

# KIDS IN DISCOVERY STAFF

## **Tamera Pegg – Director**

Tamera has been director since August of 2010 and was a parent of Kids in Discovery since January 2009 when she and her family moved here from Colorado. Her background includes 15 years in the public school system where she taught primary level. She has taught in Michigan, which is where she grew up and in Colorado where she set down roots after getting married. She has a Language Arts and Child Development major that she earned from Central Michigan University in 1993. She earned her Masters in Teaching in December of 1998 from Marygrove College in Detroit and her Masters in Educational Counseling in 2005 from University of Phoenix in Colorado. She loves children and teaching. She understands the development of children and is an advocate for learning through play and developmental experiences for young children. She has two children, Eva (a graduate of KIDS) and an Emerson (a Pre-K student at KIDS). She loves the history all around Richmond.



## **Mrs. Nettemeyer – Administrative Assistant & 2 year old Assistant Teacher (3 day)**

Bernadette (Berni) Nettemeyer has been with Kids in Discovery for 5 years. She started working as an Office Assistant then moved to the classroom as an Assistant Teacher in the 2½ year old class. This is her 2<sup>nd</sup> year as the Administrative Assistant. She grew up in Roanoke, VA and graduated from Virginia Tech. She married Tony, her high school sweetheart and has two children, Nicolas (6<sup>th</sup> grade) and Natalie (5<sup>th</sup> grade). She enjoys doing things with her family, especially taking short spontaneous trips. She loves the beach, working out, and networking. She also likes doing research and working with computers. Berni is very happy to have the opportunity to be at KIDS and is excited to meet all the new families and see all the returning families!



## **Mrs. Salmon – 2 year old Lead Teacher (3 day)**

Lori Salmon has been with Kids in Discovery Preschool for eight years and is seventh year as the lead teacher in the 2 ½ year program. She was a Special Education teacher in Chesterfield County for 9 years, then in Henrico County for 2 years before taking time off to be with my children. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from Radford University with endorsements in special and regular education. She has been blessed with 3 children; Anna-15, Matt-12 and Cate-10, and has been married for 18 years to my husband John. She loves going to the beach and VA Tech football games with her family! In her free time, she enjoys running, listening to music and working outside (gardening, yard work). She is very fortunate to work at KIDS and build relationships with all the wonderful children and families that are a part of our preschool!





### **Mrs. Munno – 2 year old Lead Teacher (2 day) & 3 year old Lead Teacher (3 day)**

Lisa Munno will be a lead teacher for the 3-day 3 & 4 year old class and lead teacher in the 2 day 2 year old class. Lisa joined KIDS in 2010 as a teacher assistant working with the Pre-K class. She is originally from New Jersey, graduated from Kutztown University in Pennsylvania, and has been in Richmond 14 years. Since 2004 Lisa has been volunteering in her children's schools and has acquired both knowledge and experience by assisting teachers and working with students. Lisa is a member of the PTA and was the Volunteer Coordinator for the past 4 years. Lisa and her husband Tom have 2 sons, Sam (10) and Vincent (7). They enjoy swimming, bowling, and playing board games. Lisa enjoys running, skiing, and playing soccer.



### **Mrs. Meche – 2 year old Assistant Teacher (2 day)**

Elizabeth Meche and her daughter Kaitlyn recently started here at KIDS. Elizabeth is a teacher's assistant for Mrs. Munno and Kaitlyn is in Mrs. Morrissey's three year old class. Elizabeth has two daughters, Victoria 9 and Kaitlyn 3. Her and her family moved here from Louisiana in January so her husband, John, could accept a job at the University of Richmond. In Louisiana, Elizabeth was a Floral Department Manager at a local Winn-Dixie in Baton Rouge. Some of Elizabeth favorite activities are: spending time with her family, going shopping, going to deep run park, going to Belle's Isle, and exploring Virginia. Elizabeth loves all the fun family activities that Virginia has to offer. She recently enrolled into school at VCU for a degree in business. Elizabeth and Kaitlyn are very excited to have some new friends to play with, and new things to learn.



### **Mrs. Simkins – 3 year old Assistant Teacher (3 day)**

Susan Simkins is excited to be at Kids in Discovery! She grew up in New York and completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Richmond. She has a Master of Arts in Teaching degree from Mary Baldwin College. A former middle school teacher in New Kent County, Susan also worked with students at the elementary level in Henrico County and has experience teaching preschool. Susan is married and has a 10 year old son.



### **Mrs. Morrissey – 3 year old Lead Teacher (3 day)**

Karen Morrissey teaches the 3 year old class on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. This is her fifth year at KIDS in Discovery. She began as an aide in the 3 & 4 year old class and worked with the 3 year olds and the 2-1/2's. She spent quite a few years teaching Sunday school classes and working in the church nursery. Mrs. Morrissey is a graduate of VCU with a degree in Mass Communications and worked for several years in the marketing and publishing fields. She has two children, Rachel, a seventh grader at Moody Middle School, and Michael, a fourth grader at Pinchbeck Elementary. Both are graduates of KIDS in Discovery. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, scrapbooking, drawing, running and volunteering at her kids' schools and the Richmond SPCA with her kids.



### **Mrs. Frazier – 3 year old Assistant Teacher (3 day)**

Lisa Frazier joined Kids in Discovery in October of 2011 as a teacher assistant with the 3 day, 3-4 year old class. She graduated from James Madison University and taught elementary school in Hanover County for 8 years. She left teaching to be at home with her 4 girls, Anna-15, Ellie-13, Isabel-10, and Julia-8. She has been married for 19 years to her husband, Scott. In her free time, she enjoys playing tennis, walking her 2 dogs, and watching her children play sports. She is looking forward to working with children in a learning environment again.



### **Mrs. McDearmon – 3 year old Lead Teacher (2 day & 3 day)**

Gretchen McDearmon is the lead teacher for the 3-day, 3 & 4 year old class and the 2-day, 3 year old class. She has taught preschool since 1992, and has been at Kids in Discovery for the past fourteen years. She has worked with young children in a home-care setting and through church. She attended J. Sargeant Reynolds and Longwood College. She and her husband, Norman, have two married daughters, Rachel and Jessica, and a 2-year old grandson, Carter. Gretchen enjoys cooking, traveling with her husband and spending time with her family.



### **Mrs. Glagola – 3 year old Assistant Teacher (2 day)**

Cristy Glagola is so excited to be working at Kids in Discovery! In fact, she has been a "Discovery Mom" for 5 years, as both of her boys attended KIDS. She is a Richmond, VA native and graduated from Meredith College in Raleigh, NC. She taught elementary and middle school for 8 years before becoming a mom. Her family consists of her husband, Mike, who is a chemical engineer consultant, and her two boys, Jack (a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader) and Henry (a kindergartener). They also have a 13 year old cat named Fred. Her favorite things to do are spending time with her family, cooking & baking, going to the beach and going out to eat! She is thrilled to be starting a new year as part of the staff at KIDS and looking forward to a great year with Mrs. McDearmon.



### **Mrs. Thompson – 3 year old Assistant Teacher (3 day)**

Ann Thompson is an assistant teacher for the 3 day 3-4 year old class. She has lived in Richmond most of her life. She is married and has three children, two of whom went to Discovery. She attended Longwood College and was in the healthcare industry for several years until she took time off to stay home with her family. When her twins started kindergarten, she joined the staff at KIDS'. This is her fourth year here and she is happy to be back in the classroom as an assistant teacher to Mrs. McDearmon after serving as the school librarian last year.

### **Mrs. Berrier – Pre-K Lead Teacher (4 day)**

Kristin Berrier is lead teacher in the Froggy Friends' room, one of KIDS' two 4-day Pre-K classes. She has worked at KIDS since 2004, first as librarian and then in the classroom. Kristin grew up in Northwest Indiana and graduated from DePauw University, then came to Richmond in 1994. Before becoming a full-time mom and a preschool teacher, she spent over ten years working in various marketing positions. She is married and has two children, both of whom attended KIDS. Kristin likes to spend time with family, go to the beach, ski and read. Kristin also enjoys helping prepare the Froggy Friends for kindergarten by instilling a love of learning and a sense of fun. Kristin's favorite area to teach to her preschoolers is science. She is looking forward to a great year!



### **Mrs. Meleski – Pre-K Assistant Teacher (4 day)**

Susan Meleski has been with Kids in Discovery for five years. She has spent the last four years working as an Assistant Teacher in the 2 1/2 year old class. Before taking time off to spend with her family, Susan worked at St. Mary's Hospital as an ultrasound technician. Susan and her husband Mark have twin girls, Madisen and Mackenzie. Both are graduates of Kids in Discovery. She feels very fortunate to work at KIDS and getting to know all the wonderful children and families.



### **Mrs. Zampetti – Pre-K Lead Teacher (4 day) & Music Teacher**

Lorrie Rettig Zampetti has been teaching at Kids in Discovery for 12 years. She is a graduate of Ohio University with degrees in music therapy and psychology and is currently working on her MEd. In addition to teaching a pre-K class, using her music therapy background, Lorrie works with all the children at KIDS, as well as special needs children, through music and movement. A mother of four, Lorrie has volunteered her time leading girl scouts and cubs, coaching sports, Battle of the Books, Destination Imagination, and in school drama departments. She has been an active board member of her children's PTA, and served three years on Henrico County's Gifted Advisory Board. A published researcher who has also written for local magazines advocating for children, Lorrie is committed to teaching every parent and child to love to explore, learn, and create.





### **Mrs. Spears – Pre-K Assistant Teacher (4 day)**

Denise Spears is an assistant teacher for the four day prekindergarten children. This will be her fourth year working at Kids in Discovery. She is very blessed to have the opportunity to do something that is so much fun and rewarding. She has a wonderful family, her husband John, a daughter Alexis, a son Nicholas and a cocker spaniel named Jasmine. Her favorite place to be is with her family. They love beach trips, boating, and camping together.



### **Mrs. Deles – Pre-K Lead Teacher (5 day)**

Meredith Deles is in her fifth year with Kids in Discovery Preschool. This will be Meredith's third year teaching the five-day Pre-K class. Meredith brings over 8 years of childcare and teaching experience into her classroom. She earned her degree in Travel and Tourism Management at Johnson and Wales University. Her background in childcare includes Hanover County Parks and Recreation Department, Private Nanny, and Assistant Childcare Director in a childcare center in Atlanta, Georgia. Meredith understands the importance for creating a fun and energetic classroom. She also finds it vital to prepare the children in her classroom with the skills and independence needed for kindergarten. Meredith is married and has two boys.



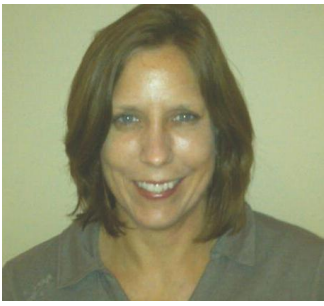
### **Mrs. Carroll – Pre-K Assistant Teacher (5 day)**

Krissy Carroll is an assistant teacher in the five day pre-k class. This is her second year working at Kids in Discovery. She grew up in Richmond and went to Virginia Tech. She has a degree in Family and Child Development and loves working with kids. She has a husband, Jimmy and 2 kids, Kevin (14) and Taylor (12). Kevin loves soccer and Taylor is a cheerleader. She also has a dog named Roxy. Krissy likes taking vacations with her family, going to the beach and skiing. In her free time, she likes working out and shopping. She is also a Premier Designs Jewelry representative.



### **Mrs. Cox – Librarian**

Sharyn Cox joined the Kids in Discovery Preschool staff in 2007 as a lead teacher for the 2-day 3 year old class. She really loves being a part of this great school, especially since her own children attended KIDS and loved it! Sharyn attended Wake Forest University where she earned her B.S. in Mathematical Economics. She quickly realized how much she missed working with children, so she went back to school at Virginia Commonwealth University where she earned her Master of Teaching degree in Early Childhood Education. She then spent 5 great years teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades at Tuckahoe Elementary, before taking a break to stay home full-time with her own children. Sharyn and her husband have two children, Evan (11) and Izzy (8). In her free time Sharyn loves to read, exercise, volunteer and spend time with her family and friends. This year she is looking forward to her new role as the librarian at KIDS. She is excited to get to spend time with so many of our great students!



## **Mrs. Lindsay – Early Morning Drop Off Teacher/Teacher Assistant**

Melissa Lindsay is newly employed at KIDs but no stranger to all the fun. Both of Melissa's children are former graduates of the Discovery program. Besides being a Mom, Melissa enjoys reading and play time with her two dogs. Melissa is married and lives in Glen Allen. Melissa is looking forward to being a contributing staff member at Kids in Discovery Preschool.