



August 15, 2023

Dear Wardlaw+Hartridge Community,

At the start of each new school year, we welcome new faculty and staff members to the community. We also share news of new roles to which familiar faces have been assigned over summer months. I am excited to share the following updates with you and ask that you join me in welcoming and congratulating the newest members of the W+H faculty and staff.

New Faculty and Staff

Kelly Coleman, a Wardlaw+Hartridge alumna from the Class of 1998, joins the W+H faculty full-time as the Lower School STEM teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Coleman had served as a substitute teacher in the Lower School during the final trimester of the previous academic year and first worked at the school as a Kindergarten classroom assistant back in 2011. She has many years of teaching experience in various capacities, including in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood district, the Douglass Developmental Disabilities Center of Rutgers University, and Lingo Rainbow of Princeton, in addition to roles with First Children Learning Services and The ARC of Union County. Ms. Coleman earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Applied Behavior Analysis from Georgian Court University.

Lora Dultz joins Wardlaw+Hartridge in the fall of 2023 as a leave replacement nurse after serving as the school's Summer Programs nurse for the past three years. Ms. Dultz has nine years of experience as a school nurse. She previously worked as a critical care and home care registered nurse. She enjoys working with children and her hobbies include outdoor activities and reading.

Chris Flores joined Wardlaw+Hartridge in 2023 as the Director of Auxiliary Programs, where he oversees after school programs, summer programs, and transportation. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Psychology and French from



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the College of the Holy Cross and his Master's degree in Teaching from Boston University. Prior to coming to Wardlaw+Hartridge, he worked with ASA Summerfuel, directing a summer immersion program in France, before moving on to the Berkeley Carroll School, where he served as the Director of Auxiliary Programs for seven years.

Alex Nappi joined W+H in 2023 as Sound Designer for the Upper School's spring production of *Into the Woods* and is now the current Performing Arts Center Manager. In this role, he leads the strategic planning, operations, and maintenance of the Berry Performing Arts Center. He also trains our student technical theatre team in lighting and sound design. Alex is the resident sound mixer for Middlesex County's Plays-in-the-Park. Prior to W+H, Alex enjoyed the privilege of working as an audio engineer at the legendary Magic Shop recording studio in NYC, before its closing. He is certainly no stranger to the theatre as he has experience both on and off the stage as a performer and technical theatre designer throughout the Tri-state area.

Noah Segal joins Wardlaw+Hartridge in 2023 as the Upper School physics teacher. Mr. Segal brings considerable experience teaching physics and advanced mathematics courses. His recent roles include physics teacher and academic advisor at Trinity School in New York and science teacher and academic advisor at Georgetown Day School in Washington, DC. Mr. Segal graduated with honors from Brown University with a degree in chemistry and earned his Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Columbia University Teacher's College.

Schuyler Weiss joins Wardlaw+Hartridge in 2023 as the Upper School maternity leave biology teacher. Mr. Weiss graduated from the University of Miami (FL) with a Bachelor of Marine and Ecosystem Sciences degree. His work experience includes project manager for SGS North America, Inc., lead scientist for Marine Science Camp in New Jersey, and research intern for Shark Research and Conservation Lab in Miami. Mr. Weiss is a PADI Certified Diver.

Dr. Johnathan Wilson joins Wardlaw+Hartridge in 2023 to assume the role of Upper School history teacher. Dr. Wilson previously worked for four years as a lecturer and adjunct instructor in history and American studies at LaSalle University. He has held similar positions at Marywood University, Rowan University, and the University of Scranton. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Bachelor of Arts in History-Political Science at LeTourneau University and Master's and Doctorate degrees in History at Syracuse University.

Iris Wu joins Wardlaw+Hartridge in 2023 as the English Language Learner (ELL) and International Student Support Coordinator. Ms. Wu received a Bachelor of Engineering in Resources Exploration degree from Southwest

Petroleum University in Chengdu and earned her Master of Arts in Foreign Language Education and TESOL from New York University. She is a certified Teacher of Chinese and Teacher of English as a Second Language. Ms. Wu most recently worked as the International Program Coordinator at Ranney School, where she also taught Mandarin and English as a Second Language.

Yandan Zhang joins Wardlaw+Hartridge in 2023 as the Upper School Chinese teacher. Ms. Zhang has taught Chinese and mathematics at various schools in China for the past 12 years. She most recently worked as a Chinese teacher in two local Chinese schools and at Genius Academy in Springfield. Ms. Zhang graduated from Zhejiang University with a Bachelor's degree in Science in 1998.

Familiar Faces, New Places

Kirstin Rogers recently celebrated her 10th year with Wardlaw+Hartridge. She has served ably as Middle School history teacher, grade level coordinator, dean of students, and summer scholars principal. We are excited to welcome her to the role of Interim Middle School Head, assuming leadership for the division after Jennifer Rose's late June departure. Kirstin brings a deep knowledge of the W+H Middle School program of studies and young adolescent development to this new role.

Trina Junod has taught Kindergarten at W+H for the past two years; she is also the proud parent of two W+H Rams in Lower School. Over this summer, Trina supported the Admission Office by giving school tours, interviewing applicants, and reviewing applications. We are pleased to announce that Trina will be stepping into the role of Admission Associate for the 23-24 school year after the summer departure of Ana De Leon, who accepted an August appointment as DEIB Director at an all-girls' independent school in the greater Philadelphia area.

Three Lower School teachers are moving to new grade levels this year. **Jen Molloy** has taught first grade for many years and will be moving to third grade, while **Donna Pedde** moves from third to fourth grade. Both Jen and Donna have taught various elementary grade levels and bring that range of rich teaching experience to their newest grade level assignments. **Ellen Ritz**, who taught sixth grade at W+H for six years, will be returning to sixth grade this year to take over that history and geography curriculum as Kirstin Rogers has moved into her new role leading the Middle School. We are grateful to these three colleagues for their adaptability and partnership going into these grade level changes this year.

Marci Bowman joined the W+H staff as a full-time receptionist and programs assistant over the summer, after a couple of years spent wearing many hats as a part-time employee. She will also be helping facilitate meeting and event

requests in order to streamline the process for all involved. Before coming on board at W+H, Marci's previous careers took her around the world. She started out as a news videographer and producer and more recently was a corporate consultant for clients in the hospitality, finance, and pharmaceutical industries. After those pressure-cooker environments Marci is delighting in the atmosphere of a PreK-12 school!

Marc Spivak, our Director of Technology, has helped to lead school campus safety initiatives for many years. He will now officially wear the additional title of Director of Campus Safety and Security. This summer, Marc introduced a number of significant security enhancements to campus which will support a safe and comfortable learning environment for all.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on campus soon!

Dr. Corinna Crafton
Head of School