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## Meet the NCE Instructors

**Leslie Andrews** is Director of Golf at Nehoiden Golf Club and former Executive Director, LPGA Teaching Professionals.

**Holli Bassin** is a Functional Medicine Health Coach, Author, and Speaker who helps clients reverse their root causes of disease by using education, nutrition and holistic intervention. Before founding Your Food Allergy Coach in 2013, Holli was an accomplished Human Resource professional, respected confidant and adviser to senior executives on strategic issues. She brings those skills to helping her clients cope with the challenges brought on by health concerns. Inspired by her daughter's success overcoming life-threatening food allergies through a desensitization process, in 2015 Holli became a certified Integrative Nutrition Health Coach and in 2017 published her book, *From Anaphylaxis to Buttercream*. She continues to provide support to individuals and families; integrating healthier functional nutrition and lifestyle options into daily lives to enable better choices that have been proven to increase focus, improve energy levels and sleep patterns, reverse chronic health issues, help to decrease food cravings, manage stress, and maintain healthy balance in all areas of life.

**Kristin Bergeron** is a NHS science teacher with a passion for baking and nature. She grew up in a small town in Michigan where she spent most of her time next door at her grandma's house, baking or enjoying the outdoors. While a student at Michigan State University, Kristin worked at the campus bakery where she learned to decorate cakes. Since graduating 12 years ago, Kristin has been teaching science. She bakes for fun and for her family and friends; always looking for new things to try. Kristin cares deeply for nature and our planet and continually searches for ways to maintain our environment.

**Barry Bridgelal** was born and raised until the age of 8 on the island of Trinidad. His family then moved to Boston. His years living in a cosmopolitan city, coupled with his multicultural background, fostered Barry's proclivity for foreign languages. He has studied more than ten different languages! After undergraduate and post graduate studies at Tufts University and King's College, Barry started his teaching career. For the past 13 years, Barry has been teaching all levels of French, Italian and Spanish at area institutes and universities. In the classroom, he strives to show how a new language provides a new vision on life.

**Eddie Bruckner** is a professional artist who creates original acrylic abstract paintings and teaches personalized, in-home art lessons for all ages. He has a BA from Brandeis University, two master's degrees, and is a Grumbacher certified art instructor. His paintings have been exhibited in galleries on Newbury Street in Boston, and in NYC and Providence. Eddie's artwork has been selected for many prestigious juried art shows, including Cambridge Art Association's National Prize Show and Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts Annual Juried Exhibition. For more info, go to [www.EddieBruckner.com](http://www.EddieBruckner.com).

**Cathy Byrd** is a lifelong volunteer in Needham where she has always loved creating projects from nature. Three years ago, looking over her garden she noticed the beautiful leaves from her rhubarb plants and her elephant ear hostas. How could she preserve these leaves? She settled on a cement birdbath formed around these leaves. She has now produced many birdbaths using rhubarb, hosta, and other leaves. Come and enjoy creating your own birdbath using your own leaves or those from Cathy's garden.

**Kim Chorosiewski**, EdD, CSCS, CMAA is an experienced athlete, coach and athletic administrator and educator who has guided student-athletes for over 30 years at all levels and currently assists prospective students in all collegiate sports at McMillan Education, Boston's foremost independent educational consultants in school, college, and graduate school planning. McMillan Education helps families in the Boston area, nationally, and worldwide with independent boarding and day school, college, graduate program, and therapeutic program planning. Kim also has been an Adjunct Professor at Northeastern

University, Ohio University and The College of William & Mary. She served as an Athletic Director and advisor and wore the numerous hats of a boarding school faculty member at The Fay School in Massachusetts and Garrison Forest School in Maryland

**Kelly Condon** teaches English Language Learners at the Sunita Williams Elementary School in Needham. She holds a Masters of Education from Framingham State University and a BA in Spanish and Psychology from Providence College. Kelly has a passion for languages, culture and travel. Follow Kelly on Twitter @kellycondon.

**Nancy Dickinson** is principal of Dickinson Architects in Concord, MA. She is a Registered Architect with over 25 years of experience and has specialized in residential design for the past 20 years.

**Anita Doar** is a former high school English teacher with a BA from Princeton and an MA from Middlebury. On hiatus from the classroom while raising three very young children, she founded and runs WriteUp Coaching, a college and grad school application coaching business, and she also serves as a book club facilitator.

**Bruce Eisenhut** is a long-time cycling enthusiast. He is a founding member of North Shore Cyclists, and is a member and volunteer with Charles River Wheelers. Bruce is a League of American Cyclists Certified Bicycle Safety and Riding Instructor.

**Julie Frost** is the Technology Integration Specialist at the Broadmeadow School in Needham. She is also a mom to two energetic kids and enjoys spending her summers hiking, searching for shells at the beach, and reading.

**Jori Grossack** is an avid bridge player, having earned over 2500 master points. She teaches bridge in many local venues, bringing enthusiasm and fun into the classroom. She is both a committed teacher and student of the game she loves.

**Natalie Guthrie** is a producer at the Needham Channel and television communications teacher at Needham High School. In addition, she freelances as a documentarian/videographer.

**Heather Harris** is a counselor at Needham High School. In addition, she has also founded a non-profit organization in Dublin and has extensive experience travelling, volunteering and facilitating art projects throughout Ireland and Northern Ireland.

**Jane Hirschhorn** is a Boston-area private writing coach with more than 20 years of experience working with students both in her neighborhood and around the world. She has taught English in a variety of public and independent schools, including the Landmark School, a school for students diagnosed with learning challenges. For the past five years, Jane has worked with high school seniors on their college application essays. For more information about Jane, visit her website at [jbhtutoring.com](http://jbhtutoring.com).

**Will Kamp** has a voice you have probably heard on TV and radio. As a successful voice-over artist, actor, and comedy improv performer, Will has done voice work ranging from Honda radio commercials to on-camera work for nationally recognized TV stations. He has also been nominated "Best Comedic Actor."

**Brian Karlsson-Barnes** is an experienced landscape designer who enjoys sharing his passion for plants with others, through his design business and by teaching community education classes. He knows the Arnold Arboretum well, and enjoys leading tours of this beautiful horticultural gem in Jamaica Plain.

**Bernie Keaveney** was raised on a farm in rural western Ireland. She has always possessed an affinity for wonderful food and believes in the farm-to-table approach. Bernie pursued other careers before realizing that the restaurant industry had the pulse she desired. La Morra was where Bernie eventually found her footing. Bernie has received her 'Italian Wine Specialist' qualification from the North American Sommelier Association and her Advanced Certification from The Wine & Spirit Trust. Bernie and Jen carefully select wines from Italian producers who hold similar values and believe in meeting the wine makers and their families to really appreciate their passion.

**Sam Marvin** is a senior instructor at Rob's Guitar School. An active musician for the past 18 years, Sam has been teaching Guitar, Ukulele and Music Theory privately for the past 7 years. He excels at teaching beginner guitar and ukulele to kids and adults. Sam holds a BA in Music from Boston College and a Master's Degree in Ethnomusicology from the University of Chicago.

**Nick Nogueira** is a teacher at Pollard Middle School and has over 10 years of lawn care experience. He loves to share tips on how to grow and maintain a beautiful lawn without hiring expensive professionals.

**Leah Sauter** is a retired nurse who has been volunteering in Needham since her retirement. Being a lover of anything nature, she was very intrigued with co-instructor Cathy Byrd's idea to make leaf bird baths. They have since become a team, perfecting their techniques while embellishing some creations with everything from crystals to ornate beads, polished rocks to fun designs.

**Karen Shapiro** is a Financial Advisor with Progressive Asset Management. She is passionate about empowering investors with the resources necessary for working toward their financial goals, while also aligning their investments with their environmental and social concerns. Karen has an MS from Harvard School of Public Health and BS from Rutgers University. She holds Series 7 and 66 professional registrations. Securities offered through Securities America, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through Securities America Advisors, Inc. Progressive Asset Management and Securities America are separate entities.

**Steffi Shapiro** has both a MSW and is a R.Y.T. (Registered Yoga Teacher), and is the founder and director of The Well Street Station in Watertown. She has combined her background in social work and yoga to work in various settings for over 30 years. She currently teaches at several senior centers and senior facilities in the area. She is a member of both the Mass Yoga Network and national Yoga Alliance, and often presents workshops at national conferences.

**Eric Stutman** is owner of Needham-based *Top Choice College Consulting*, helping families navigate the college admissions process including college lists, financial aid, essays and applications.

**Steven Sulewski** is an award winning designer, art director, and photographer in the advertising industry with 20 years of experience. Photography has been a long-time passion and a favorite aspect of his career. Steven has immersed himself in all kinds photographic pursuits including events, portraits, fine art, macro, and still life in addition to his corporate work. He is also a certified camera club judge, portfolio reviewer for ASMP, and enjoys engaging in photographic dialogue and sharing knowledge with others.

**Jennifer Tuttelman, MS, RD, SNS** is a registered dietitian and school nutrition specialist. She works for the Needham Public Schools' Nutrition Department as the Nutrition Outreach Coordinator, promoting healthy eating for the entire Needham School community. In addition to her passion for healthy food and cooking, Jen has a crafty side. She has made a variety of beaded jewelry over the years, selling her items in boutiques in Florida and the Cape. Jen is always looking for new jewelry pieces to create to keep up with the current styles.

**Laurie Zapalac, Ph.D.** has a background in architectural history, archaeology and urban planning, including time teaching at the graduate level. She enjoys the experiential learning that takes place when groups walk, observe and talk together to understand the forces that shape a particular site or district. As a volunteer for Friends of the Boston HarborWalk, Laurie leads tours of the Lower Mills neighborhood of Dorchester, focusing specifically on the evolution of the Baker Chocolate Factory complex.

**Josh Ziskin** has earned a well-deserved reputation in Greater Boston for his authentic Northern Italian cuisine, which he's served for over 16 years at La Morra in Brookline. Josh spent a year in the Piedmont region of Italy where he cooked at the highly regarded Ristorante Belvedere, and studied the food of Northern Italy. La Morra has been a local favorite since 2003, and a destination for lovers of authentic Italian cuisine. In 2015, Josh and his wife Jen purchased and restored The Sherborn Inn and created Heritage of Sherborn. Josh has brought a seasonal menu inspired by farm fresh local ingredients to Heritage of Sherborn. He focuses on the rich, satisfying flavors of New England in the casual comfort of the Gastro-Pub and creates tasting menus monthly to compliment wine dinners and special events in the elegant fine-dining room. Heritage also has a Coffee, Wine and Provisions Shop, 4 guest rooms, five private dining spaces (including a large wedding venue), an outdoor patio and offers full-service catering.

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