



Luina Greine Farm Teachers

Mrs. Shelly Sullivan – Owner, Lead Classroom Teacher

Mrs. Shelly Sullivan holds graduate degrees in Literacy and in Curriculum Development from Lesley University. Her experience includes twelve years of teaching in public elementary school where she successfully pioneered a mixed age classroom. Shelly then moved to Groton, MA with her husband, John, and their children, Caroline and Patrick. Together they built Luina Greine Farm and have been sharing it with the community in many wonderful, healing and educational capacities. Shelly has a dedication to teaching and is passionate about educating young people. She believes in engaging learners to think both critically and creatively through developing the whole child. Success is most consistently achieved through building a relationship with her students and their families for as long as possible, paired with effective mixed age teaching strategies in an alternative classroom design. This allows the child-parent-teacher relationship to flourish and consequently provides each child an opportunity to discover and develop their own unique identity. Her vision is to grow a diverse community of learners that share common beliefs and attitudes regarding sustainability and farm-to-table healthy living by engaging students in learning, service to others, empathy, and humane treatment for all living things. In her free time, Shelly enjoys sharing her farm, traveling, and the beach!

Mrs. Jourdan Figueroa – Co-Founder, Classroom Teacher

Jourdan is a native of Nashville and began studying for a B.A. in Brazil, where she discovered an interest in teaching English. She completed undergraduate studies at the University of New Hampshire and started her journey in education as a school counselor at The Germaine Lawrence School in Arlington, MA. She spent many years teaching and supporting children with histories of trauma, those with special needs, and speakers of other languages. At Clinton Public Schools, she taught a mixed level ESOL class in which she adopted a student-centered, hands-on learning approach. She created a Business English course curriculum on Child Care and Development and developed a summer English immersion program for young adults to discover culture, local history, volunteer in community projects, and participate in theatre productions in Worcester, MA. Jourdan has been involved in theatre since childhood, and in recent years she has discovered the joy of teaching drama and directing elementary school plays. Currently she is also focusing her energies on nature-based math and science discovery

on the farm, and she is thrilled with the opportunity to teach outdoors where learning becomes meaningful. When Jourdan is not teaching, she enjoys traveling, writing poetry, hiking, and studying.

Mrs. Emily West - Spanish Teacher

Emily West has a bachelor's degree in Spanish and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from Brigham Young University and a master's degree in Secondary Teaching and Curriculum from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. As part of her education, Emily lived in Spain and the Philippines. Emily has been teaching Spanish for more than 12 years at Hingham High School and Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School. She left full-time teaching to start her family and is excited to teach the Spanish language and culture at the farm school. Emily also works with AFS Intercultural Programs and the Centers for Cultural Interchange to bring exchange students from around the world to schools in Massachusetts. In her free time, she loves to cook and work with a variety of community youth programs.

Dr. Kate Chadbourne - Celtic Studies

Dr. Kate Chadbourne holds a doctorate in Celtic Studies from Harvard University where she teaches courses in Irish language and folklore. A harper, singer, and storyteller, she is also a busy and well-known performer at New England libraries, museums, and schools. She teaches music and writing through her private arts school, The Bardic Academy. Kate is excited to share traditions, stories, songs, and customs with the students at Luina Greine Farm School, to celebrate the seasons on the farm, and to make magic together!

Ms. Jordan Oram - Music Teacher

Jordan is a Music Teacher originally from Houston Texas. She received her bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and her master's degree in Opera Performance from New England Conservatory in Boston. At NEC she studied under the Grammy award winning Metropolitan Opera Star, Jane Eaglen. Ms. Oram has had the pleasure of performing as a soloist with the Houston Symphony, and was named the winner of Houston's young artist competition in 2012. During her studies she helped with the running of the Louisiana State A Cappella Choir and was an ambassador for the LSU music program. Most recently she has been teaching at the Goddard School in Westford, has previously worked as a Worship Director at Hope Community Church in Marlboro, and has taught private voice.

Erin Jade - Art in Nature & Movement Teacher

Erin has a degree in art and considers creativity in its many forms to be a core value in her life and work. In addition to writing and making music, teaching and movement have been a mainstay in her life since childhood. She has been offering yoga and movement instruction as well as manual therapy to a wide range of ages and abilities since 2004. Teaching a large spectrum of abilities and needs over the years has shaped her ability to adapt, invent, and continually seek the best methods to use with her students. She believes that class content should translate to functional skills applicable to everyday life. She encourages individuals to become and remain strong, mobile, present, balanced, and confident, and to participate in a

variety of activities. In 2014, following the birth of her son and delving into modern postural yoga history, she was compelled to pivot away from traditional yoga toward interdisciplinary movement and the burgeoning field of applied neuroscience, rekindling her long-standing love of the brain. She considers it vital to assess and improve the way our nervous system functions because movement output quality and quantity hinges upon how we absorb and process information in the brain. Using vision and vestibular training, her classes incorporate breathing, joint mobilization, dynamic balance, foot mobility, active stretching, stabilization, coordination, floor work and deliberate rest. She frequently utilizes resistance bands, blankets, socks and balls for both brain-enhancement, play, and therapy.