

My name is Kathleen Alberg. My husband and I have two adult children who once attended Mother's Day Out preschool! I hold Bachelor's degrees in both Music and Early Childhood Education and a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education. Before becoming a music/classroom teacher at Mother's Day Out, I taught kindergarten for 6 years at Hillcrest Elementary in Catonsville. I was also the music program coordinator for Gymboree Play and Music for 5 years.

I started out at MDOW as a substitute teacher while my children were still in preschool. I now divide my time between teaching preschool and teaching private voice and piano lessons.

I am so lucky to be able to share my love of music with each of the classes I teach. Music class gives us an opportunity to extend the curriculum they are exposed to in their classrooms. Virtual Music videos allow all of our students and their families to experience the MDOW music curriculum together!

It is truly an honor to be a part of your children's lives. My goal is to help each child develop the beginnings of a lifelong relationship with music.

**Hi, my name is Lexi Alimo**. My 4-year-old daughter currently attends Mother's Day Out and her father also did when he was a young child! I completed my 90-hour Maryland child care certification. I started out working in the snack room and moved on to become an aide/teacher. I teach Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays in the Smiley room:) I love coming to work every day and working with the kids and watching them grow.

My name is Heather Bateman. I have been part of the MDOW community since 2004, first as a parent and then as a staff member. My 3 daughters, who are now young adults in college, attended MDOW. I loved the school so much I never left! I have been an employee of the preschool since 2008 and have worked in every capacity (snack, nap, aide, teacher) and in each classroom but am currently in the Smiley Room. I have my A.A. teacher certification, and am currently working on my B.S. in early childhood education. In the Smiley Room I have been working with our youngest students, the two's. I strive to make your child's first school experience a positive, fun one while learning through play.

My name is Merritt Kenney. I have been involved with MDOW since my eldest, Sarah, was 2. I enrolled her for some fun play and for socialization. Three years later, my daughter, Margaret, joined the group. When she was four, I became the Friday Four Aide at MDOW. My kids moved on and I remained, first as an aide, and then teaching part-time in the Bear Room mixed-age group. I love working with the kids, especially when you get those big bear hugs or a comment that the story you just read was "awesome!".

**My name is Susan Kreatschman**, better known as Miss Sue to the children of MDOW. I have worked at MDOW since 1999. I am an aide in the Jungle Room Pre-K. When I'm not at school, you will usually find me at home which I share with my dogs.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of teaching and caring for many students. It is not every job where you go to work and the first thing you are greeted with are hugs! Watching children grow throughout the year in both their social and academic skills is more rewarding than any other job I could have.

**Hi, my name is Debbie Medicus**. I have been working and helping to run Mother's Day Out since 1995. My girls, Brooke and Krystin, are grown and attended MDOW in our original location. Brooke's daughter, Lainey, graduated from MDOW's Pre-K in 2023. You will find me either in the office, filling in for someone or helping where I can. I love working with the children. They always keep me on my toes. They are so eager to learn and have fun.

My name is Julie Pallozzi and I have been with Mother's Day Out since the first day it opened in 1974! My youngest daughter, Jennie, was a member of the very first class. I served as a parent volunteer, an aide, a teacher and in 1979 I became the director--a position I held until we moved here to Westchester. I have taught all of the classes at one time or another, but for the last 14 or 15 years I have been the teacher in the Smiley Room with the very youngest students--the two-year olds! When I started out as a teacher, I taught 4th and 5th grade for 6 years at Elkridge Elementary School. Never in my wildest dreams could I imagine teaching two-year olds, but I discovered that I LOVE them and so enjoy being with them!

Mother's Day Out has been a huge part of my life for all of these years and though I've cut back on the days I'm here, I still love to come to "school". A number of the MDOW teachers' children and grandchildren have been in my class, including 8 of my own "grands".

Picasso once said, "The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away!" I have been blessed to have found my gift--art and crafts...children's books...the flannel board...the toys...the joy of little children when they learn something new--and to be able to give my gifts away, to share them with all of the little ones in my care.

**Hi, my name is Mary Ramsay.** I have been with MDOW for 15 years. My daughter attended MDOW through Pre-K. I will be teaching on Tuesday, Wednesday afternoon and Thursday in the Bear Room.

I am a Registered Nurse and have a B.S. in Health Arts from St. Francis University. I've also completed my 90-hour Maryland Preschool Curriculum certification.

I enjoy creative, fun and interactive activities with the children. I believe learning through play is an important foundation of early education.

My name is Sandy Thompson and I have been at MDOW for 18 years this spring. I started as a volunteer in my son's two-year old classroom and liked being with the children so much that I decided to become an aide. Watching how the teachers interacted with the children motivated me to get my certification. I also received my A.A. from Catonsville Community College in 1997. Currently, I teach Pre-K and mixed-age classes in the Ocean Room.

I have two sons who both attended MDOW. One has graduated from CCBC and the other will be attending in the fall. Their experiences at MDOW and the education they received really helped them when they started kindergarten. They both loved their preschool so much and had such a great experience there that they were really excited to start elementary school. Both of my sons still have friends that they met while at MDOW. I want to instill in the children I teach that learning is fun, whether it is learning an academic skill or how to make a new friend. I see many of our students in the local community after they leave MDOW and it is a joy to watch them continue to grow and learn.

**Hi, my name is Nicole Tsang**. I have an M.B.A. from the University of Washington and a B.A. in Marketing and Finance from the University of Oregon. Prior to coming to MDOW I was a marketing manager. I have a fourth-grader and fifth-grader who both attended MDOW. I love the excitement and enthusiasm preschoolers have for learning new things and know that when I come to work at MDOW there will never be a dull day. Since 2009 I have volunteered weekly at Children's National Hospital helping bring smiles, entertainment and comfort to patients.