

# Madison Square Homeschool Ministry

## Teacher Biographies • 2011–2012

**Jaime Brown** has been teaching/assistant teaching since 1998 and has been dancing for over 20 years. She has been teaching at the Madison Square Church Home School classes since 2005 and at Avalon School of Arts since 2008. She has taught previously at the school of “The Grand Rapids Ballet Company” as a sub in ballet and an assistant in jazz, where she trained most of her career. She has choreographed and set pieces for places like Grace Bible College, WKTV, and Grand Rapids First Church on worldwide television — to name a few. Jaime has always felt that she dances for God and feels that dance crosses all cultural boundaries, can touch many people, and is a universal language. She was home-schooled from kindergarten through high school, enjoys her cat, and loves to read.

**Aimee DeHollander** graduated with High Honors from Davenport College of Business with a BBA in Business Administration with minors in Marketing, Social Sciences, and Mathematics. She has taught a variety of classes including ballet, lyrical, liturgical, hip-hop, parent/tot exercise, adult fitness, and gymnastics for over 17 years. Aimee is a licensed ZUMBA Fitness Instructor and absolutely loves to dance! Aimee is married and has three sons, Adam, Noah, and Levi. She enjoys family camping trips and vacations as well as bike trips with her husband.

**Chris Hamstra** has a passion for authentic communication. With experience in radio and television as a disc jockey and sports announcer, in addition to previous work as a facilitator in training and development, Chris brings experience from the “real” world into the classroom. Chris has taught as an adjunct instructor at Rochester College, Cornerstone University, and Calvin College. Currently Chris serves as a full-time faculty member at Davenport University teaching Communication classes emphasizing the importance of listening and speaking from the heart. He is married to Devon and has three kids, Mackensie, Micah, and Noah.

**Dawn Niewenhuis** graduated from Calvin College in 1984 with a music and education double major (and almost a Spanish minor), and she later got a master's degree in Teaching and Curriculum Development from Michigan State University. While at Calvin she was a TA (teaching assistant) for the Spanish level 1 interim class. After college she taught Spanish at Western Michigan Christian High in Muskegon, and in the 1990s she helped develop a Spanish program for grades K-8 at West Side Christian School in Grand Rapids. She homeschools her own four kids, serves as a worship leader at Madison Square Church, writes creative Christian songs, and loves languages — but loves the Lord most of all!

**Jennifer Snyder** graduated from Calvin College with a degree in Biology and Chemistry with a Secondary Education Certification, and has taught Chemistry part-time at Holland Christian High School for the past two years. Jennifer lives in Grand Rapids with her husband and infant daughter. They are members of Ada Bible Church, and she enjoys spending time with friends and family and attending Tiger baseball games. Her passion for science started when she sailed around the world with her family at age 11. She is excited to get to know her students and share her love of chemistry and our Creator God!

**Kim VanderHill** is a graduate of Calvin College and has been teaching for over 13 years. She is very familiar with multi-grade classrooms because she began her teaching career in a one-room schoolhouse in Iowa. She was a third thru fifth grade teacher at Faith Reformed Christian School for 7 years. She also loves being a wife to Dean and a mother to her 6 children. She attends Dutton United Reformed Church and is eager to share God's creation with your children.

**Linda Wheeler** graduated from Calvin College with a BA degree in Business with a Psychology Emphasis. She worked for 10 years in Sales and Design for Israels Designs for Living before settling down into her roles of wife to her husband since 1992, and homeschool mother for her 2 children, who have been homeschooled their whole lives. Linda has been active in her church for the past 20 years doing both Madison Girls (grades 2–6 girls program) and being an Infant Nursery Supervisor, along with summer program crafts, Bible studies, and Video Teaching. She enjoys gardening, making salsa, and sewing (when she has time.)

**Diane Wright's** teaching and curriculum writing experience in art instruction ranges from preschool to college art classes, Vacation Bible School to Home School, adult education to the mission field, at home and abroad. She has taught regular ed, art ed, and college classes for over 40 years. Working alongside students in Christian education, watching them advance in their artistic skills, using problem solving techniques, and practicing their faith in Christ is what makes teaching truly rewarding and fascinating for her. Married for over 37 years, she has two grown children and one granddaughter. When she's not teaching, she enjoys gardening and cooking.