

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

● Lee Senderowitsch ●

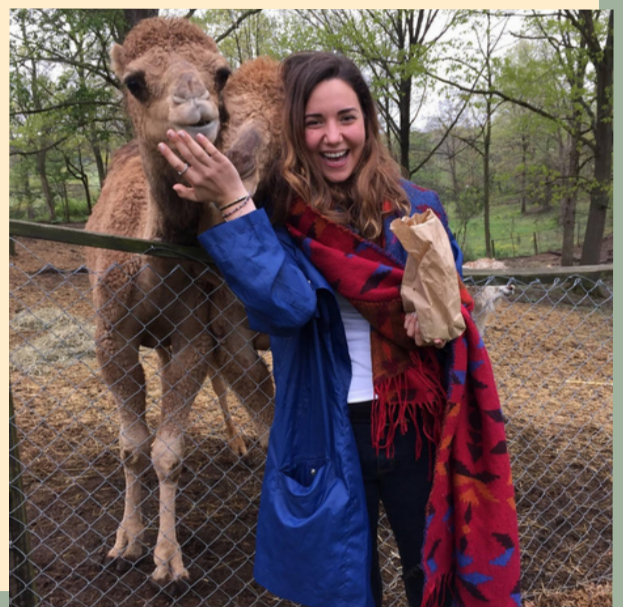
About Lee

Lee Senderowitsch is the Director of TBS Preschool. She joined the Preschool as a lead teacher and Assistant Director and later accepted the Director position. She has dedicated her decade-long professional career to Early Childhood and non-formal Education, starting from her teenage years where she discovered her passion for teaching children. Her multicultural background allows her to easily adapt and assist various communities throughout the world.

Lee was born in a kibbutz in northern Israel to Argentinian parents, fluently speaks Hebrew, Spanish, and English, and carries a strong connection to her roots. In addition to teaching, she pioneered various Jewish youth groups in the east coast, as well as hebrew-learning programs for early childcare centers, supported programs for youth and adults who are neurodivergent and prides herself in being able to assist and serve people of all ages and backgrounds.

Lee recently volunteered to teach English to teenagers in Brazil and ran a learning pod for kindergarteners that could not attend school due to the pandemic, with a focus in play-based learning and enrichment. Her love for children and culture brought her to Santa Fe in November of 2021.

Lee strongly believes in the connection between learning, play, and the environment and is passionately bringing these ideals to life at TBS. In her spare time, she enjoys ceramics, hiking, dancing, cooking, live shows, gardening, and animals. Most of all, she enjoys connecting with people of this land (or passing through like her) and exchanging anecdotes, philosophies, and values.



Ms Lee

SOOSIM TEACHER

- Naomi Shtilman ●

About Naomi

Naomi is the newest member of our team, teaching the eldest class to prepare our children for their next educational steps. She is returning full circle as she began her career in a Preschool. After a decade of practicing as a marriage and family therapist, she is returning to Preschool with a deep understanding of how impactful these early developmental years are from a neurological perspective.

Having practiced solely as a child psychologist for some years, she's joining our team to support our children in developing emotion regulation skills that will support them throughout life.

Naomi will be bringing lots of music into the classroom, as she is an avid dancer of both 5 Rhythms and Ecsatctic dance. During the pandemic, instead of learning how to bake sourdough bread, she learned how to DJ and plays in Santa Fe quite frequently.

A fun fact is that she spent a year in southern India conducting art and dance therapy with children in the bioregion; these non-verbal modalities allowed them to work together without speaking each other's languages!

If you get a chance to speak with Naomi, you'll notice she has an accent and might mistakenly think she is Australian. But she explains that's because an Australian accent is a lazy British accent, and having immigrated from England to live in California; her British accent is now lazy making her sound Australian!

So if your child asks for a glass of "waw-tuh," they mean water! (this has confused parents in the past!)



Ms Naomi

SOOSIM TEACHER

- Lena Quintana ●

About Lena

My name is Lena Quintana and I will teach in Soosim. I have previously worked with children at Santa Fe school for the Arts and science and ran a small equation group called City kids with City of faith. I have also done private tutoring with a local home school group for over five years. I was born in Philadelphia Pennsylvania but adopted and raised in Santa Fe.

My dear friend Leah the Keshet teacher who knew my education background and that I was missing and considering working with young minds again, mentioned to me there was an opportunity at TBS to help grow the minds of tomorrow.

Through my time growing up in Santa Fe I have learned and valued the ability of self experience through many mediums such as writing stories, doing Cosplay and Acting (LARP).

As I was going to College I found myself working at our local paper gaining experience of how the printing processes works, not just for newspapers but for books as well.

I have been teaching myself how to cook delicious food. I enjoy cooking all kinds of new creations and trying new food from around the world.

I have not only a hear for children but animals as well. I currently have a few indoor/outdoor cats at home Yamato, Clyde, Toph, and Chico who are big cuddlers, and a kitten Chieco who I found out in the rain of 2022 whom we have named pigeon.



Ms Lena

KESHET TEACHER

● Diana Ornelas ●

About Diana

I was born and raised in Santa Fe and I graduated from Capital High School in 2018. Since graduating I have been interested in pursuing a degree in Education and have taken some courses for it. In 2021, I accepted a job at TBS as the Lead Teacher in Soosim and worked here for a year. I recently took a break from teaching but I missed everyone and decided to come back and work here again!

During this little break I was able to realize how much I really loved Education and Teaching. I missed working with kids and I knew I wanted to come back to it as soon as I could. I am currently taking classes at SFCC and hope to receive a certificate in Early Childhood so that I can continue to grow and become a great teacher.

I have recently learned that I love to cook and try out new recipes. When I am not working you'll find me at church or hanging out with friends! At church I am apart of the worship team where I enjoy playing piano and singing. I like to be active and I am eagerly waiting for the warmer months to be able to do some of my favorite activities. Some of my favorite activities include going on walks with my dogs, hiking, swimming and playing volleyball!

I am excited to be back with you all!



Ms Diana

DOOBIM TEACHER

● Vanessa Marin ●

About Vanessa

My name is Vanessa Marin I'm a lead teacher at TBS in the Doobim classroom. I was born in Costa Rica but grew up in Minnesota. I started working with kids when I was 17 years old, and I am now 25. I have worked with all different age groups from 6 month olds to 6th graders. I always loved working with kids and being part of seeing them learn and grow.

I have lived in Santa Fe for 3 years. I moved here with my mom who opened up her own studio gallery on canyon road. I have worked at TBS for over a year and have loved every bit of it.

What pulled me to TBS was the opportunity to be a lead and share my experience with the children and be able to shape it along with the philosophy and vision of the school.

On my free time I enjoy spending time with my family, friends, and my puppy Rafi. When able I love to travel and take road trips with my friends around different states. I also love listening to music and you will often catch the Doobim class having dance parties and singing our hearts out.

I am grateful that I am part of this TBS family and enjoy meeting all the amazing kids and families along the way.



Ms Vanessa

DOOBIM TEACHER

● Destiny Jaramillo ●

About Destiny

My name is Destiny Jaramillo I'm an assistant teacher at TBS in the Doobim classroom. I grew up in Santa Fe, and have lived here my whole life. I started working with kids when I was 17 years old, and I'm now 21. I graduated from Capital high school in 2020 and have continued my journey since then in teaching.

My first job working with kids was with the city of Santa Fe for the city Summer Programs. I was inspired by these children to continue my work with teaching and inspiring children to grow and shape who they can someday be. Previously I worked at La Petite Academy.

I now live in Ilfeld, New Mexico (45 minutes outside of Santa Fe) I have learned to love the area. I have a puppy named Summer and enjoy spending time with her when I have free time.

I enjoy spending time with my family and listening to New Mexico music, as my dad has a band and I have been around music my whole life.

Vanessa and I enjoy having singing and dance parties with our kids and seeing the joy it brings to them.

I want to become a photographer and enjoy spending time with friends and taking pictures in my free time. I also work at a gym with kids aged 10 months old to 12 years, I enjoy being able to understand the diversity and ages of all the kids.



Ms Destiny

SHEMESH TEACHER

● Debbie Romero ●

About Debbie

My name is Debbie Romero. I have been blessed with the privilege of being Lead Teacher in Shemesh ("Sunshine") - ages 18 to 24 months.

I previously owned and operated a daycare out of my own home for 38 years. Joining the TBS family gave me the opportunity to continue my life's passion even during early pandemic. I have been a part of the TBS family for 2 years, which marks 40 years in early childhood education. I've cared for and nurtured between 150-160 children.

I love to cook, but in my downtime my favorite hobby is baking and cake decorating. From 1st birthdays to weddings of the very children I cared for and then their children. I guess you might say, "my work in Child Play is a Piece of Cake!!"

My Favorites

Hobby: Baking and cake decorating

"I'm grateful and blessed with the opportunity to continue here at TBS. Thank you for entrusting me with your child's life and being a part of their future. "



Ms Debbie

SHEMESH TEACHER

● Taylor Trujillo ●

About Taylor

Hello Everyone!

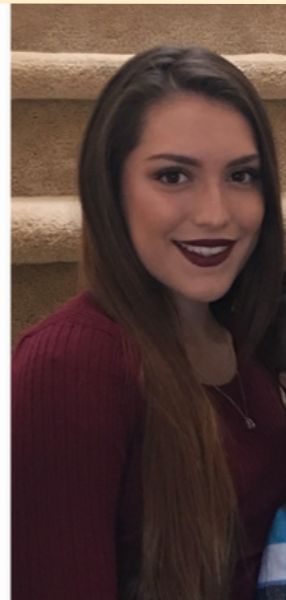
My name is Taylor Trujillo and I am a teacher in the Shemesh classroom.

I am currently enrolled through CNM online working on getting my early childhood degree.

I enjoy teaching the kids at TBS using creative and playful learning techniques.

My Favorites

Hobbies: hiking, traveling, and cooking



Ms Taylor

SUPPORT EDUCATOR/ ART SPECIALIST

● Brenda Linker ●

About Brenda

I was born in Brooklyn, New York, and grew up on Long Island. My husband and I moved to Santa Fe from New Jersey 10 years ago. I have two grown sons, and they and their wives added two more grandchildren to our family for a total of 3. My eldest is now in preschool. I enjoy painting, Knitting and embroidery, as well as and hiking and going to hear live music.

I hold a BFA from Carnegie Mellon University, where I studied graphic design and fine art. Throughout my career as an advertising art director, I have enjoyed bringing my passion for teaching art to children. I have been fortunate to find opportunities to use my skills stepping into art specialist roles teaching in public and private schools. I have developed and run creative arts and crafts classes at Congregation B'nai Israel in Milburn, NJ, Head Start, JCC Metrowest, and The Children's Cultural Arts Center Montessori Children's House in Morristown, NJ. I have attended early childhood teaching classes and workshops to keep up my skills.

What I enjoy most about working at TBS Preschool is that it is a nurturing, inclusive community that supports its teachers and student families, so much so that it feels like we are a family, caring for one another in good and challenging times.

I am thrilled to be able to expand my role here and share my lifelong love of learning and art-making.



Ms Brenda

AFTERCARE TEACHER

● Leo Andreas ●

About Leo

Hello, my name is Leo. I am an Assistant Teacher with Keshet (early 3s to 4 year old classroom). My background is mostly pharmaceuticals in a retail setting and an unfinished bachelors in Social Work (a work in progress!).

I got into early childhood after my son was born in the beginning of the pandemic. I guess staying home with a newborn in quarantine changes your perspective. I started working at TBS because my son Emilio has been at TBS since he was 22 months - it was the best decision I ever made. I truly love working with the kids.

I have learned so much through them not only have they taught me how to be a better teacher but how to be a better parent to Emilio. In the next year or so I hope to finally get back to school and actually finish my degree but might switch to Early Childhood degree instead.

My Favorites

Things to do: Cook, travel, be a couch potato.

"I love cooking for kids. They give me a challenge like no other and it's my chance to get even more creative in the kitchen."



Mr Leo

AFTERCARE TEACHER

● Carrie Katko ●

About Carrie

I moved to Santa Fe at the age of 13. At the time, I wasn't sure where NM was. Now I have lived here 52 years. I love it. This is home. I've been married for 41 years, we have two children and five grandchildren.

I worked at Piñon Elementary for seven years with children who have special needs class and with 1st graders. I have former students walk up to me and say hi or tell me I used to push them on the swing. That's why I love working with children. I love watching kids grow.

Something unique about me - I'm a twin. My sister Cathie is two minutes older than me (and I occasionally let her know :).

My Favorites

Things to do: See my grand kids on the weekend.

Hobby: Working in my yard.

What excites me about

TBS: Being a part of children's development.



Ms Carrie

AFTERCARE TEACHER

● Suad Nahar ●

About Suad

Suad arrived in the US in January 1982 and has lived in East Africa, Europe, and Australia. Suad has absolutely loved traveling since the age of five when she first traveled to Yemen with her father.

Suad has previously worked as a Program Coordinator, as well as a Volunteer and Community Outreach Coordinator for nonprofit organizations like Catholic Charities.

Suad moved to Santa Fe 13 years ago from San Antonio, Texas and is still enchanted everyday with the beauty of the New Mexico landscape and its people!

Suad has received her Early Childhood Development Certificate from Santa Fe Community College.

Suad is a photographer now and hopes to have a show in Santa Fe soon.



Ms. Suad

AFTERCARE TEACHER

● Merrylin LeBlanc ●

About Merrylin

I'm Merrylin LeBlanc, and I provide aftercare for the children at TBS and substitute for teachers at TBS.

I've taught elementary, junior high, high school, and adult classes, the latter on educational issues and astrology.

Most of my teaching experience was in California, in the Bay Area where I got my B.A. and M.S.

During my work on my dissertation for a PhD. I became enthralled with astrology and was invited to come to Santa Fe to teach astrology at a private school, which I did and loved!

I've always enjoyed working with children, and have the opportunity to work with kids at TBS which has been a delight.

It's a joy for me to share and help these little beings and observe their growth.

Fun Facts about Merrylin

- On Saturdays I host an astrology show called Moonrise on KSFR.org (101.1FM)
- I love eating out at Pappu Dosa and Jambo
- I love playing chess on computer



Ms Merrylin