Welcome to Good Shepherd Creative Play



"Children are born musicians, dancers, artists and storytellers and the opportunities for healthy development are endless. We just have to provide the canvas, the paper, the paints, the materials and the welcoming environment, setting the stage for creativity, learning and fun."

Renee Bucci – <u>Director</u>: Renee is entering her 20th year working at Creative Play but as a parent has been involved with the program for 26 years as her three children were all educated through the program. Renee has taught Mommy & Me classes, Toddler classes as well as the 3 year old children before stepping in as assistant director in 2013 followed by the Director position in 2020. Renee has organized and directed the summer camp for the past 13 years as well. Renee has a passion for the program and looks forward to continuing her service to her community this year.

Angela Carle – Assistant Director: Angela first joined Creative Play as a parent and began doing "work-for-pay" to help those families that could not fulfill their responsibilities in the classroom. In 2011 Angela became an aide in our Kindergarten Enrichment class before transitioning into the UPK classroom as an Aide. In 2018 Angela joined us in the office as an office admin and is taking on the challenging role as Assistant Director this year. We are happy to have her help lead our program. Angela has a beautiful relaxed manner that puts a smile on everyone's face!

Kim Arcidiacono – Office Assistant: Kim has been an active participant on Creative Play's Executive Board leading programs and as an energetic helping parent in the classrooms. Kim joined our team in the Creative Play office as an assistant office administrator in 2020. Kim has proven to be an invaluable asset to the program, the staff and our families. Kim is a constant support for both the school as well as the Church; she connects the two programs beautifully.

Donna McDonagh – <u>4 year old Teacher:</u> Donna has been a part of Creative Play for over 20 years. Donna has taught in almost every classroom at Creative Play from 2 year olds to 4 year olds as well as spent some time working as an office assistant. Donna is well versed in all things Creative Play. You know you are passing Donnas' class when you hear laughter; she has as much fun as the children! Donnas' dedication to Creative Play has rewarded many families that experienced time in her class!

Cathryn Rosas – <u>UPK Aide:</u> Cathy has been working for Creative play as an aide since 2008. Prior to taking on the Aide position she was a helping parent in the classroom and a parent of a student. Cathy has been involved with our UPK classes basically from the inception. Cathy helps keep a classroom organized, running smoothly and brings a fun, enthusiastic approach to learning with her into any classroom she walks into! Cathy also assists in running our summer camp program.

Kristen Scott – <u>UPK Teacher:</u> Creative Play is very fortunate to have had Kristen join our program in 2015. With three little ones at home Kristen is not just a good teacher, she is wonderful in understanding the family's needs. Kristen teaches both the morning and afternoon UPK classes, so it is a full day of four year olds and amazingly she begins and ends her days with a smile. When she opens her classroom door, you will always hear "we had a great day"! Kristen also teaches in our Summer Camp program.

Bridget Quinn – 4 year old Teacher's Aide & Creative Creations Teacher: Bridget is someone that is always willingly to lend a hand and wants to share her passion for early education in every capacity she is given the opportunity. Bridget has worked as a work-for-pay parent, has been a parent of a student, has worked as an aide since 2016, she has been a substitute teacher for multiple classes, developed a curriculum for and led Creative Creation classes which we hope to run once again this year. To add to her every growing resume, Bridget led the 4-year-olds this summer in camp!

Kristen Hanifin – 4-year-old Teacher: Kristen became a part of the Creative Play staff in 2017, although this will be Kristen's 7th year teaching at Creative Play, it feels as though she has been a constant with our program. Kristen has an ease about her that makes all who is around her, the staff, parents, children feel comfortable. Kristen creates a classroom that is so welcoming; we have a hard time getting the parents to separate ©

Karen Sack – <u>UPK Teacher:</u> Karen will begin her 7th year teaching a morning UPK class here at Creative Play but has many years of UPK experience prior to joining us. We were fortunate to have Karen join our team and share all her knowledge with not only the children and their families but with the staff as well. Karen finds a balance of leadership and child like wonder in her classroom that makes us all smile!

Donna Scanlon − <u>3 year old Teacher and Teacher's Aide:</u> I hear Donnas' chuckle when I look at her photo [©] Donna has a laugh that is contagious and welcomed each day. Donna has been a presence in Creative Play for years; she took on the role as a Toddler teacher in 2017 and added 3 year old classes in 2019. Donna has created a loving warm atmosphere to welcome our littlest members. Donna is imaginative and creative in what she brings to a classroom, always a constant support! Donna also co-teaches Creative Creation classes, and she directed the 3 year olds during this past summer camp, she is a busy woman!

Brooque Moolick – 3 year old Teacher: Brooque is another individual that refused to graduate from Creative Play; she barely let her 3 children leave the program! Brooque joined our staff in 2018 as a Toddler teacher and the following year became a three year old teacher. As we all know patience and understanding is much needed in a 3 year old classroom and with Brooque leading the way the children receive just that. She is amazing at following their needs and wants ~ she is known for "changing it up"! If you need a laugh or a happy moment, take a peek into her classroom and you are sure to smile!

Annmarie Moffatt – <u>Teacher's Aide:</u> Annmarie joined the Creative Play staff in 2019, with a background in business and lots of mommy experience; Annmarie has shown what an asset she has been to the children, her lead teacher and the administration of our program. Annmarie has a beautiful gentle way of navigating the children with their tasks and sparks interests from the children as she presents materials and concepts to them in the most engaging manner.

Jennifer Farrell – 3 year old and Toddler Teacher: Jen's oldest daughter was graduating Creative Play and we quickly asked for her to join our program as her youngest started in our 3 year old classes. We saw the love and warmth and once again the fabulous sense of humor that is needed to run a successful classroom in Jen. We were also pleased to know about her background in teaching early education. Jen began teaching toddler classes in 2019. We are excited for her return knowing how lucky the children will be to enjoy all the experience Mrs. Farrell brings to her students.

Laura McEvoy – 3-year-old Teacher: This is Laura's third year teaching the 3-year-old students! Laura comes to us with teaching experience in a pre-school setting and even more significant she comes to us with a great amount of "mom experience". Laura is the mother of four children who keep her busy, grounded and loved! Laura will bring all her knowledge, care and support that she shares at home to *your* children. Laura decided to join us during the challenging times four years ago as an aide in a 5 day 4-year-old class, this expresses how much she truly cares, and we thank her!

Alice Tom – <u>Toddler Teacher:</u> Alice joined Creative Play in 2020, yes that is correct, while so many were leaving schools Alice came charging in to her classroom greeting our youngest members with great care and compassion as well as high energy. You certainly need a good sense of humor while teaching 2 year olds and Alice's laughter can be heard down the hallway! Alice has 5 children who enjoyed the Creative Play experience so we feel as though Alice has been a staff member for the past 15 years.

Samantha Delgardio – <u>Teacher's Aide:</u> Samantha's children came through Creative Play's program, and we watched how this mom caringly gravitated to all the children in the classroom. Samantha began doing "work-for-pay" in other classrooms and enjoyed the experience so much that she decided to become a part of our staff last year. Samantha happily engages with the children that may be having a more difficulty time in and outside the classroom; she is always supportive with an extra hug, tissue, kind word, and laugh for the children that brings a much-needed comfort to them.

Rebecca Rock – <u>Teacher's Aide:</u> Rebecca's son joined Creative Play in 2019 and we were thrilled to have Rebecca and her husband join the Creative Play family. Rebecca showed such knowledge and kindness immediately to all the children of Creative Play when she worked in our classrooms. This past year, Rebecca began working for pay consistently jumping in as soon as we called, to our happiness a placement was needed that fits Rebecca's generous spirit perfectly for this school year.

Cassandra Rosas – <u>Teacher's Aide:</u> Cassandra begins this year with us as a 3-year-old teacher's aide. We are thrilled to have Casandra join our Creative Play team. Cassandra has been a part of Creative Play, supporting summer camp since 2012. Cassandra also has been called in a pinch many times to cover parent's positions as a work for pay staffer. Casandra has had multiple experiences with toddlers and early education aged children including an umpteen number of childcare families as well as navigating a children's center in a popular local gym. The children are fortunate to share time with Cassandra, they will certainly benefit from the experience she shares.