

Welcome New Faculty and Staff

New Faculty

Tonyanna Borkovi '99 is very happy to be returning to UHS for the fourth time, this time teaching biology! Tonyanna previously taught chemistry, biology, and microbiology, as well as the music component of Western Civilization, at UHS. This summer, she taught a Case Studies in Medicine course as part of our Connect.Invent.Design summer enrichment program. She studied human biology and interdisciplinary humanities as an undergraduate at Stanford University and received a medical degree from St. George's, University of London.

Ashley Clarke joins UHS this fall as an English instructor and ninth-grade mentor. Ashley has taught literature and creative writing courses, most recently at the San Francisco Art Institute, and can't wait to share her love for books with the students at UHS. She received a BA and an MA in English from UC Davis and an MFA in fiction writing from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where she especially enjoyed working with high schoolers at the Iowa Young Writers' Studio. Her short stories have appeared, or are forthcoming, in *Five Chapters*, *Kestrel*, and the *Cimarron Review*.

Nefertneken "Nef" Francis joins UHS this fall as a chemistry teacher and ninth-grade mentor. Nef has fifteen years of continuous experience in education, professional development, scholarly leadership, and coaching. She is an award-winning chemistry teacher, an Abbot Scholar, and a former house counselor at Phillips Andover Academy and Choate Rosemary Hall. Her contributions to scholarly research have been recognized in the publications *Acta Crystallographica* and the *Journal of Adolescent Health* in partnership with Columbia Medical School. She received a bachelor's degree in chemistry and mathematics from Swarthmore College and a master's degree in chemistry from Bucknell University.

Christine Huang joins the English Department this fall as an English teacher and ninth-grade mentor. Christine has experience working in public relations, journalism, and the performing arts. Before coming to UHS, she spent two years teaching at the Liberal Arts Institute in Taipei. She received a BA in English from the University of Chicago and an MS in journalism from Northwestern University.

Khaleh Thomas joins UHS this fall as a chemistry teacher. Khaleh is entering her fifth year of teaching, with experience in both public and independent schools. She received a BS in chemistry from Valdosta State University and a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of South Carolina.

New Staff

Derrick Keller joins UHS as receptionist/operations coordinator. Derrick graduated from Biola University, in La Mirada, California, this past May, with a bachelor's degree in English. He is the first in his family to attend and graduate from a four-year university. After graduating from high school, he started working with Breakthrough Sacramento, within the national Breakthrough Collaborative as a teaching fellow in his hometown of Sacramento in 2015 and 2016. He transitioned to Summerbridge San Francisco in 2017 and has returned to Summerbridge every summer since, serving as its administrative intern in 2019.