the needs of the whole person. Helping students develop the skills necessary to live a balanced and healthy lifestyle through education, the development and appreciation of spirituality and culture and the promotion of personal growth and self-esteem are the pillars of his beliefs as a teacher.

His preferred medium is black and white photography using traditional darkroom processes to create photographs

## **BAY CITY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

**Howard McLean** has a Masters of Teaching and Secondary Ed degree from SVSU. He has been teaching for Bay City Public Schools for 13 years. He own's Kustome Kulture art which specializes in street art and airbrushing.

\*My teaching philosophy is art focused and student centered, incorporating real-world problem-solving skills with a broad range of general knowledge. I try to expose students to as much art as possible in a variety of ways, mediums, and styles. I strive to foster the love of the arts in a meaningful way hoping it will become a lifelong interest in some form.

## **TUSCOLA ISD**

**Bethany Goforth** received her BA in Graphic Design, minor Art from SVSU and her teaching certification through Ferris State University. She teaches Graphic Communications at the Tuscola Technology Center in Caro and has been teaching this course for 15 years after coming out of industry. For her personal artwork colored pencil and graphite are the preferred media and she has her work in galleries on Mackinac Island and in Florida. Her teaching philosophy is that every student has their own style and specialty and that should be nurtured and developed.

## **SASA**

**Sally Giroux** earned a BFA from Calvin College and worked as a graphic artist for 20 years at charitable and arts organizations including Midland Center for the Arts. After the birth of her daughter, Giroux earned Visual Arts Education (LQ) K-12 certification from SVSU in 2008. That same year, Giroux began teaching art for the Saginaw Public School District and in 2010 moved into her current position as 3D Visual Arts Teacher at Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy (SASA). Her students regularly receive Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, and last year her seniors received \$2.5 million in scholarships.

Currently, Giroux's favorite medium is fiber, and in 2013 she began studying advanced weaving techniques at the Flint Institute of Arts with Alice Foster-Stocum. Her work has been most recently featured in the 59th Annual MEA/MAEA Art Acquisitions Purchase Awards, the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum's "Capture a Moment in Time" Photograph Contest, and *Caesura 2020's* online edition.

As for her teaching philosophy, the pandemic has reinforced the importance of the arts in our daily lives. In addition, remote and hybrid learning has required a close examination of what and how she teaches. Often during remote learning when students did not have access to art materials, Giroux would remind them of this quote from Arthur Ashe: “Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what [all!] you can.” Most importantly, Giroux encourages her students to make art that is meaningful to them and to make art every day.

***Lisa (Hopkins) Ewald*** received her Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education, certified in English (BA) 6-12 and Art (LX) 6-12, from Saginaw Valley State University 2006. In 2013, she went on to earn her Master of Arts in Teaching in Secondary Classroom Teaching from Saginaw Valley State University. She currently teaches 2-D Visual Arts at Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy in the Saginaw Public School District. Lisa has taught within the Saginaw Public School District for 13 consecutive years. Her favorite media in visual arts are drawing and photography.

I believe it is the greatest honor to be able to guide another individual in their journey through life, no matter how brief or extensive that guidance may be. Self-expression, whether spoken/written/or visual, is the foundation for all learning and personal growth. I pledge to devote myself to guiding every student I encounter in their own personal journey of self-expression through spoken language, written language, and visual arts.

## HEMLOCK HIGH SCHOOL

***RaeAnn Woodcock*** has been teaching Art for 19 years. She taught Elementary Art for Saginaw Public Schools for 5 years and then was hired by Hemlock Public Schools to teach K-12 Art. This is her 14th year at Hemlock and she is currently teaching 7-12th grade Art. She is the only Art teacher in the district.

She earned a bachelor's degree from Saginaw Valley State University with a double major in Art Education and Graphic Design. She earned her Master's Degree from Central Michigan University with a Master's in Education with an Emphasis in Guidance and Development.

Her preferred art medium is graphite and students. She doesn't get to work on personal art much with two young kids at home, but she helps mold young artists into thriving adults and functioning members of society and finds that medium very satisfying.

Woodcock's teaching philosophy:

"I strive to provide a safe and welcoming environment to learn within, to be open-minded, and to have a positive attitude each day. I have high expectations for my students and work with them individually to achieve all that they can while they are with me. I believe that I owe it to my students to bring love and consistency into my classroom in the hope that I can ultimately inspire and encourage these traits in my students. If my students leave my classroom as better artists in the process of becoming better humans, that is even better."

## **HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL**

**Lindsay Brown** is a Saginaw native in her 17th year of teaching at Heritage High School. In 1998, she earned a BFA in Illustration from the Savannah College of Art & Design and began working in the illustration and graphic design industries. Lindsay received her teaching certificate in K-12 Art Education from SVSU in 2005 and went on to complete a master's in education from the American College of Education and a Master of Arts in Illustration Design from the Savannah College of Art and Design. She has taught a variety of classes over the years at Heritage ranging from introductory level to advanced.

**Danielle Kearney** grew up in the Haslett area and attended Central Michigan University where she received her Bachelor's in Art Education. Her first teaching job took her to Garden City, Kansas where she worked as a high school art teacher and an art adjunct professor at the local community college for five years. During this time, she received her Master's in Art Education from Boston University. She returned to Michigan in 2014 and has been teaching introductory art classes, Art 1 and Drawing, with Heritage High School for the past seven years.

**William "Bill" Chaltraw** is a 2003 SVSU graduate in art education.

## **UNIONVILLE-SEBEWAING AREA HIGH SCHOOL (USA)**

Having first served in the United States Air Force from 1988-1992, **Sean Gallagher** went on to receive his B.A. in Art & History Education from Saginaw Valley State University in 1997, and his M.A. in Humanities from Central Michigan University in 2003. He has worked as a high school art teacher in the Unionville-Sebewaing Area School District since 1998. In the evenings, he can be found teaching pottery at Studio 23 in Bay City. In

addition to teaching, he spends his time as an art consultant and freelance artist. Comfortable using multiple mediums to fuel his imagination, Gallagher can best be described as a diverse artist. These mediums include, but are not limited to clay, paint, pen and ink illustration, chalk, plus sand and snow sculptures.

“Looking past the obvious, close observation and engagement is my process. My goal is to inspire those who see my work to look more carefully at the world around them, and to discover beauty in unusual places.”

<https://www.instagram.com/gallagherart>

## **FREELAND HIGH SCHOOL**

***Tamara Klida*** graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Art Education from Calvin College and Master’s degree in Curriculum Development and Instructional Leadership. I currently teach at Freeland High School and Middle School and this will be my 30th year teaching art. I believe art is an important part of a student's educational experience which is partly teaching skills and self-expression while encouraging creativity and risk-taking. In my personal work, I enjoy painting landscapes and pet portraits using acrylic paints.

## **JOHN GLENN HIGH SCHOOL**

***Amy Schmidt*** is a 2003 SVSU graduate in Education

## **MERRIL HIGH SCHOOL**

***Morgan Good***, earned her Visual Arts Education degree from Saginaw Valley State University. She is in her second year of teaching in a public-school setting. She specialized in ceramics and prefers all 3D media. “I strongly believe that art and creation is a learned skill, and anyone who is willing to learn has what it takes to be a true artist.”