Meet the TEALS team!

Anupama Shekhar
Director, TEALS Program

Anu brings her nonprofit management experience to this role, having served as Program Head for Vocational Training at Pratham Education Foundation. At Pratham, she led the vocational training arm in Digital Literacy. Anu graduated from Wharton with an MBA and has an undergraduate degree from Singapore Management University.

Adam McDonald
Regional Manager, Washington

Adam McDonald taught middle school CS in Seattle for six years, teaching a range of CS topics and building a CS pathway. He received a Master’s in Teaching from Seattle University. He taught internationally in Thailand and worked in partnership with industry mentors at a tech/CS education startup in Bellevue, WA, supporting students in learning introductory CS concepts.

Aimee Rosato
Associate Regional Manager Lead, East

Before joining TEALS, Aimee was a special education teacher that leveraged co-teaching and technology to lead students towards their highest potential. This formative experience drives the way she approaches working with TEALS teaching teams. She holds degrees from the University of Vermont and Bank Street College of Education.
AJ Voraman
Program Assistant, Southwest

AJ earned an Associate's degree in Java Programming from Houston Community College as a non-traditional student after working as a programmer for government and industry. He has been a remote volunteer since 2017-18, and currently supports the Kansas State School for the Blind. Born with cataracts and sight-restored at 17, his goal is to empower blind students.

Allison Hartnett
Associate Regional Manager Lead, Great Lakes

Before joining TEALS in 2017, Allison taught physics, math and engineering classes at the collegiate level, as well as organizing STEM experiences for local high school students. Allison has a BA in Physics and Math from William Jewell College, a MA in Math, and a PhD in Physics and Math from University of Missouri–Kansas City.

Amber Pope
Regional Manager + Specialist, Alabama

Amber has been with TEALS since 2017. Previously, she was a social studies teacher for 7 years, with a BS in Secondary Education and Social Science from UAB, a M.Ed from the University of Montevallo, and a Post-Master's Certificate in Instructional Leadership from Jacksonville State University. She completed a CS bridge program at NYU in 2018.

Amy Bires
Regional Manager + Specialist, Wisconsin - Northeast

Amy graduated with a BS in Business Education from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and a BA in Educational Technology from Marian University. Prior to becoming involved with TEALS, she was a classroom teacher for 15 years where she implemented computer science classes teaching PLTW and Code.org curriculum.
Andrea received a B.S. in Pre-law, a M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction in STEM and an MS in Science Education. Prior to her 2016 involvement with TEALS, Andrea was at the National Council of Technological Literacy. She has taught STEM subjects in grades 6–12 for 8 years in New York City and worked in continued education for the NY Botanical Garden.

Andrew received his Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and Computer Science from the University of Michigan and his Masters of Education in Instructional Technology from Wayne State University. He has been an educator since 2005 teaching Mathematics and Computer Science. He was also the 2016 FIRST Michigan Woodie Flowers Award Finalist.

Becky has a BS in Education from the University of Texas at Austin and a MS in Educational Technology from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Becky has taught elementary school, middle school science, and after school coding clubs.

Carlota has a Master of Arts in Teaching Mathematics from the University of Texas at El Paso and taught at elementary, middle and high school campuses for 16 years. Prior to becoming a Regional Manager, she taught both introductory and AP courses as a remote TEALS teacher.
Casey earned a B.A. in Political Economy then a M.S. in Energy and Resources from UC-Berkeley. He began teaching in Silicon Valley during the original dot-com boom. For the last twenty years, he's taught computer science and environmental science at schools around the country. Outside of work Casey enjoys running, hiking, and other outdoor activities.

Charles was an educator for the first 15 years of his career before transitioning to a K-8, Computer Science immersion company for about 4 years. His formal education includes a Bachelors in Elementary Education, Masters in Educational Administration, and Doctorate in Learning Technologies.

Christie graduated with a BS in Organizational Leadership and a Masters in Business Administration from Bethel University. Prior to becoming involved with TEALS, she was a Business and CS teacher for 8 years where she implemented computer science classes teaching Code.org curriculum. She then became the CTE Director for 2 years before joining TEALS.

Before joining Microsoft, Christine earned her BS in Electrical & Computer Engineering from Marquette University. She has managed several programs at Microsoft including Azure for Education and the Imagine Cup. She has worked to promote diversity outreach and K–12 STEM programming through her partnerships with Girls Who Code and FIRST Robotics.
Chuck Morgan
Regional Manager, Great Lakes - Michigan

Chuck received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Ferris State University and earned a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Eastern Michigan University. He taught secondary CTE, including CS, for 17 years before becoming an administrator. He was the principal of Walled Lake Central for 11 graduating classes before joining TEALS.

Courtney Hodge
Regional Manager + Specialist, Virginia, Maryland & D.C.

Courtney received a BS in Mathematics from North Carolina State University. Courtney joined the TEALS program in 2016. Prior to joining the TEALS team, she was a high-school math teacher and an instructional technology specialist in Washington, D.C. Courtney used computer programming to help students develop their critical-thinking and problem-solving skills.

Dan Stormont
Regional Manager, Arizona

Dan has a BS in Computer Engineering from the University of Arizona, a MS in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Mexico, and the Electrical Engineering professional degree from Utah State University. He taught at the university level and created teen and adult STEM workshops. He currently organizes tech meetups in Tucson. Dan joined the TEALS Program in 2018.

DaQuan Bashir
Regional Manager, New York & New Jersey

Bashir has a dual BA in Computer Science from Rutgers University–Newark and The New Jersey Institute of Technology and a MS in Higher Education Administration from Walden University. He began his career as a STEM educator for high schools in Newark.
Emilie was a first-generation college student who graduated from UC Santa Barbara with a BS & MS in Computer Science, plus a BA in Mathematics. Emilie taught CS at UCSB, Foothill College, North Seattle College, & Girls Who Code before joining TEALS. She firmly believes that everyone should have the opportunity to explore the amazing field of CS.

Erica graduated with her MSc. in Math Education from Simon Fraser University. She received both her BSc. in Computer Science and BEd. in Math Education from the University of British Columbia. Before joining TEALS, she was a high school math and computer science teacher. She also worked as a software developer in the industry for 4 years.

Intrigued by the Commodore 64's command lines, Forte' birthed an interest in technology at ten. She cultivated a commitment to educational success while growing up in the Alabama Black Belt. For 23 years, she's raised student achievement in various secondary and postsecondary roles to include managing multiple projects simultaneously. Servant leader. Civically engaged.

Denise James Woods is an Executive Assistant/Events coordinator with more than 15 years experience. She is also a Writer, Director and Producer of Theatrical Plays and Productions. She has more than 10 years of experience coordinating and planning large productions and events.
Grace received her MS in Education from Florida State University. She started her career working with English language learners while getting her special education endorsement from the University of Washington. A National Board certified teacher she enjoys integrated computational thinking into all her teaching. Grace is currently completing her Computer Science Degree.

Gustavo earned both a BS in Psychology and PhD in Neurobiology from Duke University. After learning computer science in a biolinguistics lab and a post-doc at University of Tokyo, he returned to El Paso to co-found a digital literacy and creative community center, Fab Lab El Paso. There he developed and taught workshops at the nexus of technology, art and fun.

Jeffery is a graduate of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville with a BS in Math Studies with a minor in Computer Science. He is a former Airman, Newscaster, Housekeeper and teacher. Jeffery taught geometry for 13 years and taught computer science for four years. He was an AP Computer Science Principles Table Leader. He is currently the Regional Manager for TEALS in the St. Louis area.

Gisela is a certified technical trainer who is experienced in Windows and Mac OS Operating Systems. She teaches classes in HTML, Dreamweaver and coding for kids. She also teaches web development classes, business writing and customer service. She enjoys genuine connections with her audience, understanding the value and need to foster engagement and trust, which is crucial to repeat business. She values the promise of a great learning experience.
JJ Townsend
Regional Manager, Mississippi

JJ is excited to use his experience in teaching, entrepreneurship, and nonprofit leadership to expand CS education in Mississippi. He is a proud TFA alum ('15) who taught computer science and co-founded a public-charter school in Jackson, MS. JJ graduated from Ole Miss and has a masters in Education Leadership.

Joey Knapp
Regional Manager, Northern California & Wyoming

Joey earned his B.S. in Computer Science from The City College of New York. Before joining TEALS, Joey taught in the SF Bay Area for 6 years. He has worked in two independent high schools, and was a founding computing teacher at a K-8 charter school. Joey has taught CS and math, and did a lot of work in makerspaces.

Joyce Okoth
Regional Manager, Southern California

Joyce earned her M.A. in math education with a special education specialization and B.S. in mathematics from Rutgers University. Prior to joining TEALS, Joyce taught in NJ public schools for five years as a high school math and computer science teacher.

Jennifer Ozbun
Regional Manager, Pacific Northwest

Jennifer graduated from Columbia College with a BS in Business Administration and a minor in Computer Information Systems. She spent 11 years in education as a corporate technical trainer and high school CS and robotics teacher. Jennifer was a TEALS classroom teacher for 5 years before reaching Alumni Teacher status and joining TEALS as a Regional Manager in 2020.
Kenney has a BS in Computer Science from Cornell University and worked as a software engineer. Kenney left the industry to pursue a M.Ed. from Harvard. After graduation, he taught Computer Science and was the academic scheduler at Phillips Exeter Academy. Kenney has been with TEALS since 2016.

Kip graduated from MIT with a BS and a MS in Computer Science. Kip was one of the first employees at Concur and led the development of EA Sports' first Wii title, Madden 07 for Wii. While at Microsoft, Kip was the very first program manager on the program now known as Office 365 Education, worked on Outlook Web, and was a TEALS volunteer for 6 years.

Lucia has over a decade of experience as an educator in formal and informal settings including TFA, the Boys & Girls Club, and Michelle Obama’s Turnaround Arts program. She holds a BA from Hobart & William Smith and an Ed.M. with a focus on tech in ed from Harvard. Her investment in TEALS stems from a commitment to educational and economic equity.

Kendra graduated from the University of South Carolina with a BS in Biology and Secondary Education and years later an EdD in Curriculum and Instruction. She has spent 11 years as an educator in adult and K-12 education as well as 9 years in leadership and training in several non-profit organizations. She passionately believes that it is important to prepare students for the workplace and to become thriving adults.

Kendra Cooper
Regional Manager, South Carolina

Kenney Chan
Curriculum, Training, and Instruction Program Manager

Kip Fern
Sr. Operations Program Manager

Lucia Berliner
Regional Manager + Specialist, Louisiana
Luis De Mendoza
Regional Manager, Florida - Jacksonville

Luis graduated from the University of Miami with a BS in Communications and International Studies and will soon complete a Masters in IT Management with a specialization in Education. He worked as an IT Project Manager before transitioning into education when he taught in Myanmar. After teaching CS and social studies for several years in Florida, Luis has joined TEALS.

Marilyn Bekolo
Regional Manager, Texas - Houston

Marilyn is a Howard University alum & currently pursuing an M.A. in Nonprofit Leadership at UPenn. She began her career journey at Accenture’s systems integration division. As a former Google employee she supported various education initiatives including Black Girls Code, Google.org, & CS First. She is a former Education Pioneers fellow & most recently served as a TX/LA Regional Director of School Partnerships at Kokua Education.

Marlena Eanes
Regional Manager, Wisconsin - Milwaukee

Marlena earned a dual Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Secondary Education from Marquette University and a dual Master of Arts in Administrative Leadership and Instructional Leadership with principal and director of instructor licenses from Alverno College. As a math teacher and curriculum developer, she focused on narrowing the opportunity gap.

Matt Paulson
Program Assistant, Pacific Northwest

Always striving to give back to future generations, Matt has been helping grow the TEALS mission for almost 3 years. Before TEALS, he received his BA in Economics/Environmental Studies and has worked on several teams across Microsoft. Outside of work you can find Matt backpacking in the mountains or homebrewing up a delicious pale ale.
Michael has been with TEALS since March of 2020. Before coming to TEALS, he worked as a STEM curriculum developer and a high school teacher, teaching Physics, Engineering, and Computer Science. Michael graduated with a dual BA in Physics and Visual Arts from Bowdoin College and a M.Ed. in Technology, Innovation, and Education from Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Michelle Broussard Emelle is a CS educator and consultant. She is one of the Co-Creators of CodeTalk. In 2019, she was the Project Manager for Tech Hire LA which was funded by President Obama’s administration to increase employment rates of 18 to 24-year old’s in the technology industry. Michelle has a Master of Science Degree in Educational Technology.

Miriam Brady holds an MBA in IT management and a BS in Computer IT. Miriam started in education working as a computer science teacher and Director of Technology. Before moving into her current role, Miriam joined the TEALS team as the Rural and Distance Program Manager working to support the schools that require remote support primarily in rural areas.

Matt has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology and a MEd in Curriculum & Instruction. He has been developing and teaching STEM educational programs and curriculum since 2010, including coding. After working as an engineer he started a company as an STEM education consultant building networks of support for K-16 students interested in becoming STEM professionals.
After graduating from Stanford University with a M.Ed., Nagma taught students from diverse backgrounds. While teaching, Nagma earned a Master's degree in Management Information Systems. She shared her newfound knowledge by leading the first Python classes on campus. Nagma also volunteers in her community to support student access to top quality education.

Nancy's enthusiasm for teaching started in college at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. While teaching high school in Rochester, NY, Nancy earned a Master's in Education, then moved back into teaching geology and computer science at the college-level. Nancy is currently working on a Master's in Computer Science while being the first ND-based TEALS manager.

Nicole joined the TEALS team in March 2019. Before TEALS, Nicole worked with the Azure group at Microsoft. Nicole is a graduate of North Seattle College and is currently earning her BA in Political Science at ASU. Outside of TEALS, Nicole is passionate about helping those in need with a focus on empowering those at a disadvantage to be economically independent.

Nierria joined the TEALS team in October 2020, after an 11 year career as a Middle and High School math teacher in minority majority communities using the “Flipped Classroom” model. She also taught Computer Science, and African American / Caribbean Diaspora to high school scholars. Nierria received her BA in Information Science & Policy from SUNY Albany and her MAT from Mercer University in Georgia.
Patrick graduated with a BA in Mathematics-Physics from Whitman College and received a Master's in Secondary Science Education from George Washington University before joining D.C. Public Schools as a high school physics and engineering teacher for 7 years. Patrick has been dedicated to expanding access to CS education for all with the TEALS Program since 2015

Peter has a BA from the University of Michigan, a Mobile CSP certificate from Trinity College, and a MAT from the University of Chicago. Before joining TEALS in 2019, he was an Engagement Manager at Code to the Future. And before that, he taught CS in Chicago. Fun fact: After a record-setting soccer career at UMich, he was drafted to play in the MLS

Qianqian majored in Computer Science and Mathematics at Wesleyan University. After graduation, she earned her MA in Mathematics Education from NYU and taught at a middle school in Brooklyn, where she piloted an Intro to Programming course with 7th graders. She then went on to receive her MBA from UCLA Anderson and has been with the TEALS Program since 2017

Nitza received her Bachelor of Science (Business Technology Education/Vocational Business) from Eastern Michigan University and her Master in the Art of Teaching from Marygrove University in Detroit Michigan. She has been an educator since 1994 teaching a large variety of classes that have concentrated on Computer Science. She continues to teach CS for Michigan Virtual

Nitza Harpe (Antonia)
Regional Manager, Michigan

Peter Dzubay
Regional Manager Lead

Qianqian Lin
Field Enablement Specialist

Patrick O’Steen
Regional Manager Lead, West

Nitza Harpe (Antonia)
Regional Manager, Michigan

Peter Dzubay
Regional Manager Lead

Qianqian Lin
Field Enablement Specialist

Nitza Harpe (Antonia)
Regional Manager, Michigan

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Nitza Harpe (Antonia)
Regional Manager, Michigan

Peter Dzubay
Regional Manager Lead

Qianqian Lin
Field Enablement Specialist

Nitza Harpe (Antonia)
Regional Manager, Michigan

Peter Dzubay
Regional Manager Lead

Qianqian Lin
Field Enablement Specialist
Rachel graduated from UC Berkeley with undergraduate degrees in Computer Science and Cognitive Science. She was a Head Teaching Assistant for Berkeley’s Introduction to CS course, CS10, and spent a summer as a software engineer intern and doing research on the ergonomics of virtual reality. Rachel has been working with the TEALS Program since 2017.

Raul is a certified project manager professional, with a B.S. in Physics, a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, and a M.B.A. Raul is currently working to create a Culturally Responsive Pedagogy for Guttman Community College. He is committed to expanding computer science education to underrepresented groups: women, people of color, and alternative learners.

Robert Graduated from Tarleton State University with a BS in Mathematics and minor in CS. He taught high school math for 10 years before transitioning into teaching computer science. Robert innovated an outreach program for middle school students to learn programming by using physical computing. Robert joined TEALS in January 2019.

Sarah has a BS in Mathematics from Michigan Technological University. She spent the first part of her teaching career in traditional brick & mortar schools in a variety of community types. She then moved into the rapidly growing world of online teaching where she also led professional development work with teachers as a trainer and instructional coach.
Solange proudly joined the TEALS team in October 2020. Prior to TEALS, Solange received her BA in Hospitality Management with a minor in Business, and has worked with the Security Department (MSRC) at Microsoft as an Administrative Coordinator. Outside of work, Solange enjoys cooking and hosting for her family and friends.

A native New Yorker, Tania is proud to support the development of CS programs in her city, and the broader East Coast region. She serendipitously found her way onto the team due to her involvement in handling logistics and catering for small NYC TEALS events at Microsoft. Now she handles logistics and plans events for the national TEALS team! She's never looked back.

Theresa has a BA in Economics and Business from Agnes Scott College. She later earned a MBA and a Doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction. Prior to teaching, she worked in industry. She transitioned to the classroom after 5 years and taught Business Education for 16 years. She was asked to teach CS so she trained at GA Tech as well as applied for TEALS. It was a great decision!

Tonya graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a BS in Computer Science and a MBA. After 10 years in industry with IBM and Texas Instruments, she transitioned to post-secondary education. Her teaching experience includes 7 years of high-school math and computer science and advocating for extracurricular STEM education before joining TEALS in 2018.
Willy Orozco led the Engineering and CS Department at Gulliver Prep in Miami, FL. During his time there, he improved the CS curriculum for middle school and worked to expand CS to lower school. He graduated from FIU with a bachelor of Earth Science Ed. and is a founding member of CSTA Miami. Willy lives in Miami, FL with his wife Yvy, his kids Mateo and Luna Mia.

Tracey Wilson
Regional Manager, Georgia

Tracey has a BS in Computer Science and Geology, a MS in Computer Science and also holds a M.Ed. in Media from the University of West Georgia. She worked as a network engineer and in tech support before spending 13 years teaching high-school computer science courses at The Central Educational Center in Georgia.

Trina Clark James
Regional Manager Lead, Southeast

Trina earned a BS and MS in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech and Stanford respectively before working for a decade at Bay Area technology companies with the majority of her engineering career at Apple Computer. She spent the last 15 years working in tech training with NPower and in urban public education as the Founder/CEO of a charter school in St. Louis.

Willy Orozco
Regional Manager, Florida - Miami

Willy Orozco led the Engineering and CS Department at Gulliver Prep in Miami, FL. During his time there, he improved the CS curriculum for middle school and worked to expand CS to lower school. He graduated from FIU with a bachelor of Earth Science Ed. and is a founding member of CSTA Miami. Willy lives in Miami, FL with his wife Yvy, his kids Mateo and Luna Mia.