

Dear Darrow Families,

Greetings from the Mountainside! This summer, Andy Vadnais, our new Head of School, and I are co-authoring the head of school summer update letter. I'm so excited to get to work with Andy this year and before we get to all the exciting summer news we want to share a bit more about our recent role changes.

On June 26, you received an email explaining Andy's appointment to Head of School and my shift to the role of President. This was a change from an earlier plan for Andy, a longtime Head and former Darrow faculty member, to start this year as Assistant Head of School. My family circumstances favored a different approach, hence my shift to the role of President. In that role, I will be on campus regularly and will start the year supporting Andy as he learns the day-to-day operational ropes of the school. Andy is already bringing his extensive small boarding school experience and love for Darrow to our efforts. He and I work well together and are already enjoying the mutual energy that comes from having a strong thinking partner.

And now, summer news! As with last year, campus is full with summer programs: JPED Academy, our international partner from China; and the Boston Symphony Orchestras Days in the Arts (BSO DARTS).

Equally exciting is the list of new faculty who are joining us this year. We are deeply grateful to Mika Saarela for recruiting such a strong bunch of folks. They appear by date of hire below.

Ms. Kristina Alvarado joins us as AMP Mentor, Houseparent and Coach. Hailing from California, Kristina earned her BA in Psychology from Williams College this June. She has extensive tutoring experience, and has most recently mentored at-risk youth with the LIFT program in Williamstown, MA. Her extensive athletic accomplishments include three Women's Division III National Championships with Williams Womens Varsity Soccer, and two Division III Super Regional Championships with Williams Softball.

Mr. Leo Quiles will serve as our Schulz Artist in Residence for Comic and Cartoon Arts during the 2019-2020 school year. He holds a MFA in Illustration from University of Hartford and a BA in Art History from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. He has previously taught at MCLA, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Washington University of St. Louis. He has also done design work for Disney Universal Studios, Saatchi & Saatchi, HBO, and the Radio City Music Hall, among other clients. Leo lives in Dalton, MA.

Ms. Katie Sauvain joins the English Department. She is a National Board Certified Teacher, and holds a Masters in English Literature from the Bread Loaf School of English, Middlebury College, as well as a BA from Swarthmore College. She comes to us from the Cambridge School of Weston, where she developed and taught a number of new English courses over the last four years. She has also previously taught at Castilleja School, Palo Alto, CA.

Mr. Tom Roselli joins the Math Department. He holds a BS from SUNY Oneonta, and has over two decades as an educator including a number of teaching and administrative assignments at Lawrence Woodmere Academy, Brimmer and May School, Suffield Academy, and Chapel Hill-Chauncey Hall School, among others. In addition to teaching a full load of math courses, including Calculus and Advanced Calculus, Tom's deep experience at boarding schools makes him excited to be a member of the Darrow community in other ways as well, including taking on residential and coaching duties.

Mr. Bil Sanford will teach Physics, Robotics and Programming, as well as serve as the Kurtz Innovation Center Coordinator. Bil earned his Masters in Physics from UMass Lowell, and also holds a BA in Physics and Philosophy from Colby College. His extensive career in science and technology includes serving as member of

the MIT Lecture Demonstration Group for ten years, and as Curator of Advanced Lab Physics and Electronics Lab courses at Boston University. He has taught Physics, Astronomy, and other science courses at Canterbury School and, most recently, at the Hillside School. Bil will also be serving as House Parent and Coach.

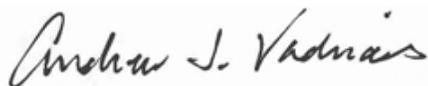
The final piece of summer news relates to new student orientation. We know that Darrow's culture is unique and a real source of strength for our community. In order to help our new students bond more fully right from the start, to each other and to all the returning students, we are enhancing our opening of school programming to help our new students get a clearer sense of the Darrow culture and how they can each add to it. We are confident that this added attention and care to how we open school will reverberate through the year, bringing more of that positive "Dare To" attitude that exemplifies what Darrow is all about.

We are looking forward to a great year and can't wait to see you all in a few weeks!

Best,



Simon Holzapfel
President



Andy Vadnais
Head of School