

# CREW PROFILE

## *Who or what inspired you to become a Kindergarten teacher?*

My elementary school teachers inspired me to be a teacher. They believed in me and told me I could do and be anything. As I continued in elementary school I loved playing school and teaching others things I knew. I became inspired to be a kindergarten teacher when I was working the schools as a student teacher and was working with K-1 students. I loved their eagerness to share, and learn about the world around them and realized they were the best teachers of all. I knew being a kindergarten teacher was absolutely what I should be doing. It is truly my passion.

## *What do you love most about teaching Kindergarten scholars?*

What I love most about teaching kindergarten scholars is the unique way they see the world through the purest eyes and heart. They are quick to celebrate each other as well as forgive. My kindergarten scholars always seem to know just when I need to hear something funny, sweet or inspirational.

## *What advice do you have for parents who are seeking a school for their Kindergarten scholar?*

My advice would be to enroll their child in a U Prep school. I would let them know our philosophy in education and how we cultivate a responsible community of scholars based on love, respect, and our C.A.R.E.S foundation. We provide them differentiated instruction that meets children's needs and where they are at, then help them blossom from there with goals they help develop.

## *How does U Prep's program prepare Kindergarten scholars for their educational journey?*

Kindergarten sets the foundation for their educational journey. Kindergarten is, for many, their first time in a school setting and where they learn to the joy of learning. Kindergarten teaches them basic skills that will help them build upon and grow for a lifetime. We teach them what their letters and sounds are which is the stepping stone to learning to write and read for example. We help them understand counting with object and number representation.

## *Describe a memorable experience that you had with a Kindergarten scholar in your classroom?*

I have so many memorable experiences with my scholars but one was a time when a scholar told me she could not read. I told her there were many ways we can read and explained a reader could read the words within the story, tell the story using the pictures or retell the story. I told her she was absolutely a reader! She was so happy and hugged me and smiled and said thank you for showing me I can read. She skipped away singing I am a READER, I am a READER.

## *What philosophical saying or belief do you live by?*

"Don't fear failure but rather fear not trying." "Make improvement, not excuses."

**ANNE MARIE LYONS**

**UNIVERSITY  
PREPARATORY  
ACADEMY-  
ELLEN THOMPSON  
CAMPUS**

University Prep Schools provides a culturally responsive educational experience for our scholars that builds that academic competence, habits of work and scholarship, and self-actualization empowering them to successfully accomplish their post-secondary plans, as well as socially and civically engaged as change agents for themselves and their community.