

## Visiting Faculty Bios FA-26

### Brothers , Tionna

#### **ES2056 Neurobiology of Sensation and Perception**

Tionna Brothers pioneered, and is currently completing a doctoral degree in a collaborative program between the Neuroscience department of Tufts University college of Medicine, and the Genetics department of The Jackson Laboratory. Her educational background includes years in Chemical and Biological Engineering, before switching paths and graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry, and a minor in Neuroscience. Post graduation, Tionna worked at the Jackson Laboratory on genetic models of glaucoma; focusing on both early detection methods and late-stage treatments that have now resulted in clinical trials. Scientific and educational interests include:

Neuroscience: with a special focus on glial mechanisms

Biochemistry: including applications for engineered molecules, and

Computational methods of analysis, including systems modeling.

While she is a true Mainer; raised in the north woods, educated in central Maine, and rooted on the coast for over a decade now; Tionna also brings with her personal and professional experiences from travels across the US/Canada/Mexico and countries including Portugal, Spain, Italy, Nigeria, South Africa, and the United Kingdom. On weekends with good weather she can be found adventuring around the mountains of Acadia National park, in her kayak floating along a stream, or riding a motorcycle down the coastal route. In less desirable temperatures (and most of the winter) Tionna fancies herself an amateur seamstress and enjoys making quilts or creating garments from recycled fabrics.

### Carver, Jonathan

#### **ES2057 Introduction to Mycology**

Jonathan Carver is a Maine-based mycologist, educator, and co-founder of North Spore Mushrooms, where he leads research and product development in fungal cultivation. His work bridges applied mycology, ecology, and small-scale agriculture, with a focus on making mushroom growing more accessible to home and farm growers. He holds an M.S. in Biology from the University of Wisconsin–La Crosse and a B.A. in Human Ecology from the College of the Atlantic, and teaches on topics ranging from fungal ecology and identification to cultivation practices.

### Greenlief , Phillip

#### **AD2057 Composer's Ensemble**

Phillip Greenlief has been a working musician and composer since the late 1970's, and has played, recorded, and toured with ensembles that span the genres of jazz, punk rock, R&B, funk, folk, new music, film scores, and contemporary classical. He currently collaborates with free improvisers, noise artists, jazz musicians, inter-disciplinary performance, and regularly performs solo saxophone concerts. Since the early 2000s, he has been active in influencing new directions of electro-acoustic improvisation.

### Jacoby, Franklin R

#### **HS2098 Introduction to Philosophy of Mind**

Franklin Jacoby graduated from COA in 2012 before further pursuing philosophical study at the University of Edinburgh where he is a PhD candidate in philosophy. In addition to human ecology, his interests include mountaineering, paddling, literature, and birding.

### Kim, June

#### **AD4065 Fine Art Photography**

June Kim makes paintings, photographs, videos and installations that are inspired by the human and animal connection. She is best known for her performative photographs and videos of herself and her wolf-like dogs. The dogs appear in ways that are metaphorical as well as diaristic, and provide a portal to the mythical, mystical and

primal. In addition, Kim conveys the concept of equity as it pertains to all living beings, promoting a greater understanding and empathy for the interconnectedness of life. Kim received her MFA at Pratt Institute, and has exhibited in NY, LA, Paris, Seoul and Busan. She has been featured in magazines such as BOMB, Crush Fanzine, Fanzine, and VUU. She splits her time between Maine, New York and California with her four huskies.

#### **McLean, Adam**

##### **AD2056 Music Fundamentals**

Adam McLean, M.M.Ed., has fourteen years of experience teaching music at all levels, from pre-K through graduate school. Adam holds degrees from The Boston Conservatory and Skidmore College, and he has earned graduate certificates from the Kodály Music Institute and the University of Maine. A sought-after leader in professional development, Adam presents regularly at local, state, and national education symposia and has been published in several print and online journals. In addition to his current position as an Instructional Designer for JAX Genomic Education, Adam is a virtual instructional coach for K-12 teachers and is also the editor of the Musician of the Month Project listening curriculum. A percussionist and composer, Adam lives in Somesville with his wife and two children.

#### **Rand, Kendra**

##### **HS1094 Public Speaking Workshop**

Kendra began studying and teaching communication as an undergraduate student at Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA and subsequently as a graduate student at the University of Maine. Her academic interests and teaching areas include public speaking, civil dialogue, interpersonal communication, media studies and criticism, and communication theory. Kendra has taught communication studies and media writing at Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne, WY; MSU Billings, MT; and Walters State Community College in east Tennessee. Kendra currently teaches at the University of Maine and is a member of the University's Diversity Leadership Institute.

#### **Robbins, Dani**

##### **AD1056 Beginning Contemporary Dance Technique**

Dani Robbins (they/them) is a Maine-based choreographer, educator, and organizer. They grew up training as a dancer and actor in central Massachusetts before receiving a Bachelors in dance performance from Bennington College in Vermont. Dani has shown solo and collaborative work throughout New England and Europe. Their most recent performance work, "PLAYFIGHT: unprofessional wrestling theater" premiered at the Reykjavik Fringe Festival in June of 2023. Dani teaches as adjunct faculty at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor where they offer courses in dance composition, improvisation, anti-technique, and disability-related body politics. Dani is currently enrolled in the Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Graduate Program at UMaine. They are also a 2023 National Arts Strategies New England Creative Community Fellow and the co-founder of the Maine Dancemakers Collaborative, an organization that supports Maine-based dance artists in developing social praxis.

#### **Saba, Alexis**

##### **HS2138 Museums and the Making of Public Knowledge**

Dr. Alexis Saba is an Education Studies scholar and practitioner whose work examines how institutions shape knowledge and civic life. Her earlier research, conducted in Pakistan, examined how global education policies and international development mandates are enacted within local schooling systems, drawing on ethnographic and comparative approaches. She explored how institutional actors negotiate and reshape those agendas in practice and how ideas about the "educated person" are constructed and contested in the process. Across global and local educational and cultural spaces, she examines how authority and policy are negotiated in practice and how ideas about legitimate knowledge are produced, reshaped, or contested. She currently serves as Senior Manager of Academic Programs at the Farnsworth Art Museum, where she developed and leads Arts@theIntersection, a year-round, interdisciplinary museum-school partnership that integrates inquiry-based curriculum, collaborative research, and public exhibition as a sustained model of student-centered knowledge production. Her teaching and practice focus on public pedagogy and the role of cultural institutions in shaping participation and knowledge in public life.

#### **Sullivan , Leeann**

##### **HS1134 Food Sovereignty**

I am a political scientist who has spent over 10 years studying and teaching about the politics of environmental governance, particular in the area of wildlife conservation. My work explores how science, culture, and politics become entangled in how we define our relationships with the natural world, and considers the role of creative

democracy in advancing alternative futures. I have taught courses at Colorado State University, Colby College, and Boston College, and currently serve as the Director of Research for Maine's Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous, and Tribal Populations.

**Taylor, Davis**

**HS3141 Peasants, Food, and Resistance**

Davis Taylor was College of the Atlantic's Faculty member in Economics for twenty-eight years, leaving full time teaching in 2023. Prior to graduate school and COA, he served as an officer in the U.S. Army for nine years. His teaching and research interests range widely, with emphasis on cooperatives and cooperation, rural and community economics, the institutions of inequality in the U.S. and Global South, local food systems, and the study of alternatives to capitalism. He has dabbled in small-scale farming and homesteading.