

A WORD OR TWO ABOUT OUR KASEP TEACHERS

BINDY BAKER [Gymnastics] is the daughter of our long-time gymnastics teacher, Judy Baker. Bindy is a highly experienced and well trained former gymnast. She has been a gymnastics instructor and a pre-school teacher for over 20 years. Bindy is patient and loves teaching children. Her mom and auntie will join her—both are former gymnasts and have been teaching KASEP gymnastics for nearly 20 years.

SEAN BRODT [Magic the Gathering Card Game, Dungeons and Dragons, Homework Club], supervises our Homework Club. He is also a gamer and wants to share his enthusiasm and skills with both beginning and more advanced gamers.

VICKY BRODT [Cooking, Crafting, Reading, and Sewing] has a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education and has taught preschool for over 15 years. She also received a certificate in Landscape Horticulture and does small-scale landscape projects. She owns a small business called the "Whimsical Rooster" where she sells handmade fabric items. Vicky loves to share her enthusiasm for cooking and crafting with kids of all ages.

ELAINE CHU [Crafty Creations] loves teaching students of all ages. Visual arts and crafts are perfect mediums for expression. Elaine received a B.A. in music at Yale University and a B.F.A. in graphic design at University of the Arts. In addition to teaching at KASEP for over ten years, she has offered in-person and online workshops at SF Center for the Book, Alameda Art Lab, and Minnesota Center for Book Arts. Log onto Instagram @egchu1 to view students' projects as well as Elaine's art. Website: [EGChuHandcrafted.etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com/shop/EGChuHandcrafted)

LEAH FORREST [Introductory American Sign Language] is a Kensington Hilltop Alumni and has been helping kids in Homework Club at KASEP for the past few years. She has a BA degree in Elementary Education and enjoys working with kids of all ages. American Sign Language (ASL) has been a passion of Leah's since elementary school. Since graduating from college, Leah has been taking full immersion ASL classes to complete her AA degree in sign language.

FERNANDO GUTIERREZ [Karate] has been a teacher for over ten years and currently works at the Growing Light Montessori Preschool. He has over five years of teaching experience as a martial arts instructor and specializes in Karate as well as Jujitsu.

LORI HESS [Mindfulness Yoga] is a kids' yoga teacher who has a Master's Degree in Special Education from the University of San Francisco and was certified to teach children's yoga by "It's Yoga Kids". She loves to plant the seeds for a solid foundation and life-long love of yoga by helping children develop strong, flexible, and peaceful bodies and minds. She founded Way to Glow Kids Yoga and has taught yoga to children from toddler through teen.

DOUG MCNEELY [Circus Arts]. Slim the Clown (Doug McNeely) has been performing and teaching Circus Arts for the last 15 years. He has toured the US and Europe, and has taught at many schools and parks and recreation centers.

VERONICA MEDINA-ROSS [Eco Kids, Fun Environmental Science] has been working to protect the environment for 20+ years. She has been a researcher, government official, consultant and teacher. She holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences from University of East Anglia, Norwich (U.K.). Veronica loves to teach students about the environment around them and guide and motivate them to help take care of our Planet.

KIM ROOTS [Tennis], has a degree in Mathematics and Philosophy from the University of California at Santa Cruz. He has been teaching and coaching sports and tennis in our program and in the community for many years. Kim plays and loves chess. He has taught chess class at KASEP in the past.

APRIL SCHLANGER [Fabric Art; Unicorns, Rainbows & Glitter; I Love Animals; You can make it from scratch!] has a broad brush of skills and enthusiasm for working with and teaching young children. She is the owner of Happyfoodwine, which sells, teaches, hosts, and promotes all of the “Happy” things in life: wine, food, crafts, canning, etc.

KARMA SMART [Dance and Fitness] has a passion to share her experience of personal healing and liberation through music and dance. Karma currently teaches dance to adults, teens and children of all ages dance at various community organizations, dance studios, wellness centers, fitness centers and schools, including at BrasArte, also known as the World Dance Center, in Berkeley.

NIKKI SUND [Hula Hooping] is a life long art lover and learner. After she moved from the Midwest to the Bay Area five years ago, her love for the arts blossomed and along came several passion projects. She began hula hooping and shortly after, began teaching as well as performing at shows & festivals. Along with her love for hooping, Nikki owns a small jewelry business and is a singer. Nikki is currently a psychology undergraduate student at SFSU and plans to become an expressive arts therapist to help cultivate joy and healing for others.

SANDY THACKER [Carpentry] has taught carpentry to kids for more than 30 years. Sandy, who has a Master’s Degree in Education from Stanford University, taught high school and middle school, and then worked for several years as a carpenter. She has developed a wonderful and very successful program for teaching woodworking skills to children.