



Dear WSOC Community,

May 6, 2024

On behalf of the College of Teachers, we are pleased to share a wonderful announcement regarding the upcoming Class of 2036. The choosing of a class teacher is a process held in deep consideration by the College of Teachers. All teachers play a distinctive role in Waldorf Education as they are entrusted to help the children develop a genuine love of learning and the capacity and will to pursue their own directions in life. It is with a deep sense of satisfaction and happiness that the College of Teachers announce our first grade teacher for the Class of 2036, Aleshanee Akin.



Aleshanee Akin was born in San Francisco, but grew up in Hawaii, where she attended first-through-eighth grades at Haleakala Waldorf School on Maui. As a teen, she had an opportunity to travel to the old Soviet Union as a Maui / Moscow Youth Ambassador for Peace — the first non-political student exchange with that nation, initiated when Gorbachev came in. She later returned to Russia several times, attending Moscow State University, and getting married there. As a young mother, she taught English and other subjects at one of the first Waldorf schools in Russia following the fall of the Soviet Union.

After returning to the US, she worked at Haleakala Waldorf School for seven years as a painting specialist in the grades, and as an assistant in Early Childhood Education, before relocating to New England where she earned a Master's in Education from Antioch University. After graduation, she did an extended internship in Early Childhood and in the Seventh Grade at Pine Hill Waldorf School. She has now been teaching in various capacities for 20-plus years, including a year of class-teaching at an international school on the island of Cypress in 2021-2022.

Aleshanee is an author, with books in English published by Waldorf Publications on fiber-arts education, as well as books in Russian on Natural Childbirth. She is the mother of three grown children, and has family in Southern California. She is looking forward to making Orange County her home, and is happy and excited to take up the position of Main Lesson Teacher for the Class of 2036!

Warmest regards,

Thomas Corcoran and Sara Rodelo
for the WSOC College of Teachers