

## Summer Staff Bios 2022



### **Katie Weeks, Director of Community Education (she/her)**

Hello campers and families! I'm excited to meet you all and spend my summer teaching and learning outside. I've been an educator at the Randall Davey Center for five years and have run summer camp programs for almost a decade. Anything from small camp programs in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Girl Scout camps on my home island of Oahu, Hawaii, and even a large scale camp at a science museum in Durham, North Carolina. I was a preschool teacher for a few years in there as well. I currently hold a BA in Environmental Studies and an MS in Environmental Education. I have an enthusiastic two year old child, so don't have much free time, but when I get the chance I like to go birding and play Japanese Taiko drums. Although it's hard to pick, one of my favorite birds is the Black-billed Magpie because they are beautiful but also mischievous.



### **Lily Ellenberger, Camp Educator (any)**

My name is Lily, some people call me Lyle too. My pronouns are dealer's choice, whatever's good by me. I love working with kids and always have, just experiencing nature through the eyes of the campers is what I am looking forward to most. I enjoy being outside by water, just sitting or walking. I love to stack rocks and make land art both alone and with others, especially little ones!

My favorite bird is probably a crow, they are survivors, scavengers, and can remember a human's face and pass that memory down to future generations. I strive to find beauty in the mundane and crows are reminders of that for me. Often seen as common city dwellers, I think their majesty is sometimes forgotten.



### **Nadia Syaheda, Camp Educator (she/her)**

I'm delighted to be a part of this amazing community and I can't wait to become more familiar with New Mexico flora and fauna. I'm a student at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, studying biology. I love being outdoors (hiking, camping, etc.) and I love to read - even better when I'm doing both! I can't wait to get our students excited about nature! My favorite animal is an owl.

## **Monchie Curliss, Camp Educator (he/him)**

I am a Native American sophomore student at Fort Lewis College in Colorado. I enjoy hiking, mountain biking and snowboarding. I'm excited to be able to interact and teach the summer camp kids over the summer. I'm most excited to spend time outside and (hopefully) near the river. My favorite animal is a Peregrine Falcon.



## **Sokara Tuck, Camp Educator (She/her)**

I recently graduated from UNM with a degree in Education. I love anything performing arts related. I'm a huge theatre nerd! This summer, I'm excited to meet new people and make new memories; my favorite outdoor activity with kids is probably hiking. My favorite bird is a duck and my favorite animal is an elephant.



## **Kanah Waltman, Community Outreach Coordinator (She/her)**

My name is Kanah Sunny Waltman. I am the newest member of the Audubon Southwest team, Outreach Educator. My job will focus on creating programs for our new Nature Discovery Area at the Randall Davey Audubon Center, with intentionality towards equity and access so that the space can be enjoyed by all members of our Santa Fe and Northern NM communities.

I am a Southwest native. Born and raised in the White Mountains of eastern Arizona. I attended Northern Arizona University receiving a B.S. in Parks and Recreation Management. I enjoyed working for the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Arizona State Parks, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife. These various agencies allowed me to travel and explore our beautiful country!

My three children Joshua (17), Jude (15), and Joy (9) are very active in school, the arts, recreation, and socializing. We love to be outdoors and exploring all that Northern New Mexico has to offer. Our favorite activities are on the Pecos River with our English Springer Spaniel, Bimber June and hitting the slopes at Ski Santa Fe. There is never a dull moment!

I have always been drawn to waterfowl and the Great Blue Heron is at the top of my list. Their grace and poise along the water's edge is a welcomed moment of peace.

I look forward to spreading our "song" throughout local schools, libraries, community centers, and New Mexico.

