Meet the Admin Team

Hanna Gebretensae, Director

Hanna Gebretensae joined Eliot Pearson the summer of 2013 as the new Director. Prior to that, she was the Director of Early Childhood Programs at Aspire Institute/Wheelock College. She has extensive experience in the field of early education and care including direct services, administration of programs, teacher education, training/technical assistance, mentoring, anti-bias curriculum/cultural competency and policy work across Massachusetts and nationally. Hanna has been a program director at Acorn Center for Early Education and Care, a bilingual Chinese/English center and a Mentor-Director for early childhood programs in Boston supporting accreditation and quality of programs in the city. She is a diversity trainer certified by Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and various programs and organizations. Hanna has held adjunct faculty positions at Lesley University, Wheelock College and the Urban College of Boston on a variety of early childhood topics. Prior to coming to the US, Hanna also managed early childhood program development and projects in East Africa and worked with UNICEF. Hanna received a bachelor’s degree in Human Development and Early Childhood Education from Lesley College; received her master’s in Educational Administration, Planning, and Policy from Harvard University; and a Doctoral degree in Educational Leadership with a concentration on Curriculum and Instruction from University of Phoenix. She also holds a certificate in Educating Children with Special Needs from the Golda Meir International Training College in Haifa, Israel and is a CAYL Fellow in Early Care and Education Policy.

Leah Eyob, School Coordinator

Leah is excited to be a part of the Eliot-Pearson Children’s School administrative team. She attended George Mason University and studied English Literature. At Mason, she was particularly interested in how the history and cultures of immigrant populations were preserved through folklore and mythology. She worked at Apex, a company that worked with publishers, museums and archives to preserve their collections. She spearheaded a research project to find out how to help university generated materials meet new and comprehensive standards for accessibility. Leah has also worked with grant recipients to make user friendly free archives for historical newspapers. Before coming to Boston, Leah worked at Visiting Angels, a company that provides elder care. There she coordinated with families and medical professionals to provide empathic, safe, and customized home care services for the elderly. Leah has been privileged to work in environments that value demographic and experiential diversity. As a result, she knows how much richness and intelligence that diversity can bring to the learning experience. Leah comes from a large extended family that blessed her with lots of experience in childcare. She hopes to bring her passion for social justice, accessibility, storytelling to the school. In her free time, Leah enjoys experimenting in the kitchen, learning about other cultures through food and travel, and spending time with family and friends.
Gabriela Herrera, Education Specialist

Gaby has been in the field of early childhood education for over nine years. She has held both classroom and administrative positions in different school settings. Her experience working in several countries and with diverse populations have helped her understand the value of culturally diverse practices and integrating it into her daily work. Gaby is passionate about enabling children to use their unique perspectives and talents to contribute to their community.

Marisa Doyle, Enrichment Program Coordinator

Before working at EPCS Marisa graduated from the University of Connecticut in 2021 with her BA in speech, language, and hearing sciences. She has worked extensively with children at the 4-H New London County Camp as a counselor, teaching assistant at Sacred Heart University’s Horizons Program, and one-to-one special rights assistant at John Mead Elementary School. Marisa started as EliotPearson’s staff assistant but is now the Enrichment Program Coordinator. She plans to attend Tufts University’s Public Health Program in the fall semester and concentrate on healthcare statistics and analytics. Throughout Marisa’s life dance has been her passion, especially tap dancing. While at UConn she was tap team coordinator and performed at multiple competitions across New England. Marisa's personal interests include exploring Boston, traveling, attending hockey & baseball games, and painting.

Lynne May Lim, School Specialist

Lynne May has been an early childhood educator for thirty years and has held head teacher and administrative positions at EPCS. She brings to our community her vast experience working with young children of diverse learning profiles and backgrounds, and her perspective on anti-bias education based on her professional and personal experiences as a cisgender woman, a parent, an immigrant to the USA, a teacher of young children, and as a person of the global majority. She is an advocate for interdisciplinary, multi-modal, multisensory, and project-based emergent curriculum that seeks to activate children’s inherent curiosity and build upon their strengths and prior knowledge to make meaning of new experiences and solve all kinds of problems. Lynne May finds mentoring and coaching experienced and novice teachers as invigorating as playing with children. When not teaching, Lynne May enjoys spending time with family and friends, taking walks, and noticing her surroundings. Her interests include drawing, music, and using still and moving images to capture moments and tell stories. She holds a Master of Art in Teaching Early Childhood Education from National-Louis University in Illinois, and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of the Philippines.