

Hannah Pick (she/her), Director: hannah@mtnsprouts.org

I grew up in Western Washington playing in the greenbelt behind my house and camping with my family. Being outdoors has always been an integral part of my life. Even though my background is in music. I've been an early childhood educator since 2013 and Mountain Sprouts is by far the most incredible place I've worked. I can't imagine being anywhere else!

I am passionate about getting kids outside for play-based, nature immersion learning. I love being outdoors with my own daughter too. We spend a lot of time camping, biking, walking through the woods and playing in the garden. We practice the scandinavian art of *friluftsliv*, roughly translated from norwegian as 'open-air living,' a philosophy I enjoy sharing with our Mountain Sprouts community.



Robin Moser (she/her),
Financial and Administrative Coordinator
& on-call teacher:
finance@mtnsprouts.org

Robin is a grandmother (Grammy Robin) to 8 children - all are in military families that move around.

She performs administrative and financial functions in addition to subbing in the classrooms on occasion.

Working at Mountain Sprouts allows Robin to take joy in watching young persons!



Kealani Yamamoto (she/her), Willow Co-lead kea@mtnsprouts.org I grew up in Cashmere, the small town neighboring Leavenworth. I come from a family of outdoor enthusiasts. In the winter we downhill skied at mission ridge, and in the summer we attended "Camp Grandpa" at Lake Wenatchee. My grandparents are true adventurers, fostering a love for the outdoors for me and my brother (and a healthy sibling rivalry!)

Our favorite camp days were seeing how many activities we could squeeze into one day- we would waterski, mountain bike, hike, paddle, and sail before dinner time!

I was a competitive runner in high school and college, specializing in steeple chase at Lewis-Clark State College in Idaho. I finished my degree in Elementary Education with a minor in literacy in 2019.

I have my own small business, Kealani Designs, where I get to share my artistic abilities through many art mediums.

Mountain Sprouts is a welcoming community where I get to explore the outdoors, use my artistic abilities, and inspire young minds. It is a magical place that creates "camp grandpa" nostalgia for me everyday!



Blakely Browne (he/him), Willow Co-lead blakely@mtnsprouts.org

Blakely grew up in Leavenworth and feels a deep sense of kinship with the land, people and creatures big and small that inhabit the place. As a youngster, he enjoyed playing in the river, roaming through the hills, and learning about the places and spaces he is so fortunate to be surrounded by. After graduating from Cascade High School, he pursued a Bachelor of Arts from the University of British Columbia. In Vancouver, his studies in Geography and Spanish deepened his understanding of the ways in which people relate culturally, ecologically and spiritually to the land they live in.

From there, he traveled and worked in a variety of settings, from teaching at VanDusen Botanical Gardens in Vancouver, to working with Upper Valley MEND's food security programs, to building off-grid homes on BC's gulf islands. Throughout these experiences, Blakely's passion for working with young people has remained strong, and he is so excited to spend time with the youth of the Wenatchee Valley; walking, teaching, and continuing to learn about the places he has strolled through since he was their age.



Emma Holmberg (she/her), Ponderosa co-lead: emma@mtnsprouts.org Hi there, I'm Emma! I moved to the area with my dog Lupa and my boyfriend Eli the summer of 2022 after living on the west side for six years. We spent four years in Bellingham where I obtained my Bachelor's degree in Anthropology at Western Washington University. After that, we moved to Kirkland where I worked as a lead teacher at the Goddard School.

We decided we wanted to be closer to family so we chose to leave Kirkland and are now Upper Valley locals. In my free time I like to take take my dog on snowshoeing adventures. We love to explore new trails along Ingalls creek! When I'm not teaching, I barista at The Rock and I do commissioned artwork. My favorite thing to create is nature scenes, people and animals. I also love to spend time with my family. If you see me around town don't hesitate to stop and say hello!



McAlister Buchanan (she/her), Ponderosa Co-Lead: mcalister@mtnsprouts.org

Named after a lake in the North Cascades, I grew up with a deep love for the mountains! I spend my days re-tracing the trails my dad knew as a kid, or exploring new ones-- foraging, fishing, skiing, writing poetry or cliff jumping along the way.

My friends sometimes joke that I am a toddler, but my kid-spirit has found a home here at Mountain Sprouts-- thriving where laughter, curiosity and tears are equally welcome. I believe children are leaders in matters of vulnerability, creativity and connection, and I consider it an honor to be among them. I feel valued at Mountain Sprouts because I get to be an active teacher AND learner, because of the encouragement and support we receive in continuing our development as professionals, creatives, and as a team.



Stefanie Guzman (she/her), Spruce Lead: stefanie@mtnsprouts.org

I was born and raised in our beautiful town of Leavenworth and able to experience all of the amazing things nature has to offer here. I am grateful to be a part of this close knit community. I am eager to meet you all and build connections to help your child flourish.

Over the seven years I've worked in this field, I have become very passionate about teaching. I focus on how I can best relate to children and help them grow through their developmental stages. Being at Mountain Sprouts opens the door to a whole new meaning of real life learning experiences.

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my husband and our english bulldogs. Together we enjoy hiking, skiing, paddle boarding, exploring the PNW and always reading a good book!

Here's to a great year!



Dandelion (they/them), Spruce assistant: Dani@mtnsprouts.org

I am Dandelion. I have been teaching kiddos for the last five years, expanding their minds through wood working and creative building. Though I've lived all over Washington, my home is where my feet touch the ground. I'm excited to be part of mountain sprouts and expand knowledge and imagination along the way.

I am passionate about sustainability, reducing our carbon footprint, plants, and water. I am often outdoors swimming, longboarding, or enjoying the breeze when I'm out for a walk. My partner and I enjoy camping, cooking outdoors, thrift shopping, and finding new ways to create art. I am thankful to be here and thankful to use nature as our foundation for learning



Heather Dronen (she/her), Evergreen Floater: heather@mtnsprouts.org Heather grew up in the Wenatchee Valley and has experience as a preschool teacher in the outdoor setting. She will support the Evergreen program for 2023 - 2024 as a part time floater. Heather looks forward to working at Mountain Sprouts while also running her photography business: About — Mountain Heather Photography.