



The Homeschool Experience 2026 Spring Semester

Instructor	Bio	Classes
AJ Eldred	AJ Eldred has been teaching with The Homeschool Experience since 2020. She has degrees in both political science and physics with a background in medical imaging. It goes without saying, she has a wide variety of interests. She loves to share them with her students by offering classes that cover a variety of topics. Whether relaxed or rigorous, artful or scientific, her classes are always fun and informative.	Galaxies & the Universe; Medieval History; Mini Painting; Pyrography I; Pyrography II; Skeletal and Nervous Anatomy; World Building
Andrew Nason	Andrew Nason is a historian, writer, and businessman, the owner and manager of Triangle Walking Tours, and a veteran museum educator. He also possesses professional experience in using 3D modeling software like Blender, digital visualization software like Photoshop, and utilized 3D printing while studying architecture at NC State University.	3D Animation; Economic History and Business; North Carolina History, Digital 3D Modeling and 3D Printing
Angele Coburn	Ms. Angele has taught with The Homeschool Experience for 4 years. As a former public school teacher, she transitioned into the homeschooling world in 2020 and has never looked back. She very much enjoys learning and fostering learning in others. She loves spending time with her spouse and four children. She also loves math, art, music and theater.	Brunch Brunch, Confection Creations, Exploring Science Through Art, Hand Sewing, Retro Recess
Audra Eckes	Audra grew up on Long Island. After earning an MS in Deaf Education, she worked as a Teacher of the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing in NYC, Long Island, and Maryland. She moved to NC in 2007 for her career but wound up becoming a bonus mom to a child who eventually needed to be homeschooled. So, in 2014, a new "teaching"/learning adventure began. Besides learning, Audra's other interests include reading, writing, photography, dog rescue, and spending time with her family.	Beginning ASLs, Cursive, Executive Function in Action: Skills for Real Life; Executive Function Part 2 (Foundation); From Sentences to Paragraphs: Building Strong Writing Foundations; Intermediate/Advanced ASL; Reading Comprehension
Beck Fahey	Dr. Rebecca L. Fahey, PhD, MD, MBA, (Beck) is a curious health detective and integrative coach passionate about connecting the dots in public health, food science, and wellness. As founder of Blooming Lotus in Cary, North Carolina, she blends her background in epidemiology, anatomy, and nutrition with a love for storytelling and evidence-based coaching. Dr. Fahey helps people unlock healthier lifestyles by exploring the science behind food, movement, and mind-body balance. Through her writing and coaching, she inspires others to live well, feel empowered, and embrace the journey toward vibrant health.	Art from Nature: Outdoor Creative Projects, Charcuterie & Health Science: The Art and Science of Food and Wellness; Craft Hour with Tea and Biscuits; Digital Storytelling and Media Literacy; Dissection; Environmental Epidemiology and Community Health Science; Forensic Psychology - Criminal Profiling; Gluten-free baking; Health Coaching Fundamentals for Teenagers; Mind-Body Medicine and Stress Management
Betsey Bradley	Betsey Bradley is the Admin with The Homeschool Experience. She works closely with Stacy with day to day operations. As a dedicated homeschool mom, Betsey embraces the homeschooling journey with enthusiasm and creativity, continually exploring new methods to enhance the learning experience. Her commitment to personalized education is reflected in her advocacy work, where she supports other families in their learner's educational journeys. Betsey has over 20 years of experience working with educators and parents in implementing tools that support neurodiverse learners and promote inclusive education methods. Betsey enjoys spending time with her family, traveling and reading.	The Homeschool Experience Admin
Christina Cass Catton	Christina is the Founder and Artistic Director of Carolina Children's Theatre - Youth Arts Academy in Fuquay Varina. Specializing in Family Theatre, she has produced and directed over 25 plays and musicals with CCT. She is the author of 2 musicals and several full-length plays, director and producer with Broadway and Off Broadway credits. As an actor and singer, she has performed in NYC, Australia and NC. She has worked in Melbourne, Australia as a director and Artistic Director of the Melbourne Writer's Theatre Melbourne 10-10-10. She is a published free-lance writer for Baby Surrey Magazine (UK) and The Indy & Carolina Parent (NC) She is delighted to return to teaching drama classes at THE.	Sketch Dramedy; Teen Improv
Claude Mouton	Claude is an enthusiastic visual arts teacher from Cary NC with a background in all things fiction and fantastical. He has a BFA for animation and comic arts, which allow him to teach drawing techniques and illustrative work with a wider perspective of the visual arts. He's here to show you all the ways you can enjoy drawing, and all you have to do is pick up a pencil to start the adventure.	Cryptozoology Studies; I Love 2D!; Pixel to Page: Drawing for Games!; The Art of Drawing; The Art of MANGA
Dean Duplessis	I've been fencing for 4 years total (3.5yrs Olympic 5 months HEMA) I've always had a passion for fencing and the art around it. I'm excited to teach your kids what I love so much about the sport.	Beginner Single Hand Fencing
Elissa Colon	Elissa Colón has been homeschooling for the past 11 years. She is a former elementary, preschool and ESL teacher and currently works in e-commerce and as a travel agent. With a masters in reading instruction and curriculum and an almost completed doctorate in cognitive brain development, she loves working with young minds and engaging their natural curiosity.	Early Learning Adventures; Ready, Set Learn; Access to Adventure Learning

Grace Danuck	I love solving math mysteries! ie. Equations It's fun to combine unlike things to come up with a new understanding ie. add/subtract fractions with different denominators. I am a game player, so I try to incorporate that in my teaching. I think math is fun and enriching. I am praxis-certified in middle school math. I have taught at THE, and also have tutored from my home in Apex, for over 5 years.	Middle School Math
Greg Corona	Greg Corona has spent over fifteen years teaching as a certified flight instructor, where he developed a passion for helping students master complex concepts through clarity, curiosity, and hands-on learning. For the past four years, he has brought that same energy and precision to the classroom, teaching middle and high school students in grades 6-12 at THE. Greg's wide-ranging interests in science, technology, and history fuel his curiosity about how the world works, and he brings that spirit into every lesson. Whether exploring mathematical patterns, global systems and geography, or the logic behind computers, Greg's goal is to ignite curiosity and inspire students to ask meaningful questions about the systems that shape their world.	It's about time; Marble Logic: They Physics of Thinking Machine; Middle School Geography; The Physics of Flight: An Introduction of Aerodynamics; Algebra I; Algebra II; PreAlgebra
Jack Foxworth	Howdy! My name is Jack Foxworth. I am a costume maker who has an artistic background spanning throughout my life. I have a love for sewing, painting, and clay modeling. I live to create and love sharing my knowledge with those around me.	Sculpting; Talons and Tails; Talons and Tails: Fursuit Head Bases
Jim Mueller	"Science Jim" Mueller has a B.A. from Lake Forest College and an M.S. from Aurora University. He has worked as an environmental educator from 1989 to 1994. The following eight years he worked at a small children's science museum in Carbondale, Illinois, six of those years as the executive director. In 2002, Jim began developing and teaching a Physics curriculum specifically for homeschoolers. As his popularity as a science teacher grew, he began developing and teaching courses in other sciences. He is renowned for his sense of humor and the fun he brings to his classes.	HS Chemistry; MS Earth Science
Lauren Walker	Lauren Walker is a lifelong learner with a passion for nurturing curiosity. No stranger to moving trucks, she bounced around between NC, MD, TN, and KY before selling everything and exploring the East Coast on a family RV adventure. Lauren holds a degree in Psychology and utilized it both in her work as a community employment specialist for adults with disabilities, and a public school paraprofessional for neurodiverse students. She loves to spend her free time adventuring with her family, trying to keep house plants alive, and drinking more coffee than is strictly necessary.	Art in Motion; Chaotic Chemistry
Lydia Wong	Lydia is a volunteer parent who's son has been playing D&D with THE for many years. She is very communicative and enjoys checking in on the groups regularly.	D&D Club
Maddie Carpio	Maddie Carpio is a lively and passionate photographer who loves snapping photos of people and the natural world. She found her love for photography at 13 and quickly jumped into it—leading her school's photography club and heading up yearbook photos. Since she was 9, Maddie has traveled around the U.S., discovering amazing places and animals, which made her fall in love with landscapes and wildlife. Though horses hold a special place in her heart, she loves trying new photography styles and believes that's the best way to grow. Maddie also volunteers as a photographer for Special Olympics North Carolina. In her classes, she creates a fun, supportive space where students can explore, get creative, and find their own unique style.	Moments in the Wild; Say Cheese!
Marissa Rathbun	My name is Marissa Rathbun and I love sharing my passions with others. I live on a small hobby farm and love having my animals with me on my property. I have been riding horses since I was 10 and am currently a specialty rodeo act. I spend a lot of time outside and that has opened up the door for a love of photography, arts and exploring.	Beginner Photography; Custom Toy Repainting; Tumbling I; Tumbling II
Melissa Platero	Melissa Platero is a graduate from the University of North Carolina School of Education with a BS in Middle Grades Education. She enjoys teaching all ages and has homeschooled her own children for 20 years.	Adventure Theatre; Beginning Sewing; Early Math Games, Metal Detecting, Puppet Show Factory; Stem Stories:Space Adventures; Stem Stories: Earth Science; Stem Stories: Nature Explorers; The Magic School Bus Explores Science; Geography; Reader's Theatre
Rachel Pantke	My name is Rachel Pantke. I have been a homeschooling parent for my own two children for over 13 years. This will be my 4th year teaching group classes for others. I love homeschooling and all the unique opportunities that it offers. I strive to keep all of my classes educational, engaging, and FUN! I have experience and special interests in science, elementary math, yoga, cooking, art, geography, and STEM studies. I look forward to being part of your child's learning journey.	Cooking Around the World; Kingdoms of Life: Elementary Animal and Plant Science; LEGO STEM Challenges; Mason Jar Science; STEAM Through Stories
Sarah Akers	Sarah Akers is an educator and creative who has led classes and workshops for homeschoolers and community groups on everything from photography and zines to women's history and mythology. Outside the classroom, she's a film photographer whose work and thoughts on analog photography have been featured on several film-related podcasts. She's also an avid zine maker, an enthusiastic traveler, a reader, and someone who never misses a chance to see her favorite noisy bands in concert.	Cryptid Quest: Exploring the Southeast Through Monsters & Maps; Cryptid Quest: Exploring the Southeast Through Monsters & Maps Light, Shadow, Legacy: Learning Photography from the Greats; Teen Cryptid Quest: Exploring the Southeast Through Monsters, Myths & Maps; THE Zine Project

Sarah Van Hulzen	Sarah went to Dordt University and majored in Spanish Education and English as a secondary language. Her educational passion is engaging students with the Spanish language, culture, and local Spanish speaking community. Since moving from Iowa to North Carolina, she has taught in Wake County and Durham County and managed a coffee shop in downtown Durham. Sarah loves to travel, write, and camp!	Elementary Spanish; Middle School Spanish; High School Spanish I
Savada Gilmore	I'd just like to take a moment to formally introduce myself. I'm Savada J. Gilmore, the Performance Theatre Teacher here at The Homeschool Experience! Here's just a little bit of background about me, for anyone who might be interested!	THE Theater Production
Seema Khan	Originally from Pakistan and raised in California, I now live in North Carolina, though Oregon will always be my soul home. My journey has taken me across the globe—including ten incredible years in the Middle East—and each place has shaped who I am as both a person and a teacher. With a background in curriculum development and science education, I've been homeschooling for over 20 years, walking alongside my children and adapting my teaching to meet their diverse needs and interests. Along the way, I've taught a wide variety of classes in homeschool co-ops—from hands-on science and creative writing to literature, history, and thematic, project-based learning. I love creating engaging, inclusive spaces where students feel seen, inspired, and encouraged to explore. Rooted in flexibility, curiosity, and connection, my approach meets learners where they are and helps them grow into confident, compassionate thinkers. I especially enjoy weaving in hands-on learning, creativity, and critical thinking—often through games, challenges, and playful exploration that make learning active, joyful, and memorable.	Brave Writer; Building Better Brains: A Growth Mindset Workshop; CultureQuest: Games, Geography, and Good Eats; Engineering Adventures; Literary Detective Agency; Rebooting Civilization: The Science of Dr. Stone; Origins: The Story of the Universe; Roots of Revolution; Think Outside the Box: Creative and Critical Thinking Adventures; The Writer's Toolbox: Grammar & Style; World Mythology;
Snapology of Chapel Hill & Holly Springs	Snapology of Chapel Hill & Holly Springs inspires children to explore STEAM through hands-on learning with LEGO® bricks, robotics, and creative building. Our programs help kids develop critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills—all while having fun!	Combat Robot; KinderBot Robotics; Video Game Design
Stacy Lyerly	Stacy graduated with a Special Needs Teacher degree from Lock Haven University in Pennsylvania in 1995 and then moved to North Carolina. She taught in the public school system for over seven years and tutored for many more. When her amazing kids were young, she started The Homeschool Experience on her back porch teaching a Life Science class. The friends and parents asked for more, and THE organically grew to the amazing company it is today with over 150 families, 300+ students, and an array of classes and field trips. She believes kids should be taught (lots of hands-on activities and fun learning) and is a bit obsessed with organization and planning events. She enjoys reading, visiting with friends and families, and baking cookies.	Owner
Stephenie Stevens	Ms. Stephenie loves teaching! Her teaching style could be described as a cross of a Ted Talk and a stand-up comedienne with a sprinkling of TikTok-wannabe. She holds a degree in Literature and one in Genetics. Her teacher comfort zone does not include anything scientific. She aspires to inspire both creative and critical thinking in students, and she recognizes that not all classroom lessons are about the subject. She would like to direct you to her personal website for more info, but it's not finished yet, so you will just have to talk to her.	Great Stories in Graphic Novels; Intro to Poetry Slam; Learning Storytelling from the MCU; Supplemental Elementary Math Topics; V for Vendetta: A Graphic Novel Study; Victorian Gothic Novel;
Tony Pender	An award-winning actor and stage director, he has garnered praise for his performances as King Richard in Richard III, Prospero in The Tempest, and Romeo and Juliet with Evan Rachel Wood as well as his original direction of A Midsummer Night's Dream. His television credits include Windmills of the Gods, Smokey and the Bandit-The Series, and several guest appearances on Matlock. His film acting credits include Ramblin' Rose, Road to Wellville, Twilight Zone-The Lost Episodes, and Radioland Murders. From the beginning of his career, Tony has consistently been involved as a coach and arts educator, developing and working with programs and workshops throughout the southeast including The Growing Theatre of Georgia, Actor's Training Ground, and Applause! Cary Youth Theatre.	Clay Creations; Improv; Woodworking; THE Food Network; Stage Combat; Sword Fighting
Young eun Choi	I am a passionate art educator with over eight years of experience working with children of all ages in variety of learning environments. I hold a Bachelor of Design from Ontario College of Art and Design University. My teaching philosophy is centered on fostering my students' creativity, curiosity, and self-expression through a student-centered approach. I believe that every student is an artist, and I encourage them to discover and develop their individual artistic potential and voice. My classes emphasize experimentation and creativity in order to promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills. I encourage students to think outside the box by providing new and innovative teaching methods, such as collaborating across various art media or other subjects. Working with students is always exciting, inspiring, and enjoyable!	Elementary Art & Design; Upper Elem/Middle School Art & Design; Teen Art & Design;