



YWCA Princeton ESL Teachers

Ann Marie Barr earned an M.Ed. in Teaching English as a Second Language from the College of New Jersey, a BA in English with a Minor in Education from Pennsylvania State University, and did graduate study in Linguistics at Bucknell University. She taught high school English, and ESL across a broad age and cultural spectrum from New Brunswick School District through adult and graduate levels at Mercer County Community College, Rutgers, and Princeton University. She also works with the summer High School Diplomats Program through the National Association of Japan-America Societies.

Brandy Frank holds a BA in Art Education from the University of New Hampshire in Durham, and an MA in guidance counseling and student personnel from the University Bridgeport in Connecticut. She also earned a supervisor/principal certification from the State of New Jersey and has worked in several states as an art teacher and guidance counselor. In 2004, she co-founded the Voyage ESL program where she provides free adult English classes at the Princeton Public Library. Currently Brandy teaches ESL at the Princeton YWCA, tutors and is a Literacy Volunteers of New Jersey certified tutor trainer.

Donna Grushow holds a BS in Finance from Trenton State College and an MBA from the University of Massachusetts at Boston. Additionally, she earned an M.Ed. in Teaching English as a Second Language from the College of New Jersey. She has taught the English language at all levels in both Japan and the USA.

Heledona Katro holds a BA in Business Administration and a M.Ed. in Multicultural Education with a concentration in TESOL (Teaching English as a Second Language) from Eastern University, PA. Heledona has over 20 years of experience in teaching ESL and directing IEP University programs in PA. She is the current Director of the YWCA Princeton's ESL Program.

Shoshana Gutschow has a BA in Philosophy from Hunter College, CUNY, and an M.Ed. in Teaching English as a Second Language from The College of New Jersey. She taught K-adult ESL in Israel for 3 years and has taught at Berlitz and other private language schools. For 19 years she was a K-12 ESL teacher in the Lawrence Township, NJ public school district. Shoshana was a founding member of Familyborn in Princeton and a certified childbirth educator for over 20 years. In addition to teaching at the YWCA Princeton, she currently is a volunteer tutor working with other small groups in Princeton.

Kathleen Johannessen earned a BS in Elementary Education/Biology from The College of New Jersey and a graduate level ESL Certification from Rider University. She is a language trainer for Cartus International. Kathy taught in both public and private schools for more than 16 years and has volunteered as an ESL instructor for Literacy Volunteers and the YWCA Princeton.

Margaret Kiraly holds a BA in Elementary Education from Rowan University, formerly Glassboro State College. She taught Reading, Language Arts, and Writer's Workshop for the East Brunswick Public Schools for many years. She has been teaching a Writer's Workshop to ESL students at the YWCA Princeton ESL Program for the past three years.

Larry Koplik holds a BA in Politics from Princeton University and a JD from Boston University School of Law. He has taught a free ESL conversation class centered around Level 2 students at the Princeton YWCA since 1995. He has worked on Wall Street as a stock and options trader and broker.

Jeanne Leiman holds a BA in English from CCNY, the City University of New York, and an MA in English Literature from the University of Cincinnati. She has taught various English courses on the high school and college level in New York, Maryland and Ohio, and ESL to adults at the Princeton YWCA since 1996.

Meg Maher holds a BA degree in Italian Studies from the University of Pennsylvania and an MS Ed. in TESOL from the Graduate School of Education also at Penn. She has taught ESL at Union County College in Elizabeth and at the Princeton Adult School. A graduate of Princeton High School, she was born and raised in Princeton.

Yvette Mintzer has a BA in English from The City College of New York. Yvette has been a creative writing and poetry teacher and has spent her entire career in the literary field as a published poet, writer for theater productions and as an editor and business manager. She has been teaching ESL at the YWCA Princeton since 2002.

Shakuntala ("Shaku") Pandya is of Indian origin who has lived in India, Kenya and the UK prior to coming to the US. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Gujarat State, India. Her work experience includes working for American Express for two years and in the UK system for six years. She has worked for the YWCA Princeton for five years and is lead tutor for a conversation class at Literacy Volunteers in Mercer County.

Anita Pollack holds a B.S.W. from the Università di Parma, Italy and an MA in TESOL from Hunter College, New York. She has taught ESL to adults and children in New York and New Jersey. She currently teaches Adult Basic Skills and English as a Second Language at the Mercer County One Stop Career Center and has been an instructor at the YWCA Princeton for several years.

Nancy Schenkel holds a BS in Communications from the University of Illinois. She worked in Yardley, PA tutoring children and adults with reading disabilities. Nancy taught ESL at an adult education program in St. Louis for six years and has been teaching at the Princeton YWCA since 2007.

Caroline Hazelton holds a B.S. in Spanish and a M.S. in Foreign and Second Language Education, both from Florida State University. She taught Spanish and ESL at the K-8 and post-secondary levels for several years before moving to New Jersey in Summer 2016, when she began teaching at the YWCA Princeton. Caroline also teaches Spanish at Rider University. In her free time she enjoys hanging out with her husband Andy and raising their young daughter, writing, cooking and church involvement.