This is my first year teaching at Mandala, and I am looking forward to experiencing the tight-knit community feel through the learning experience here. Prior to this, I worked as a third and fourth grade teacher in the public school setting at Arcade Elementary, within the Pioneer district. I have worked in different teaching roles over the years, including roles as a general music teacher, and as a Pre-K teacher at a Catholic school in Orchard Park. I also taught UPK through the Ken-Ton district, as well as general music grades Kindergarten-8, at Springville's summer school program for a few years. I also have teaching experience at various daycare settings.

I earned my Spanish and Music Bachelor of Arts degree at SUNY Geneseo, before deciding to pursue a Master's degree in Early Childhood/Childhood Education at SUNY Buffalo State University a few years after.

I have been looking for a way to utilize my various degrees, and beginning my teaching journeys at Mandala and Buffalo Suzuki Strings this year seemed to be the solution! At Buffalo Suzuki Strings, I am teaching violin lessons and early childhood music courses. In addition, I have enjoyed teaching private violin lessons over the past decade to many different ages, and I am also a wedding violinist as well.

Teaching Philosophy

I possess a real passion for education and learning, and believe that every student has the ability and right to learn. It is crucial to always put students' individual needs at the forefront in order to be a successful teacher. I educate not only students' minds, but also their souls, by providing a safe environment in which they may grow in an emotional, cognitive, and social sense. Thus, this is educating the whole child. I strive to foster successful familial-teacher relationships, and include and engage families and others as part of the learning process of my students as well. I believe that the learning process should be meaningful, worthwhile, should build connections to real-life scenarios, and that this process can be best completed with the use of hands-on activities and real experiences. This process should continue to build upon itself and expand into all aspects of life.

There are a plethora of educational goals I will strive to accomplish during my time teaching, and at the forefront is understanding how to implement learning in a manner that is developmentally appropriate and meaningful for all students.

I will provide opportunities for all students, in an equitable manner, and be conscious of this throughout my teaching career. I believe that all children are able to learn, despite the fact that all children are special and unique, and have specific needs. Most of all, I hope to inspire children and others along my way, and leave a positive, loving, and lasting impact within any district I teach in, or any position that requires my educational expertise and background.