



MEET THE PARKLANDS EDUCATION TEAM



CURTIS CARMAN *Director of Education*

Curtis oversees The Parklands Outdoor Classroom, promoting STEAM-based education through engaging, hands-on learning both outdoors and inside the classroom. Each year, his team guides nearly 20,000 participants of all ages through school field trips, camps, Junior Explorer, Wednesday Wonders and more! Prior to his promotion to Education Director in May of 2018, Curtis joined The Parklands team as an Interpretive Ranger and led the department as Education Coordinator for three years. Curtis holds a Master of Science degree in Natural Resource Management from the University of Denver as well as a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from Ohio University. A native of Louisville and a graduate of Ballard High School, Curtis returned to his hometown in 2014 after working as an environmental educator in Maine and Colorado at Acadia and Rocky Mountain National Parks. Curtis also served as Membership Manager at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy.



ERIN KINNETZ *Education Specialist*

Erin Kinnetz joined The Parklands as a camp counselor in the summer of 2017, and transitioned to the role of Interpretive Ranger. In February 2018, Erin was promoted to Education Specialist where she oversees Wednesday Wonders, in-school outreach and field trips. She is also in charge of developing curricula for these programs and making sure they meet current Kentucky science standards, while also encouraging stewardship of natural places. Erin has an undergraduate degree in Scientific Illustration and a Master of Science in Biology with a special emphasis on Ecology. Before The Parklands, Erin spent a number of years in community mental health care on a crisis stabilization unit, helping kids work through difficult times. She has loved working with children ever since. In her free time, she teaches yoga and experiments with arts and materials.



LIAM RESENER *Interpretive Ranger*

Liam joined The Parklands as an Interpretive Ranger in 2020, designing and leading field trips, science classes, and other outdoor programs. He has Bachelor's degrees in Environmental Geography and Music from the University of Louisville. A native of Southern Indiana, he spent much of his time growing up hiking, backpacking, and camping in local forests. His past experience includes leading outdoor education programs with Louisville Metro Parks and the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont, teaching undergraduates at the University of Louisville, and teaching kids with autism at an Indiana-based behavioral health center.



OLIVIA WAGNER *Interpretive Ranger*

Olivia joined The Parklands as an Interpretive Ranger in 2018, supporting development and delivery of Outdoor Classroom programs. She has a degree in outdoor recreation and environmental studies from Central Michigan University where she played field hockey for four years. She worked for an outdoor therapy company in Wisconsin before returning home to Louisville to begin her position at The Parklands. Her favorite things about her job are helping kids explore the creek and getting to experience the joy and wonder of the kids when they get comfortable with nature.



ELIZABETH WILLENBRINK *Interpretive Ranger*

Elizabeth joined The Parklands as an Interpretive Ranger in 2019. She specializes in outdoor education experiences for school groups ranging from K – 12th grade. She also works on curriculum development for The Parklands Outdoor and Virtual Classrooms, creating content for field trips, in-school outreach, and online learning that aligns with Next Generation Science Standards. Elizabeth attended Western Kentucky University where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work and a Master of Geosciences, with a special focus on karst land management. Before working at The Parklands, Elizabeth was a high school geoscience teacher in Las Vegas.