

Directory of Teacher Certification Candidates 2025–2026

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Jordan Amari Anderson

E-mail: godsgirl915@gmail.com

My career aim is to become a skilled teacher who uplifts her students to become the best versions of themselves. I eventually would like to pursue a career in school psychology.

Education Information

Andrews University 2021-2025: Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education Midland Adventist Academy 2021, with highest honors.

Content Areas

N/A

Certification

CPR/ First Aid
Online Social-Emotional Learning Michigan Virtual Professional Learning Portal
(2024)

Trauma-Informed Care Safety Unit

STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Ruth Murdoch Elementary School – Fall 2025 (1st grade)

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- I taught in daycare during the summer from 2022-2024. In the summer of 2024, I taught 3-year-olds. We worked on number, color, and shape recognition. We also worked on name recognition. However, Social Emotional Learning was the overarching lesson taught every day in everything we did.
- In the fall of 2023, I was a student missionary in Palau. I taught 2nd-4th grade math to a total of 115 students. I loved my time in the classroom with them. I used music for transitional times and even during lessons.

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

I have been summer camp counselor, as well as a babysitter for children from ages 1-12.

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

- I am a creative. I love to sing and incorporate music into my teaching style. I also love creative writing, whether it's a short story, a children's story, or songs.
- My other skills include: leadership, professionalism, communication, time management, and attention to detail.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

I volunteer in the community with my church from time to time.

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Worship pastor at Berean Transformation Center in South Bend, Indiana.
- Student dean for Lamson Hall at Andrews University.

AWARDS AND HONORS:

- Caring Heart Award (2021)
- Leadership Award New Life Fellowship (2023)

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Andrews University: Meier Hall Student Dean (October 2024 Present)
- Special Beginnings Daycare (Seasonal Worker) Teacher's Assistant/ Lead Teacher (June 2021 - August 2024)
- Andrews University: Lamson Hall Residential Assistant (August 2022 May 2023)
- The Crayon Box Daycare Teacher's Aid (August 2021 December 2022)
- Camp Heritage, Ozarks, MO Girls' Counselor/ Crafts' Coordinator (June 2021- July 2021)

PERSONAL STATEMENT

My mission is to love the whole child in a way that makes them believe in themselves and points them to Christ.

Keira Lindsay Hodgins

E-mail: khodgins13@gmail.com

My career aim is to become a skilled and respected teacher who upholds high standards for not only my students, but myself as well. I wish to make a difference to at least one student at the high school level.

Education Information

Andrews University: BA in History; BA in Secondary Education; Minor in Fitness Education

Content Areas

History; Fitness Education

Certification

State of Michigan

STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Coloma High School

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Intern at Sandy Lake Academy and Kingsway College

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

- Pathfinder Instructor
- Sabbath School Teacher
- Counselor and Area Director at Summer Camp

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

- Reading
- Art
- Gymnastics
- Baking
- Travel

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Community Center

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Andrews University Gymnics 2021-2025

AWARDS AND HONORS:

Andrews University Gymnics Student Leader Award

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Infinite Gymnastics Instructor

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

As a teacher, I strive to create a safe learning environment where my students feel comfortable to fail and grow in chasing their curiosities. My goal is to prepare them for what comes after their high school education ends.

Olivia Grace Jordan

E-mail: jordano@andrews.edu

My career objective is to teach high school math and religion, particularly upperlevel mathematics. I want to continue my studies to get my Master's degree while I am teaching because I love to learn.

Education Information

Andrews University: 2026 -- BS Mathematics Education, BS Secondary Education,
BA Religion
Campion Academy: May 2022

Content Areas

Mathematics and Religion

Certification

State of Michigan North American Division

STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Niles Adventist Elementary School (Spring 2026) 7th and 8th Grade

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Teacher's Aide for 1st and 2nd Grade in 2021-22. I taught math and other subjects, assisted the teacher with small group reading, and provided one-on-one tutoring.
- Greek Tutor at Andrews University for Dr. Erhard Gallos 2024-25. I tutored students for 5 hours a week, providing additional support for the difficult topics and fun and interactive games to learn with.
- Math Tutor for Andrews University Mathematics Department 2024-26. I tutor students
 who come in during my shift. I assist them with different levels of math, anything from
 Algebra to Statistics to Calculus.

• Grader for two of the Religion professors in the Department of Religion and Biblical Languages at Andrews University.

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

- Vacation Bible School Director 2023 and 2024 at Campion SDA Church in Loveland, CO.
 I planned and directed VBS for my home church two summers in a row. One of these summers, I wrote my own VBS program.
- I started a Youth Sabbath School at my church for youth age teenagers who did not attend the Academy Sabbath School.
- I have been a babysitter my whole life. I take care of children of all ages while their parents are out.
- Pathfinder Teen Leader and Staff member. I was a member of my Pathfinder club staff throughout high school. I taught the Adventist Youth class for 5th graders and led out the drill team. I planned many events, including a Pathfinder Fair. I eventually earned my Master Guide.

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

I am interested in studying and learning more about Religion. I think it will be a lifelong endeavor of mine to always continue to learn and grow. I am very organized and detail-oriented. I like everything to be perfect. I love to do crafts and use my fingers to be creative with things. Because I grew up in Colorado, I love to be outside too. No time outdoors is wasted. I particularly like hiking, biking, and skiing.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- Throughout college at Andrews University, I have been involved in several different service activities consistently. One of my favorites is a ministry called God's Hands 4 Kids. This is a foster care ministry that, among other things, meets once a month to provide training and support to foster parents. I go to these meetings and help provide childcare to these foster children while their parents take a break.
- Another ministry I have helped to organize and take part in is serving at a soup kitchen
 in Benton Harbor, MI for homeless people. My Young Adult Sabbath School sends people
 out once a month to help so I coordinate that. We also go and visit shut-ins from our
 church members. We try to do this at least twice a year.
- I also went on a mission trip to Honduras to work at a children's home in January 2025.

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Village SDA Church Young Adult Sabbath School Outreach Director
- Religion Club President (also Communication Director and Vice President)

AWARDS AND HONORS:

- Screaming Rock Ministries Gospel Research Scholarship
- Harold Buhalts Boyd and Jean Stewart Boyd Scholarship
- Excellence in Mathematics Awards
- Pi Mu Epsilon Member
- Theta Alpha Kappa Member
- Theta Alpha Kappa Undergraduate Achievement Award
- National Honor Society
- High School Class Valedictorian

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Registrar's Assistant (August 2018-August 2021)
- 1st and 2nd Grade Teacher's Aide (August 2021-May 2022)
- Bible Worker and Children's Ministries Intern (May 2023-August 2023)
- Evangelism Intern (May 2024-August 2024)
- Greek Tutor (August 2024-May 2025)
- Reader for two Religion Professors (August 2024-December 2025)
- Math Tutor (August 2024-May 2026)
- Student Worker for GC at Historic Adventist Village (June 2025-July 2025)

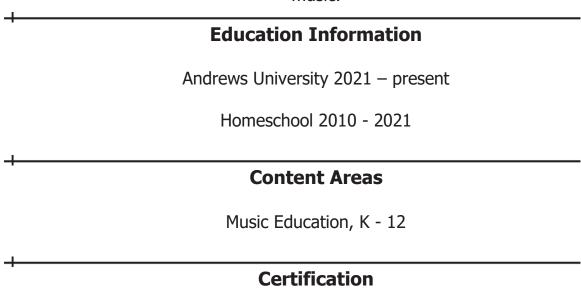
PERSONAL STATEMENT:

I want to further my students' academic knowledge, while at the same time leading by example to strengthen their spiritual development and relationship with God.

Eleanor Marie Joyce

E-mail: eleanorj@andrews.edu

My mission in education is to accept, mentor, and challenge my students, using music to help them thrive as humans. I aim to be an effective teacher in content area, classroom management, and personal relationship with my class, so that each student may gain a closer relationship to God and their peers through music.



K - 12 Michigan Certification SDA Certification

STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Watervliet Public Schools (Middle and High School Band)

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Music Teacher (Elementary, Bells and Choir), Holland Adventist Academy, Holland, Michigan (January 2025-present)
- Piano, Ukulele, and Voice Instructor, Southwest School of Music, Stevensville, Michigan (March 2025-present)
- Piano and Violin Instructor, Essential Life Center, Battambang, Cambodia (July 2024-January 2025)

- Music Theory Tutor, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan (Spring 2024present)
- Band Substitute Teacher, Ruth Murdoch Elementary School, Berrien Springs, Michigan (Spring 2024-present)

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

- Music Activity Leader and Girls Co-counselor at Camp Akita, IL
- Youth Leader at Battambang Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Summer Music Camp Teacher at Institute of Young Musicians for Christ
- Nanny/babysitting and after-school care

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

- CPR/First Aid Certification
- Experience in basic library work
- Experience in basic accounting
- Interests: cooking, tennis, ice skating, reading

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- I was a volunteer at Essential Life Center in Battambang, Cambodia for 6 months. At this Adventist ministry, I taught piano and violin at the music school, substituted for English classes, led many youth activities, and recorded the Cambodian hymnal.
- I am currently volunteering weekly at the Berrien Springs Juvenile Center, starting a music activity for the residents there who want to learn keyboard, guitar, ukulele, etc. I worked with the current activities director there to start this program, helping interested youth there to connect with music and with each other.
- I enjoy volunteering at Pioneer Memorial Church as pianist for Sabbath School classes.
- I have also participated in three Andrews University Change Days, giving concerts in local retirement homes and helping at the Village Elementary School work bee.

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Member of Education, Learning & Teaching Club (ELT)
- Member of Student Missions Club

• Member of Canvassing Club

AWARDS AND HONORS:

Andrews University Young Artist Competition Winner 2024

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Piano and Saxophone Class Instructor, Institute of Young Musicians for Christ Music Camp, Berrien Springs, Michigan (July 2022, '23, '24), Mentone, California (July 2023 and '24)
- Wind Symphony Undergraduate Assistant, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan (Fall 2023-Spring 2024)
- University Singers Pianist, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan (Fall 2023)
- Church Pianist and Choir Director, Pilgrim United Congregational Church, St. Joseph, Michigan (Spring 2023 - present)
- Student Colporteur, Michigan Youth Rush (Summer 2021)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

Building a growth mindset is a lifetime process, but it is a wonderful one. My hope as a teacher is to facilitate this process for my students and to be the change I want to see in the music classroom. Though each day in a classroom presents new challenges, this also means each day is truly an adventure. I feel deeply privileged to be a teacher and to inspire any age I may teach with a lifelong love of learning and growing. This is the goal of the greatest kind of education - leading onwards and upwards.

Leilani Celeste Lopez

E-mail: leilani.c.lopez@gmail.com



My aim is to be a teacher who cares about the whole student and to encourage them to grow closer to God.

Education Information

Andrews University- Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and a minor in Spanish Education

Expected graduation: May 2026

Content Areas

Math and Spanish

Certification

Math for K-8

Spanish for K-12

STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Ruth Murdoch Elementary School 2nd Grade

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Substitute Paraprofessional at Summit Academy North Elementary
- AP Spanish lab instructor for the Berrien Springs Math and Science

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

- 4 year TLT
- VBS crew Leader at B.S.S SDA Church

- Junior Sabbath School Teacher
- Secretary of B.S.S SDA Church Youth Department

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

Bilingual

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Audio and Visual team for B.S.S. SDA church

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Makarios 2018-2021

AWARDS AND HONORS:

The DeHaan Work Excellence Award

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Camp AuSable staff Summers of 18,19,20,24
- Andrews University Benefits Assistant 2018-2022
- Crayon Box Assistant Teacher 2022-2024

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

I believe that God has called me to be a teacher and has used Andrews University, my loved ones, and life experiences to prepare me to teach His children about the core subjects, but most importantly, Him.

Askah Bisieri Morara

E-mail: moraraaskah12@gmail.com

I am a passionate and dedicated Elementary Education major seeking a teaching position in a supportive and dynamic school environment where I can apply my skills in child development, classroom management, and differentiated instruction to foster a love of learning and help every student reach their full potential.

Education Information

Expected Graduation: Andrews University 2025— Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education

High School: Eastview High School

Content Areas

N/A

Certification

PK-6 Elementary Education

NAD Certification

STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Ruth Murdoch Elementary (5th Grade)

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Pathfinder TLC Leader
- Sabbath School Teacher
- Daycare Assistant Teacher

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

- Vacation Bible School Leader
- Children's Ministry Assistant

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

- Student Engagement
- Customer Service
- Team Participant

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- Community Outreach
- Feed My Starving Children

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- ELT Club Secretary 2024-2025
- Public Campus Ministries Assistant
- Sabbath School Secretary

AWARDS AND HONORS:

N/A

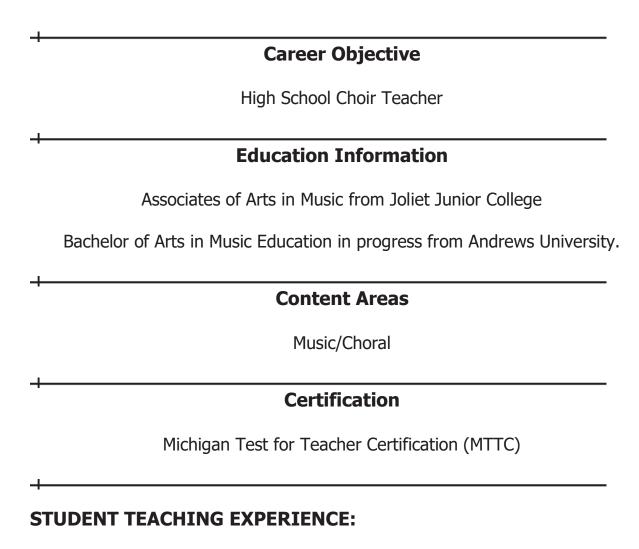
WORK EXPERIENCE:

Daycare Assistant at Crayon Box Daycare

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

I have always had a passion for teaching. I believe that the aim of education is to instill a desire for learning and teach children how to think for themselves and not what to think. My goal as an educator is to foster a positive learning environment, motivating and guiding students towards academic success.

Katlin Diane Nelson E-mail: katlin@andrews.edu This candidate has given permission to share their name, email, and educational experience. The release agreement is on file with the School of Education.



Berrien Springs Public School

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Substitute taught in the Niles School District at Ring Lardner, Niles High School, and Eastside Connections for the choral director who went on maternity leave for the last month of school.

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

Summer camp staff/counselor at Camp Akita in the summer of 2021

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Volunteered through the church with food pantry and ushering/greeting, also performed with praise team for church services

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Women's Empowerment Club at Andrews University
- Senator/deputy to the chair in the Andrews University Student Association Senate
- Member/section leader of Deliverance Mass Choir at Andrews University

AWARDS AND HONORS:

Choral Performance Scholarship 2022-2024

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Switchboard operator at UChicago Medicine Advent Health Hinsdale & Lagrange since Oct. 2021

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

Music is such an important part of school and student development because it provides an outlet of creative collaboration and gives students the opportunity to share their skills through performance. I was inspired by the music program in my high school which gave me the opportunity to expand my music skills with my peers.

After graduating high school in 2020 I attended Joliet Junior College and completed my Associates of Arts in Music by May 2022. I transferred to Andrews University in Fall 2022 and I will be finishing my Bachelor of Arts in Music Education by December 2025. My experience in the Music Ed program here at Andrews has helped me to grow as an educator and my passion for teaching has flourished.

My recent experience substitute teaching for the Niles School District has given me a great opportunity to apply the information and guide the students toward success. I was given the opportunity by the choral director of Ring Lardner Middle School, Niles High School, and Eastside Connections to take over for the last month of school since she went on maternity leave. I conducted their final spring concert for both middle and high school, the Baccalaureate ceremony, and graduation performance. Working with the middle and high schoolers gave me great insight on the aspects of teaching I am doing well at and what I can improve.

As I head into this last semester of school, I am excited to get more opportunities to work with different students and develop as an effective teacher. I hope I can use the information to help me build a choral program that creates motivated students who enjoy making and sharing music.

Myah Renee Riggs-Wright

E-mail: myahriggs02@gmail.com

My target aim as an aspiring educator is to work in a supportive environment with mentorship opportunities and to continue learning and using education's best practices. It is my desire to be dedicated to giving every student a well-rounded experience that is able to meet individualized learning needs and special interests.

Education Information

Andrews University - Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education

Lansing Community College – prerequisites

Content Areas

Elementary Education

Certification

Certified PK to 6th Grade for the State of Michigan and the North American Division (NAD)

Social Emotional Learning: Introduction to SEL (MI Registry 2024)

STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Mars Elementary School (1st Grade) - Spring 2026

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Fulfilled many hours through my courses to observe, plan, teach/co-teach, and participate in public, private, and outdoor education environments with all subject areas.

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

- Junior Sabbath School Teacher
- Vacation Bible School Leader
- Michigan Camp Meeting Children's Program Assistant
- Lead Teacher at Children's Program on Mission Trip in Cuba

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

Whole Child Learning, Mathematics, Nature, Baking, Music

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- Andrews University Change Day
- Christmas Behind Bars
- Pathfinder Thanksgiving Collection and Drive
- Homeless Ministries
- SDA Community Service Centers
- Church and School Work Bees
- Health and Evangelistic Seminar Volunteer

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- ELT Club President
- Service Sabbath
- Proximity Vespers

AWARDS AND HONORS:

- National Honor Society
- Caring Heart Award

WORK EXPERIENCE:

 Trinity Luther Daycare - Multigrade Group Before and After School Care (January to May 2024) • Greater Lansing Adventist School - PreK - 1st Room Aid (August 2021 - May 2022)

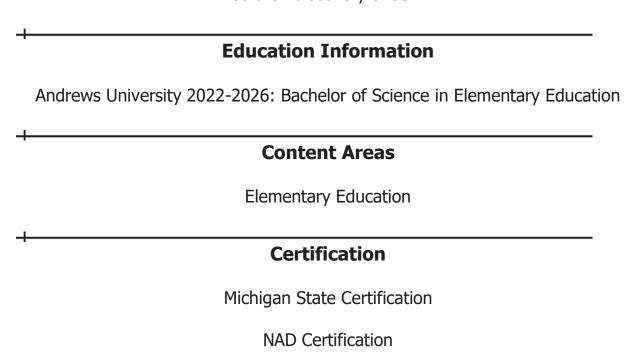
PERSONAL STATEMENT:

The nature of teaching is a gift that overflows into many areas of my life and is a focus in many things that I find myself doing. The privilege to work with children is a deep joy that I continue coming back to. I love learning and watching the minds of kids of all ages in discovery and ahha! moments. To be in the field of inspiring the future is a huge task and one that I would be a partner in.

Rohannah Diane Riley

E-mail: rileyr@andrews.edu

My mission is to become a lower elementary school educator that contributes to the creation of academically, emotionally and socially intelligent members of society. I strive to aid children in their discovery of educational materials as well as their discovery of self.



STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Sylvester Elementary School, 3rd Grade - Spring 2026

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Red Bay Primary School, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands Year 2 Teaching Assistant (September 2021 - December 2021)
- Red Bay Primary School, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands Year 3 Teaching Assistant (November 2019 - February 2020)

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

Crayon Box Children's Learning Center, Berrien Springs, Michigan - Child Care Assistant (September 2024 - April 2025)

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

- Skills: Technology (Digital Media Creation and Broadcasting), Guitarist
- Interests: History, International Politics, Research pieces

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- Ruth Murdock Elementary School Tutoring Program, Berrien Springs, Michigan -Facilitator (September 2024 - April 2025)
- George Town Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands Youth Leader and Communications Director (January 2021 December 2021)

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Andrews University Education Club Treasurer September 2024 May 2025
- Mentor Group Leader, August 2024 December 2024
- Attendance at Andrews University Weekly Community Forums, September 2022 June 2026

AWARDS AND HONORS:

Valedictorian, Prairie Adventist Christian E-school - June 2021

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Marie Martain Primary School, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands Year 3 Teaching Assistant (May 2025 - June 2025)
- John A. Cumber Primary School, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands Year 2 Teaching Assistant (May 2024 - June 2024)
- John A. Cumber Primary School, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands Year 3 Teaching Assistant (May 2023 - June 2023)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

I have always enjoyed learning and being able to contribute to other people's discovery of themselves and their surroundings. This opportunity to learn and practice how to best equip children with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in and enjoy life is my greatest blessing.

Jenae Annette Louise Rogers

E-mail: jenaer@andrews.edu

I want to become a high school mathematics and/or English teacher. My goal as a teacher is to help students develop the ability to think critically for themselves and form opinions, as well as understand basic knowledge that allows them to engage in conversations and interactions with others. I want to create a classroom environment in which students feel loved and comfortable with learning from their mistakes.

Education Information

Andrews University: BS in Mathematics Education, Secondary Education, minor in English Education

Content Areas

Math and English

Certification

Michigan State Certification

NAD Certification

STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Berrien Springs High School - Fall 2025

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Writing Center Tutor at Andrews University (2023-2025)
- Summer Pre-Algebra Teacher at Gem State Adventist Academy (2023)
- Mathematics Teacher at Palau Mission Academy (2022-2023)
- Teacher's Assistant / Tutor for Mathematics Department at Andrews University (2020-2025)

OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN AND/OR YOUTH:

- Vacation Bible School Group Leader
- 8th Grade Class President
- 10th-12th Grade Class Treasurer
- Nu Sigma Treasurer

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS:

- Volleyball
- Piano
- Traveling
- Reading
- Basic C++
- Experience with Jamovi, ALEKS, and HAWKES programs

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- Vacation Bible School
- Serving Meals at Veterans Home
- Weeding for an elderly couple
- Tutoring for various students
- Andrews University Change Day at Village Adventist Elementary School
- Worship Music
- Various Mission Trips

CO/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Pi Mu Epsilon
- Nu Sigma
- J.N. Andrews Honors Program

AWARDS AND HONORS:

- Full Tuition Scholarship based on ACT score
- Undergraduate Research Scholarship
- Clarence and Genevieve Swallen Scholarship Award
- Whitney Wang Watson Scholarship Award
- Hartman-Olson Grad ESF
- Weniger Student Fellowship Scholarship

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Summer Finance & Editorial Student Worker at Pacific Press Publishing Association (2024)
- Writing Center Tutor at Andrews University (2023-2025)
- Summer Pre-Algebra Teacher at Gem State Adventist Academy (2023)
- Mathematics Teacher at Palau Mission Academy (2022-2023)
- Summer Receptionist at Pacific Press Publishing Association (2021, 2025)
- Teacher's Assistant / Tutor for Mathematics Department at Andrews University (2020-2025)
- Math Student Worker at Gem State Adventist Academy (2017-2020)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

As a lifelong learner myself, I hope to instill a love for learning in my future students. I aim to make complicated things seem accessible to students while also challenging them and equipping them with the tools that they need to critically think for themselves. I have wanted to become a teacher since my early elementary school years, and I love being able to watch someone that I have helped experience that "lightbulb moment." I believe that it is an honor to be able to influence the minds of young people, and I do not take that responsibility lightly. I aim to show all my students Christ's love and help to develop their own self-efficacy.