

Lindsey E. Gage

I am 24 years old and teach the fourth/fifth grade combination class at Christine Duncan Community Charter School. I was born and raised in Hinsdale, Massachusetts, a very small and relatively rural town with only 1,800 people. I was educated in public schools that, even while incorporating the six surrounding towns, the high school still only comprised of less than students. When I graduated high school in 2001, I entered Bennington College, a small private liberal arts college in southern Vermont, 60 miles from my hometown. For the first four years there, I worked on a Bachelor's of Arts in History and Teaching. During my time at Bennington, I was given the opportunity to spend one winter term teaching in Perú. After graduating in 2005, I re-entered Bennington and worked toward a Master's in Elementary Education. During that time I co-taught a fourth grade classroom in the town of Bennington. When I graduated in 2006, I decided it was time to move out of the Northeast, and find something completely different. After running through a list of the exotic (Barbados) and cold (Alaska) to set up a new life, I spoke to a close friend from Bennington who said she had just landed a great job teaching Kindergarten at a brand new charter school called Christine Duncan. I decided Albuquerque might make a great new home. In the fall of 2006, my mother and I packed up my car and drove the 2,000 plus miles to a completely different world. For the 2006-2007 school year I worked as an Educational Assistant in the Kindergarten class at Christine Duncan; an experience that brought its own challenges and rewards. This year I'm grateful to be working with 22 hard working, excitable fourth and fifth graders. What I love the most about the education here is the enormous amount of choice these kids have, something I never had.