

**ANDREW PUDEWA** is the director of the Institute for Excellence in Writing. He travels and speaks around the world, addressing issues related to teaching, writing, thinking, spelling, and music with clarity, insight, practical experience, and humor. His seminars for parents, students, and teachers have helped transform many a reluctant writer and have equipped educators with powerful tools to dramatically improve students' skills.

Andrew is a graduate of the Talent Education Institute in Japan and holds a Certificate of Child Brain Development from the Institutes for the Achievement of Human Potential in Philadelphia.



**LEIGH LOWE** is the daughter-in-law of Cheryl Lowe, founder of Memoria Press and Highlands Latin School. Leigh was one of Cheryl's first hired teachers and worked closely with Cheryl for years, as a teacher, editor, and writer, helping to develop Cheryl's vision for classical education. Leigh is currently busy raising her five children (all students at Highlands Latin School) with her husband, Brian, but she finds the time to consult on curriculum, train teachers at conferences, and speak publicly about education and the vision of Memoria Press and Highlands Latin School.

**DR. KEVIN DRAY** holds a B.A. in English from Oklahoma Baptist University as well as two master's degrees and a Ph.D. from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Kevin loves teaching and has a wealth of experience, both in brick-and-mortar classical schools and online schools. He has taught for nine years for the Memoria Press Online Academy in the areas of Latin, *Classical Composition*, and classical and Christian studies. He serves as the new director of the Classical and Christian Studies department for MPOA. Kevin is a true Renaissance man and has experience with students of all ages. He lives in Oklahoma with his wife and two children. He spends any free time he can find with his family, reading, listening to music, and watching films.



**KATHY BECKER** travels the West promoting classical education as a school representative for Memoria Press. Whether writing or speaking, she is committed to furthering a deeper understanding of all that is True, Good, and Beautiful. Teaching her own six children throughout the K-12 years before transitioning to administration in a classical school has given her a unique perspective on the importance of classical education in the home and school. When not traveling, Kathy lives with her husband on a 150,000-acre cattle ranch in "the back of beyond," a perfect place for solitude and reflection.

## *Opening Speaker*

**CARRIE MCGRAW** currently serves as the homeschool liaison for Memoria Press, where she feels blessed to touch base with homeschoolers and encourage them on their homeschool journey. Before joining the team, Carrie homeschooled her four children with Memoria Press over a period of 12 years. During this time, she taught at the Highlands Latin Cottage School; her children attended the cottage school and eventually Highlands Latin School. Throughout 26 years of marriage, Carrie and her husband, Marcus, have revelled in the experiences of classical education, focusing on family, faith, sports, scouting, and much more.

**MICHELLE B.** originally started out with a career in park ranger law enforcement, but began homeschooling her oldest child seven years ago after he struggled in a large mainstream kindergarten classroom. Now after adding his two younger sisters to the school table, she has taught every level of Simply Classical through Levels 5 & 6 and the Classical Core Curriculum through fifth grade. Her greatest joy is sharing her experience with other families and encouraging them on their journey.

**DENNY BURK** is a professor of biblical studies at Boyce College, the undergraduate school of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He also serves as an associate pastor at Kenwood Baptist Church and is the president of the Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood. Denny is the author/co-author of several books including *Transforming Homosexuality* and *What Is the Meaning of Sex?* He is married to Susan, and they have four children ages 16, 14, 12, and 9.

**SUSAN BURK** enjoys her current hybrid homeschooling experience with her four children, ages 16, 14, 12, and 9, attending the HLS Cottage School. She has been homeschooling using Memoria Press for 10 years. She formerly worked as a speech-language pathologist in the Plano Independent School District, private practice, and the University of Louisville's Weisskopf Child Evaluation Center. She and her husband, Denny, have been married 22 years. She also enjoys her role as a professor/pastor's wife. Susan received her B.A. in speech-language pathology from Louisiana Tech University and her M.A. in communication disorders from Louisiana State University.

**ELISABETH CAULEY** is a mom of three—a son and two daughters—and is beginning her seventh year of homeschooling with Memoria Press. She and her husband, Christopher, founded the Highlands Latin Cottage School in Anderson, South Carolina, in 2018 in order for other families to benefit from classical, Christian, and traditional values and support a local Highlands Latin School. Elisabeth's heart is for her home, where she enjoys entertaining, bringing beauty to the ordinary, penning a handwritten note of thanks or encouragement, and blessing family and friends with a little "surcie."

**TANYA CHARLTON** entered into education with her two boys, Nick and Tyler. She had no good options for their schooling, so she decided to do it herself. She discovered classical education through Cheryl Lowe, who became her mentor when Tanya started teaching at Highlands Latin School (a two-day hybrid school at that point). After several years, Cheryl asked Tanya to become the curriculum director for Highlands Latin School and Memoria Press. Tanya currently manages the operation of Memoria Press and is the managing editor of *The Classical Teacher*. Every day she is thrilled to be able to share her passion for classical education and homeschooling. Tanya has a B.A. in English from Milligan College and a B.S. in accounting from Troy State University.

**JON CHRISTIANSON** is the Latin director at Memoria Press. He teaches Latin and classical studies at Highlands Latin School and the Memoria Press Online Academy. He oversees the development of Latin curriculum, contributes to the addition of new and updated Latin volumes, writes for *The Classical Teacher*, and takes part in video production both for Latin instructional videos and social media outreach. He lives in Louisville with his wife, Anna, and his two sons.

**LINDSEY ENGLAND** has been homeschooling with Memoria Press for 11 years. She and her husband, Todd, live in the country with their eight children and 16 chickens. When she isn't teaching her kids, washing their dirty clothes, or driving them to sports, Lindsey can be found reading, cooking, or listening to music.

**JULIE GUNLOCK**

**RYAN GRIGSBY** serves as the director of marketing for Memoria Press and Highlands Latin School. Ryan leads the creative team and oversees all marketing efforts for both MP and HLS. He earned a B.S. in sports administration with a marketing minor from Olivet Nazarene University. Since graduating college, Ryan has worked in the education space in various roles. Ryan lives in Louisville with his wife, Lori, and son, Cooper.

**SUSAN HARGETT** has been homeschooling her three neurologically divergent children since 2012, when her oldest child was 5 years old. She began using Memoria Press materials in 2014 and Simply Classical in 2015, becoming committed to a classical Christian education for her children ever since. She firmly believes that the Simply Classical materials and community have given her the strength, humor, resilience, and hope required to persevere through the challenges of educating her differently abled children at home.

**ANASTASIA (STACI) HEDER** is a wife, mother of five, and passionate classical educator. She has spent the last decade using the Memoria Press curriculum at home and in the classroom. Staci started a small co-op in a few rented classrooms in 2014. That program has grown to three campuses in the greater Los Angeles area over the last eight years. She now operates her three cottage schools remotely and teaches Latin at Belmont Classical Academy in American Fork, Utah. Outside the classroom, Staci enjoys reading, hiking, and entertaining at home.

**DEBBIE & ERIC HENDERSON** were taking a walk with their 1-year-old daughter when they noticed Highlands Latin School's Crescent Hill campus. After attending an open house and doing subsequent research, they resolved that their kids would attend Highlands Latin School. Before their daughter was school-aged, life pulled them in a different direction to Des Moines, Iowa, where a church member mentioned that her family homeschooled. She described her curriculum, which sounded a lot like Highlands Latin School! The realization that the HLS curriculum was available to them through Memoria Press persuaded Eric and Debbie to homeschool their three children, and they have never looked back. Debbie has homeschooled full time for the past eight years, while Eric works as an actuary. Additionally, Debbie is a moderator for Vita Beata discussion groups and is working her way through the Latin Forms Series with the MPOA adult classes.

**KYLE JANKE** has been a teacher at Highlands Latin School for 10 years. Although his first love and primary study has always been literature, he has also developed a course in art history and appreciation, has taught Latin and logic, and leads a drawing club on campus twice a year. He holds a B.A. from Hillsdale College and an M.A. from Eastern Michigan University. He lives in Louisville with his wife and five sons, who are more delightful and more challenging than any book he has ever read—even *Moby Dick*.

**VANESSA JANKE** was compelled to begin homeschooling her children in fall 2021 after years of working closely with other homeschooling families as an assistant director and literature teacher at the Highlands Latin Cottage School. Previously, Vanessa's children attended Highlands Latin School full time, but her heart ached to be the one formally showing them Goodness, Truth, and Beauty in their studies. She lives with her husband, Kyle, and their five boys in the woods in Indiana, where they hope to spend many years reading good books, cooking wild game over a fire, listening to rock and roll, and arguing about which Renaissance artist was the greatest.

**ABIGAIL JOHNSON** is a longtime lover of classical education, being in a classical school since eighth grade and earning her undergraduate degree from New Saint Andrews College. She has loved being an instructor for the Memoria Press Online Academy since joining in 2012, teaching composition and a wide variety of literature. Each year she enjoys the opportunity to visit old favorites and appreciate their beauty and genius more deeply. She also travels for Memoria Press to train educators in classical instruction. When not grading essays, Abigail enjoys classical music, watching ballet, and cooking new recipes for her husband and their three children.

**BRETT KENNEDY** is the father of five children, ages 8 to 16. He graduated from Eckerd College, where he developed an appreciation of the classics. While studying abroad in London, he met a homeschool graduate and decided that this was the path he would pursue for his future family. He plays a supporting role to his wife, Dianna, the primary educator in their household, by cooking breakfasts for picky eaters and introducing them to classic rock. He enjoys trail running, mountain biking, kayaking, and binging on science podcasts.

**DIANNA KENNEDY** is a veteran homeschooling mother of six children, ages 8 to 27. In her homeschool, she manages special needs including ADHD, dyslexia, dysgraphia, auditory processing disorder, and articulation concerns. She balances teaching her children at home alongside working part time as a registered nurse. Once her children are asleep, she stays up late writing to share her practical tips on her website: [www.thekennedyadventures.com](http://www.thekennedyadventures.com).

**AMANDA LANG** fell in love with Latin and the classical world in middle school because of a phenomenal Latin teacher whose contagious enthusiasm inspired her students. She began tutoring younger Latin students when she was still in high school and has continued ever since. In addition to homeschooling her three boys, she has about three dozen Latin and logic students who joyfully invade her living room for class every Monday afternoon. Amanda has a B.A. in classical languages from the University of Florida and is currently working toward a master's degree with Memoria College.

**AMY MCVAY** is a 27-year homeschool veteran. She and her husband, Sam, have nine children and now, amazingly enough, 20 grandchildren! Remaining active in the home are a fourth grader, seventh grader, college student, and daughter (overseas). Amy has been using Memoria Press as her curriculum for the last nine years and is in her sixth year facilitating a one-day classical co-op called Coop 412 using Memoria Press. The longer she goes, the more she loves the difficult yet rewarding path of true classical Christian education.

**MICHAEL MILOVANCEV** is an Ohio native and has homeschooled his three children using the Memoria Press curriculum since 2018. Having earned Bachelor and Master of Science degrees, he teaches upper school and science classes at Highlands Latin Nashville. Michael is an avid reader and lover of classical Christian education, theology, and Church history. When he is not cheering on the Ohio State Buckeyes, Michael loves to spend time with his wife and children playing strategy games, being outdoors and gardening, scavenging through used bookstores, and making sourdough and paper airplane creations.

**LARISSA NUSZ** is a homeschooling mother of two, ages 8 and 11. She has taught eight grade levels within Memoria Press, but she particularly loves unlocking the mystery of reading for her children. Larissa traces her love of reading back to her father, a pastor, who made the Scriptures come alive each evening after dinner. After traveling the globe with her military family, Larissa settled down on the East Coast, where she received her B.A. in English education from Old Dominion University. There she met and married her husband of 20 years. Larissa has since started a small co-op where she teaches Latin and *Classical Composition*, and she frequently mentors parents new to Memoria Press within her community. When not teaching, Larissa enjoys the outdoors and books on military or Church history.

**JESSICA PHILLIPS** is a 12-year homeschooling veteran who found her home with Memoria Press in 2012 when a *Classical Teacher* issue arrived in her mailbox. She co-founded Highlands Latin Nashville Cottage School in 2016 and still co-directs and teaches Latin. Jessica loves to read, talk about what she's reading, and connect people who ought to know one another. She is currently pursuing a master's degree with Memoria College and is an adult Latin student with MPOA. Her joys are her husband, children, and home.

**ANGEL PREGONT** is a 17-year homeschool veteran who has two children in college, another heading to college in the fall, and two still in high school. She is a co-founder and co-director of Highlands Latin Nashville Cottage School where she has taught literature and currently teaches Latin. She holds an M.S. Ed. in college administration from Indiana University and a B.A. in history from the University of Tennessee. In her spare time, Angel loves to sip coffee and read on her front porch.

**DEBBIE RACKERS** has been homeschooling over 15 years. She lives in Missouri and has seven children ages 27 to 8. Only two are still at home and homeschooling: a rising tenth grader enrolled in the MPOA Diploma Program and a rising third grader. She has been using *Classical Composition* from her early days of homeschooling even before MP republished it. She is an engineer by training and believes that if she, a math and science gal, can teach *Classical Composition*, then anyone can.

**MICHELLE RECHER** is a mom of four, ages 4 through 13, and is heading into her 10th year of homeschooling and her eighth year of using Memoria Press. The vision of Truth, Goodness, and Beauty from Memoria Press, coupled with the practical schedules, lesson plans, and community support, allows her to give her children the classical education she wishes for them, while keeping up with their unpredictable life and schedules. In her non-homeschool time, she enjoys reading for her own enjoyment and spending time outside exploring nature with her children.

**KELLY ROTTMANN** has 16 years of homeschooling experience and has taught in inner-city private, classical, and rural public school settings. In order to support her "homeschooling habit," Kelly has worked as a part-time book indexer for publishers of homeschooling, religious, and scholarly materials, and she is currently employed as a part-time children's collection librarian. With the help of the Memoria Press Online Academy and her husband, Kelly has overseen the education and graduation of her two oldest sons, who have both earned college degrees and are working in full-time management and construction industry positions. She continues to homeschool her youngest, "differently-abled," 17-year-old son with autism, Tourette syndrome, and several other diagnoses. His favorite Memoria Press subjects include *Classical Composition*, Latin, logic, and geography.

**ERIC SCHWARTZ** holds a bachelor's degree from Eastern Kentucky University in construction management and an associate degree from Bluegrass Community & Technical College in industrial maintenance. He currently works in the maintenance department at the Toyota Plant in Georgetown, Kentucky. Eric and his wife, Ruth, grew up in a community that valued homeschooling and classical education. He was homeschooled and attended public high school himself, giving him a unique perspective on education. He supports Ruth being at home and teaching their four children. When he isn't at work, Eric enjoys tinkering with machines and playing unique and challenging board games with his family.

**RUTH SCHWARTZ** has taught for the Memoria Press Online Academy since the fall of 2011. She holds a B.S. and B.B.M. from the University of Kentucky. She first fell in love with Latin studying under Martin Cothran at Mars Hill Academy in Lexington, Kentucky, and has pursued sharing that passion with new generations of Latin students. Ruth balances teaching with homeschooling her four children. She has a deep love for homeschooling and has found a great fit with Memoria Press. In her free time, she enjoys practicing calligraphy, sewing and crocheting, and cooking new things for her family.

**DR. D. T. SHEFFLER** is professor of philosophy at Memoria College. He holds a Ph.D. in philosophy and M.A. in classics from the University of Kentucky. He has taught philosophy, Latin, Greek, history, composition, and great books at the college and high school level. He writes about Christian Platonism, early Christianity, conservatism, and twentieth-century Catholic personalism, especially the philosophy of Dietrich von Hildebrand. His writing has appeared in *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, *Quaestiones Disputatae*, *Touchstone*, and *The Imaginative Conservative*. He lives in Louisville with his wife, Rose, and three children, Ebenezer, Autumn, and Phineas.

**JULIE STEINACKER** is a mom of 10, ages 10-27, five graduated (three married), five still homeschooling, and a grandma to three sweet grandchildren. She has homeschooled for 20 years and has used Memoria Press for the past six years. Julie has experienced and understands the stress, frustration, and daily challenges associated with loving and educating multiple children at different levels with different needs.

**SUE STRICKLAND** is a native of California who earned a B.A. in music (vocal performance) from UCLA and began teaching Latin 20 years ago to her own children while homeschooling. For some inexplicable reason, she became addicted to studying Latin and has not stopped since. She continued her studies in Latin literature at the University of Southern Maine. In addition to teaching her own children, Susan has taught in a number of venues from one-on-one tutoring and a homeschool co-op to public and classical schools. She enjoys editing, developing, and writing Latin curricula as well. Having used Memoria Press Latin curricula for years, she is thrilled to be part of the MPOA faculty, teaching Third Form and Fourth Form as well as the National Latin Exam prep courses. Her recent delight has been teaching MPOA's new adult Latin classes. Sue lives in Maine with her husband of 35 years, Frank, who is an accountant and avid outdoorsman. They have three grown children, two of whom are married, and three grandchildren.

**CHERYL SWOPE** is the author of *Simply Classical: A Beautiful Education for Any Child* (Memoria Press) and creator of the Simply Classical Curriculum. With a master's degree in special education and lifetime teaching certifications in learning disabilities and behavior disorders, Cheryl and her husband homeschooled adopted twins (autism, learning disabilities, schizophrenia) with a classical Christian education from the children's infancy through high school graduation. Visit the many resources now available for your own family, co-op, or school at [SimplyClassical.com](http://SimplyClassical.com).

**MICHELLE TEFERTILLER** received her B.A. in education with a minor in language arts from Oklahoma Baptist University. She has written *First Start Reading Book E* and *Numbers & Colors* and has edited or contributed to many courses in the primary grades of the Classical Core Curriculum. After being an involved parent for many years at Highlands Latin School, she taught in the classroom for several years before she transitioned to her current role as director of primary education for Memoria Press and the Classical Latin School Association, where she helps teachers and schools as they transition to Memoria Press and classical education.

**JENNIFER TUTWILER** is a second-generation homeschooler and mother of seven children, ages 7 to 19, including two graduates. All of her children have various combinations of mild needs including anxiety, attention, sensory, physical, memory, and emotional regulation challenges. After experimenting with a variety of educational methods, Jennifer returned to her liberal arts roots and has been blessed to see her children thrive in their classical homeschool. She writes about seeking delight amid life's imperfections at [seekingdelectare.com](http://seekingdelectare.com).

**NIKKY WESTON** is a mother of seven currently living in North Carolina, where she and her husband work together to operate their own business in the Asheville area. She loves the Memoria Press family and will be forever grateful to Cheryl Lowe for her vision, generosity, and dedication to making the best of the classical tradition accessible to so many families.