

# Cristina Veresan, M. Ed.

www.veresan.com    cveresan@gmail.com

- ❖ **Ethnomathematics and STEM Institute (2016-2017)** one of 20 Hawai'i teachers selected as an Institute scholar for yearlong program of Hawaiian culture-based coursework, field experiences and curriculum development
- ❖ **Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship (2015-2016)** one of 4 nationally-selected secondary STEM educators for year long placement as education policy fellows in Congressional offices in Washington, D.C.
- ❖ **National Geographic Grosvenor Teacher Fellowship (2014)** one of 25 nationally-selected educators honored with yearlong fellowship including: an expedition to Arctic Svalbard; media and community outreach; and curriculum development
- ❖ **St. Lucie County Teacher of the Year (2012)** selected from thousands through interview and observation process to represent the district at various events including the Florida Teacher of the Year recognition program

## Employment

### Science Teacher

The Nueva School, Hillsborough, CA (2019-present)

- Design and instruct integrated science (grade 5) course and an Intertidal Ecology elective at independent PK-12 school serving gifted learners with focus on social-emotional learning, environmental justice, and design thinking
- 5th/6th grade Advisor
- 2020 Dan L. Chu Outstanding Faculty Award recipient
- Mentor Teacher in Nueva's Innovative Teacher Program since 2020
- Collaboratively facilitate a multi-day field study trip in Monterey, CA

### IB Science Teacher

Le Jardin Academy, Kailua HI (2016-present)

- Design and instruct grade 6 integrated science and grade 7 life science courses at K-12 International Baccalaureate (IB) school with focus on global citizenship, technology integration, and project-based learning
- Facilitated program of field investigations & service learning in Kawaiinui Marsh with the Division of Land & Natural Resources
- Founding faculty advisor of the middle school Environmental Science Club

### Education Policy Fellow

Office of U.S. Senator Al Franken, Washington DC (2015-2016)

- Advanced Senator Franken's K-12 and postsecondary education priorities under the direction of the Legislative Director
- Conducted legislative research and synthesized information to write memos, remarks, correspondence, and bill text
- Staffed Senator Franken at meetings, hearings, and events related to education
- Met and corresponded with various stakeholder groups and Minnesota constituents regarding education issues

### Science Teacher, Assistant Principal, Science Curriculum Chair

Star of the Sea School, Honolulu HI (2012-2015)

- Designed and instructed grade 6-8 integrated science courses
- Coordinated trip to the National Geographic's BioBlitz on Hawaii island
- Assistant Principal duties included school-wide curriculum and professional development work, managing student behavior issues, and serving as Principal when necessary
- Science Curriculum Chair duties included facilitating school-wide science curriculum alignment, providing science resources to elementary teachers, and authoring the science self-study for school accreditation
- Implemented *From Mauka to Makai: Understanding Climate Change in the Ahupua'a*, a year-long program of STEM-based environmental field studies, culminating in original conservation projects

### K-12 Science Curriculum Supervisor

District Office, St. Lucie Public Schools, Fort Pierce, FL (2011-2012)

- Founded the district's Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM) initiative
- Aligned science curriculum documents in grades K-12 to state and national standards
- Facilitated teacher professional development in science content and research-based pedagogy
- Designed quarterly benchmark assessments for science grades 3-12 and analyzed student achievement data
- Produced the *Intel-St. Lucie County Regional Science and Engineering Fair* and the *St. Lucie Community Science Showcase*

### Science Teacher, Science Department Chair, Science Fair Coordinator

Southport Middle School, St. Lucie Public Schools, Port St. Lucie, FL (2006-2011)

- 2012 Southport Middle School Teacher of the Year; selected through schoolwide faculty/staff vote
- Designed and instructed grade 7 life science and advanced life science courses
- Facilitated program of field investigations in Savannas Preserve State Park supported by competitive grants

## **Education**

New England College, Henniker, NH (2007-2011)

M. Ed. Curriculum and Instruction; Thesis: *Place-Based, Experiential Learning in Middle School Science*

Upper Valley Educator Institute, Lebanon, NH (2005-2006)

Teacher certification; Student-teaching in 10<sup>th</sup> grade Biology/Marine Biology and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Earth Science

Emerson College, Boston, MA (1999-2002)

B.A. *cum laude*; Major: Communication Arts; Minor: Biological Science

Sea Education Association, Sea Semester, Woods Hole, MA (Spring 2001)

Studied nautical science, oceanography, and maritime history onshore and aboard the *SSV Corwith Cramer*

Miss Porter's School, Farmington, CT (1993-1997)

Private college preparatory boarding school for girls

## **Professional Development**

**Presenter**, National Science Teaching Association National Conferences

- *Science Storytelling: Student Activism Through Film* (2021)
- *My Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship* (2016)
- *Exploring Global Regions and Resources with National Geographic Education* (2014)
- *Common Core + Science Standards= Scientific Literacy* (2013)

**Invited Presenter**, Oahu Science Symposium for Girls

- *Measuring Biodiversity: Life in the Limu* (2017) and *Real Life "Frozen": An Arctic Adventure* (2015)

### **Selected Training:**

Teaching Global Climate Change in Your Classroom, National Geographic (2020); Storytelling for Impact in Your Classroom: Photography, National Geographic (2020); How to Deliver a Nat Geo Educator Certification Phase I Workshop, National Geographic (2019); National Geographic Educator Certification, National Geographic (2019); Long-term Monitoring Program and Experiential Training for Students (LiMPETS) Sand Crabs (2019); Making the Most of Science Notebooks, California Academy of Sciences (2019); Long-term Monitoring Program and Experiential Training for Students (LiMPETS) Rocky Intertidal (2019); International Baccalaureate MYP Sciences (2017); Space Foundation Lucy Enos Memorial Scholarship (2014); Science Teachers Aboard Research Ships (STARS) Fellowship (2013); Marzano Art & Science of Teaching (2011-2012)

## **National Publications**

*Women Scientists Today: Challenging Stereotypes*, MiddleWeb, March 2019

*The Microscopic World of Plankton*, ScienceScope, January 2019

*Life Lessons at Hawai'i BioBlitz*, National Geographic Education, June 2015

*Cristina Veresan Meets the Arctic Food Chain*, National Geographic Education, November 2014

*Expedition Photography (for beginners!)*, Huffington Post online, June 2014

## **Relevant Volunteer Experiences**

### **Program Coordinator for *Einstein Explorers!***

Richard Byrd Library, Springfield, VA (2015-2016)

- Established and coordinated a series of hand-on STEM workshops by Einstein fellows for local youth from Title I schools

### **Fisheries Research Technician**

Midwater Assessment and Conservation Engineering Program (MACE), Gulf of Alaska (summer 2015)

- One of 22 nationally-selected educators for 2015 field season of NOAA's Teacher-at-Sea program
- Assisted with fisheries data collection for Walleye-Pollock acoustic-trawl survey aboard the NOAA ship *Oscar Dyson* under the supervision of Chief Scientist Darin Jones ; Designed classroom lessons related to fisheries science and NOAA careers

### **Volunteer Exhibit Interpreter**

Waikiki Aquarium, Honolulu, HI (2012-2015)

- Presented natural history information and guided visitor observations at an outdoor reef exhibit