

## OUR DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AND GUEST TEACHERS

**Rena Osmer** and **Cynthia Aldinger** are Co-Directors and Pedagogical Lead Teachers and will be teaching in multiple sessions. **Rena** is Founder and Waldorf kindergarten teacher at Sea Star School in Florida, former director of Waldorf Early Childhood Teacher Training at Rudolf Steiner College, and has taught in other Waldorf teacher trainings as well. She is a former Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America board member and a lead teacher in the LifeWays trainings. **Cynthia** is Founder and director of LifeWays North America, founding kindergarten teacher at Prairie Hill Waldorf School in Wisconsin, and also a former Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America board member. She has also taught in other Waldorf teacher trainings and offered workshops and lectures across North America and internationally. Both Cynthia and Rena are champions of playful childhood and delight in being grandmothers!

Two other Pedagogical Leads are Sharifa Oppenheimer and Susan Silverio, and returning as our Student Services Director is our beloved Chinyelu Kunz. Several of you have already had the privilege of experiencing the care and teaching of these outstanding educators.

**Susan Silverio** was the founding teacher of Ashwood Waldorf School in Rockport, Maine, while providing her offsite multi-age kindergarten Spindlewood on her family homestead in a cabin in the woods. It was one of the most beautiful Waldorf Kindergartens and LifeWays sites I have ever visited! Susan was for many years the Director of our Northeast LifeWays Early Childhood Certificate Training and has also mentored many LifeWays students and Waldorf teachers. She holds a B.A. in liberal arts and has worked as a social worker and in providing emergency shelter and transitional housing for women and children. Susan is an organic gardener and beekeeper and enjoys rowing and sailing small craft in all seasons.

**Sharifa Oppenheimer** is a longtime Waldorf Early Childhood Teacher and the author of the bestselling book *Heaven on Earth: A Handbook for Parents of Young Children* and her recent book, *How to Create the Star of Your Family Culture*. She was the founding teacher of the Charlottesville Waldorf School in Virginia, where she taught kindergarten for 21 years. Sharifa has mentored teachers at Sunbridge College and Rudolf Steiner College. The author of many articles on Waldorf education, she also offers a home-based kindergarten program. Her current research is devoted to the ways in which Steiner principles support the latest findings in brain development.

**Chinyelu Kunz**, along with serving as our Student Services Director, will be teaching classes on how best to prepare food for early childhood programs. She is co-author of *Farmhouse Manna: Nourishing Recipes & Rituals for Head, Heart, Hands & Soul*, an exquisitely beautiful book. Chinyelu is lead teacher at Kimberton's Rosebud Garden, a LifeWays Representative site, and has been involved in Waldorf education for nearly 22 years as a mother and early childhood teacher. She holds a BA in Interior Design and a Master's in Architecture as well as having completed the Waldorf Early Childhood Teacher Training at Sunbridge and the LifeWays Early Childhood and Human Development Training.

Here is an inspiring snapshot of some of our **GUEST TEACHERS**:

**Laurie Clark** will be with you the first summer. Many of you know Laurie's therapeutic work and may have heard her speak at various conferences. She is one of the founders of the Nurturing Roots Advanced Therapeutic Course in Denver and co-author of *Movement Journeys and Circle Adventures: Movement Enrichment with a Therapeutic Emphasis for Early Childhood*. Laurie has been a preschool and kindergarten teacher for more than forty years, primarily at the Denver Waldorf School. She is also a teacher trainer and kindergarten mentor.

**Lynn St.Pierre** will come the second summer to offer gesture games for the preschool and kindergarten. These joyful, magical games were created by the late Wilma Ellersiek, and only a few individuals are able, at this time, to teach them with the wonder and delight Ellersiek intended. Lynn presents developmental movement for Waldorf teacher trainings, workshops and conferences in the US, Canada, Europe, South Africa, Ghana, Kenya and India.

**Patricia Rubano** found Waldorf education and Anthroposophy at 21 and has been involved in one way or another for 40 years. Besides her love of the young child, her other love is biography work, and she is now Director of the Biography and Social Art Program in North America. We are honored that Patricia will be deepening the biography work for us during the spring session. Patricia was one of the founders of the Waldorf School of San Diego, also taught for many years at Green Meadow Waldorf School in N.Y., and more recently at Sanderling Waldorf School near San Diego. She serves as mentor and evaluator for Waldorf early childhood teachers around the country.

**Sherry Wildfeuer** is an adult educator and an active member of the Anthroposophical Society and its Agriculture Section. She is the editor of the *Stella Natura* biodynamic planting calendar and is a long-term co-worker in Camphill Village Kimberton Hills. Sherry will be leading the study of Rudolf Steiner's *Theosophy*, bringing years of dedicated study and teaching to the experience.

**Karen Alderfer** is the anthroposophical nurse who brought the home health care classes to our Kimberton Early Childhood Certificate students. Karen returns to the Continuation Program to work more deeply with nutrition and warmth.

We could not be more pleased to welcome back our stellar support teachers from Kimberton Waldorf School. They will be carrying music and movement classes with you, providing beautiful continuity and depth throughout the program:

**Kerry Lee** is a nationally recognized certified Music Therapist and a music teacher, having taught all the grades at Camphill Special School. She has completed several Anthroposophical trainings and uses lyre as a main instrument for therapy, teaching, and professional playing. She has studied Therapeutic Singing with Thomas Adam and recently has been teaching Waldorf teachers in China. Kerry loves nature, gardening, music, animals, travel and life!

**John Holmes** is the Lower School Eurythmy instructor and has been at the school for more than 20 years following 17 years of teaching in England. He received his Diploma in Eurythmy and Therapeutic Eurythmy from the London School of Eurythmy. John has also mentored for us in the LifeWays Early Childhood Certificate Program.

**Gerry LoDolce**, a Class Teacher, has Level Three Spacial Dynamics training and his Remedial Teacher Training Certificate. Gerry received his BA in Elementary Education, Early Secondary Science Education, and Biology from the State University of New York at Cortland, his MA in Liberal Studies from the State University of New York at Stonybrook, and an additional MA in Waldorf Education from Adelphi University.