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Simon's Rock Announces New Faculty and Staff for Fall 2023

GREAT BARRINGTON, MA—Ushering in the new school year, Simon's Rock is pleased to announce a number of new faculty and staff joining the community. With the launch of the Bard Queer Leadership Project and the expansion of the Center for Equity and Inclusion, each of these new members of our community speaks to the exciting and progressive changes at Simon's Rock. Please find the list of our new faculty and staff below.

Molly Albrecht
Dean of Students

Molly has been serving as our Interim Dean of Students since January and has collaborated across the Simon's Rock community to understand and to help improve the overall student experience. She facilitated a section of our FYE program and initiated Dean's Hour which provided a forum for student interest and voice.

Prior to joining Simon's Rock, Molly served as the Associate Director and then the Executive Director of Bard Early College Hudson Valley responsible for co-leading the opening of the expansion into Dutchess County. In her role of Associate Director she was responsible for student support. She is also currently teaching in the BARD MAT program. She holds a MAT from SUNY New Paltz, a B.A in History from Fordham University and Certification in Social Justice in Educational Leadership from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership at Manhattanville College.

(B.A. History, Fordham at Marymount; MAT, SUNY New Paltz.; Certification in Social Justice in Educational Leadership, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts) is a faculty member in education and a NYS school administrator.

Molly was the Associate Director of Bard Early College Hudson Valley where she co-led the opening of the expansion into Dutchess County. In the Bard MAT, she teaches Problems of Practice, a course that serves as a forum for refining challenges of lesson planning, instruction,

assessment, and classroom management. Molly was recently Managing Editor for Voices in the Classroom, the Bard MAT blog where she highlighted both MAT alumni/ae and educators exploring their Why in teaching and what sustains their passion as educators. She is currently a part of the Bard Enhanced Network Teacher Education Capacity Program, where she facilitates teacher trainings on topics addressing climate change curriculum across the disciplines and trauma-informed pedagogy. Molly is currently pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership at Manhattanville College.

Molly lives with her family in the Hudson Valley where she enjoys hiking with her daughter and her standard poodle.

Kate Glavin

Associate Dean of Studies for Bard Academy and First-Year Students

Kate Glavin is the Associate Dean of Studies for Bard Academy and First-Year Students at Bard Academy and Bard College at Simon's Rock. She holds an MA in Literature from the University of South Dakota as well as an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Massachusetts Boston. She was most recently an Assistant Professor of Liberal Arts at Berklee College of Music and taught there for five years.

Carla Stephens

Director of the Bard Queer Leadership Project at Bard College at Simon's Rock

Dr. Carla R. Stephens holds a B.A. in Political Science and History as well as a PhD in History from Temple University. Her areas of interest include the transnational nature of the black freedom struggle in the 1950s–1970s, particularly activism by African Americans in the liberation struggles of the former Portuguese colonies in Africa. She also earned her M.S. in Educational Leadership at Montclair State University. Carla became founding faculty at Bard High School Early College in Newark, NJ in 2011. Carla was promoted to the principalship in 2017 and served the youth and Newark community for six years.

Carla brings leadership training and experience from four years at the United States Naval Academy, a decade as a manager in a Fortune 500 multinational corporation, and six years as an educational leader to her new position as Director of the Bard Queer Leadership Project at Bard College at Simon's Rock.

Jack Burkart

Faculty in Mathematics

Jack Burkart received his Ph.D in Mathematics from Stony Brook University in May 2021. After that, Jack spent two years doing postdoctoral work at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and at the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (now SLMATH). His research has primarily been spent on problems at the interface between fractal geometry and complex dynamical systems. Jack enjoys teaching mathematics of all types to students, whether they are advanced math majors who want to get a Ph.D in a subject or first year students who may not take another math course again.

Kameryn J. Williams
Faculty in Mathematics

Bio: PhD in Mathematics, The Graduate Center, CUNY (2018)
B.S. in Mathematics, Boise State University (2013)

Kameryn traveled around the United States before landing at Simon's Rock in 2023. After a childhood in the American west they went to graduate school in New York City. They then held post-doctoral positions at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in Honolulu, Hawai'i and at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas before returning to the northeast. Their research interests are in logic, especially set theory and models of arithmetic, and they are interested in connections between mathematical logic and other areas of mathematics, and to philosophy and computer science. They enjoy teaching in those areas, as well as across the mathematics curriculum. When not studying mathematical cardinals Kameryn enjoys watching cardinals and other birds, long walks in nature, and tabletop roleplaying games.

Kirsten Keels

Program Manager for Center for Equity, Inclusion, Community, Council for Equity & Inclusion

Kirsten is a multifaceted individual with a passion for music, cultural exploration, and self-care. Originally from Arkansas, she holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Princeton University, where her work focused on ethnography and South Korean language and culture. As a Fulbright Scholar in South Korea, Kirsten had the unique opportunity to immerse herself in researching the relationship between Black People, Black Music, and Korea. Now back in the States, Kirsten is happy to join us at Simon's Rock! Beyond her academic pursuits, Kirsten is a fervent advocate for self-care and well-being. This philosophy led her to develop an interest in all things skincare, self love, and oatmilk matcha lattes.

Want to practice your Korean or catch up over a sheet mask? Head over to the Center for Equity and Inclusion or visit Kirsten during her office hours. If you miss her there, you can catch her on her final love: tiktok.

About Simon's Rock

[Bard College at Simon's Rock](#) is the only college in the country specifically designed for highly motivated students ready to enter college after the 10th or 11th grade. Simon's Rock offers a challenging program in the liberal arts and sciences, taught exclusively in small seminars by supportive, highly trained faculty, who are leading scholars in their fields. The College grants degrees in more than 35 majors. The Princeton Review's *Best 380 Colleges* rates academics at Simon's Rock higher than Harvard and Princeton.

[Bard Academy at Simon's Rock](#) is the nation's first two-year boarding and day program designed to prepare 9th and 10th graders to start college early. A student entering Bard Academy as a high school freshman will earn an Associate of Arts degree from Bard College at

Simon's Rock after only four years and a Bachelor of Arts degree after only six years. The Academy curriculum is designed and taught by students' future college professors who are leading scholars in their fields.

[The Bard Queer Leadership Project](#) (BQLP) is a revolutionary, new Bachelor of Arts degree program designed for, and by, LGBTQIA+ college students to elevate LGBTQIA+ students and college graduates into leadership roles in school and across the workforce while serving as a space for actualizing educational practices designed for students to thrive. The centerpiece of BQLP is a four year dual major B.A. degree combining Queer Leadership with a second academic field.

For more information, visit simons-rock.edu and bardacademy.simons-rock.edu

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