

# **LEAP Head Instructors:**



# Gwen:

Gwen is a recent graduate from Western Washington
University where she earned her bachelor's degree in
Recreation Management and Leadership. She has been
working in municipal parks and recreation for seven years, and
enjoys facilitating arts and crafts, games and bingo! Gwen is
excited for LEAP to start and to get to know the students in
the program. She looks forward to supporting the students in
their academics and through recreational activities.



### Jack:

Jack comes from the UK and had lived in Seattle full time since December 2019. He has a first class degree in Recreational Development and has worked in recreational and educational programming for 5 years.

Jack has won a City Government award for outstanding community engagement back in his home town of Lincoln for establishing a recreational program designed for adults with intellectual and/or physical disabilities. He has also had a dissertation paper published through his university focusing on inclusion for disabled children in mainstream high-school education.

Stereotypically for an Englishman, Jack is obsessed with soccer and is now an adoptive fan of the Seattle Sounders, making it all the more special that he had the opportunity to work for the Sounders as a soccer coach back in 2015.

Jack understands that in this unique climate, the LEAP program will be a huge benefit to both parents and children alike. The parents are able return to work knowing that their child(ren) are learning in a safe environment with assisted learning, and also the children who within the boundaries of the Covid-19 procedures will be able to socialize and enjoy new activities.



## Natalie:

Natalie Pollet is an enthusiastic, experienced educator! She was born and raised in the snowy state of Michigan where she fell in love with working with kids. She started volunteering with kids before she was old enough to drive. Natalie has worked with kids of all ages in many different environments. She has spent years nannying, created virtual teachings, led summer camps, interned in classrooms, and more. She obtained her degree in Education and Biology from Grand Valley State University. After graduating she decided the cold was too much! She packed her bags and drove to the sunny state of Arizona. In Arizona, Natalie was the Summer Camp Instructor and Education Coordinator at The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. After the COVID shut down, she decided the heat was too much! She packed her bags and drove to the rainy state of Washington. She loves the rain and finds that Washington

is the perfect fit for her and plans on being here for a long while. When Natalie is not providing top notch care to children, she can be found exploring nature, drinking coffee, telling jokes with her nieces and nephews, or making friends with dogs (P.S. all dogs stories and pictures are highly encouraged to be shared with Natalie).

Natalie is excited to welcome your kids into the LEAP program. Her passion is to help kids understand they are capable and strong learners. Although you may not be able to see it now, underneath her mask, Natalie is almost always smiling. With over 12 years of experience in childcare and education, Natalie is ready to facilitate learning, lead recreational activities, and encourage students and parents through any situation that may arise.



## Jon:

Jon Lewis is originality from Statesboro, Georgia. He recently graduated from Brigham Young University - Idaho with a degree in recreation management, where he also served as the president of the recreation management society. He has a strong background of programming and facilitating youth camps and sports. Jon was just recently accepted into Arkansas states graduate program of sports administration. Jon loves everything about parks and recreation, and eventually wants to become a director for a major city.

#### **LEAP Assistant Instructors:**



#### Anastasia:

Anastasia Malm Morgan is 29 years old, she is from Buenos Aires, Argentina, but she moved to the United States after meeting her husband. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Modern Languages and Literature.

Education has always been a passion of hers. While she attended college as well as after she graduated, she held many academic positions at local universities. Outside of work and school, she started teaching kids for extra support on their school assignments and offered herself as a teacher and volunteer counselor in different social and educational programs for underprivileged children. She strongly believes that we can all share something and work together to make our world a better place to live.

In her time off, she loves playing sports, being outdoors, reading, and watching movies. She considers herself responsible, creative, fun, and an outgoing person. She desires to travel the world and to be able to see the Seven Wonders of the World, of which she has visited two.



#### Jaden:

Jaden is 21 and has worked at the Frances Anderson Center as a gymnastics instructor for over 3 years. She is also a part-time college student. She received her Associate's degree in early 2019, and is currently working towards getting her Bachelor's degree in Mathematics with an emphasis on teaching. Her dream job would be working at a secondary school teaching algebra.

Jaden enjoys spending time with her fiancé, James, and her two Doberman Pinschers, Ramsey and Charlie. She also enjoys playing video games, listening to audio books, and going for walks. Jaden sincerely misses that she will not be able to teach gymnastics but is excited for another opportunity to engage with children in a safe and secure environment.



# Natasha:

Natasha's core passion oscillates between the creative arts and community activism. She believes creativity is inherent and vital to the wellbeing of our society. Her goal is to use her artistic talent to nourish and uplift her community. She aims to cultivate inclusive and creative spaces for women and youth.