





Dr. Jennifer Torres

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Education, American University, 2019 - 2022

Master of Education, Harvard University, 1995 - 1996

Bachelor of Science, University of Maryland, 1991 - 1995

GRANT PARTICIPATION

Education Innovation and Research (EIR) Grant, U.S. Department of Education (Grant #U411A18000), 2018–2023 – \$[14,478,713], Expanding School Readiness to Rural States with Poor Preschool Access: The UPSTART Great Plains TASK Force: Taking All to Success in Kindergarten

UPSTART Education Program, Utah Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (Solicitation #GH24-17), 2023–2028 – \$[125,000,000], Waterford Research Institute UPSTART Program [awarded | previous versions completed]

Education Innovation and Research (EIR) Grant, U.S. Department of Education (Grant # S411A230003), 2024–2028 – \$[13,919,547], Expanding School Readiness Opportunities in the Rural South: The Upstart Rural TASK Force: Taking All to Success in Kindergarten [awarded]

PROFILE

Jenni is mother to three resilient children, the wife of a retired military officer, and a fervent believer that literacy changes lives. As the mother of a child with special needs, she is especially committed to early childhood education because every child deserves a chance to find success and to experience the joy of learning.

WORK EXPERIENCE

SVP, CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Waterford.org / Remote / 2017 - PRESENT

- Serve as internal and external academic thought leader to develop vision, product roadmap, and long-term strategy for curriculum that effectively meets learners' needs, aligns with national standards and the latest academic research best practices.
- Represent the organization in spaces that promote equity in early childhood education, family engagement, and policy including speaking at conferences, meetings with stakeholders, and presentations for contracts and proposals.
- Lead department of 21 full-time members plus contractors responsible for the design, creation, research, and translation of all curricular content, including online digital learning activities and supplemental resources for families and educators.
- Ensure standards alignments between Waterford solutions and national/state standards; develop content to fill gaps; facilitate Waterford's ability to win statewide adoptions.
- Maintain a library of best practices for early literacy instruction, collaborate with subject matter experts, and implement data-driven improvements to ensure product efficacy.
- Manage \$3M+ budget effectively blending the work of contractors, vendors, and internal team members to produce deliverables aligned to organizational strategies within a determined time frame.
- Support home and school implementation teams to ensure high fidelity of usage and effective outcomes; support ongoing communication with strategic partners.

ACHIEVEMENTS

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Waterford.org / 2015 and 2017

SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mobile County Public Schools / 2011 and Alabama District 1 / 2011

FULBRIGHT EXCHANGE TEACHER

Uruguay / 2011

PUBLICATIONS

Torres, J. (2021, August 20). I taught during Katrina. Here's what school should know about kids and trauma. Today.com.

https://www.today.com/parents/kids-trauma-teacher-during-katrina-shares-experience-t2285417fbclid=IwAR0YVQO_wF-YstcbC8NnMC6xxblWfJ0415iJaXDXvATqRLKo8s00Tk7PU9U

Torres, J. (n.d.) Learning from the Pandemic to Develop a More Universal Curriculum. American Consortium for Equity in Education.

<https://ace-ed.org/learning-from-the-pandemic-to-develop-more-universal-curriculum/>

Torres, J. (n.d.). Jenni Torres: "Build trusting relationships". Thrive Global.

<https://thriveglobal.com/stories/jenni-torres-build-trusting-relationships/>

Torres, J. (n.d.) Using Educational Technology for Good. American Consortium for Equity in Education.

<https://ace-ed.org/using-educational-technology-for-good/>

Torres, J. (n.d.). Closing Equity Gaps in a Time of Distance Learning. American Consortium for Equity in Education.

<https://ace-ed.org/closing-equity-gaps-in-a-time-of-distance-learning/?highlight=jenni%20torres>

WORK EXPERIENCE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

Waterford.org / Remote / 2013 - 2017

- Led team of professional services members to provide effective coaching and training for educators.
- Managed development of professional learning curriculum and accompanying resources.
- Managed professional services implementation plans to optimize student learning through the support of teachers and administrators.
- Managed creation of correlation documentation of alignments between learning materials and national/state standards.
- Provided implementation planning, training, and translating services in English and Spanish
- Conducted onsite, standard, and customized workshops for teachers and administrators.
- Collaborated within the company by serving on various teams, including the curriculum and data teams.
- Supported sales directors by ensuring all potential customer needs were met resulting in strong partnerships.
- Wrote successful proposals for CASE, IBCCES and a variety of RFPs and endorsements.

EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT

Pearson / Puerto Rico / 2012 - 2013

- Planned and managed the implementation of digital learning products to optimize customer satisfaction at 21 schools in the unique and remote environment of Puerto Rico.
- Provided implementation planning, training, sales support, and consulting services in Spanish and English.
- Coordinated with directors to ensure all unique needs were met with data-driven decisions.
- Coordinated the resolution of user and support issues to help facilitate customer satisfaction and productivity, including solving many infrastructure challenges.

TEACHER, CLARK-SHAW MAGNET SCHOOL

Mobile County Public Schools / Alabama / 2009-2012

- Taught grades 6 through 8 advanced and honors Spanish classes in an inner-city magnet school embedding STEM content in lessons.
- Created advanced curriculum for county's growing middle school program; served as National Junior Honor Society advisor; and established an intramural soccer league.
- Inaugurated Una Sociedad de Amistad and administered the National Spanish Exam, with all students receiving awards in the top 10% nationwide.
- Incorporated technologies to support global connections and learning; served as SMART trainer for the county; presented 21st Century Tools

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continued

PRESENTATIONS

NAEYC, June 2019

Erikson Promising Math Conference,,
November, 2018

Head Start Conference, 2018 & 2019

SERVICE & ACADEMIC ROLES

Coast Guard Spouses Associations

American University [SIEEJ](#) Conference,
Technical Support

American University Doctoral Residency,
Session on Planning for the Doctoral
Journey

Teaching Assistant, American University,
Learning Sciences doctoral class /
2021-2022

SELF-EMPLOYED

Ormond Beach, Florida / 2007 - 2009

- Designed and taught Spanish curriculum for preschool through 8th grade students at Saint Brendan's Catholic School.
- Taught Spanish part-time at a local technical school ensuring high schoolers could earn diplomas.
- Tutored elementary students in reading, writing, social studies, and Spanish.

LEAD TEACHER

Belle Chasse Academy / Louisiana / 2003-2007

- Supported families and the community throughout Hurricane Katrina recovery period.
- Taught Spanish to grades K through 8 at a unique military charter school.
- Developed curriculum for foreign language enrichment program.
- Led a department of 5 teachers and assistants to deliver high-quality Spanish instruction.
- Collaborated with other departments to create annual Cinco de Mayo assembly and other events.
- Incorporated technologies to support classroom instruction and interdisciplinary units.

SELF-EMPLOYED

Ormond Beach, Florida / 1998 - 2003

- Led Spanish language program on base teaching preschool through adult classes
- Designed, wrote editorial blog, published, and distributed weekly base newspaper to share important updates for base families.
- Collaborated on numerous family events to support morale for military families.

TEACHER

Montgomery County Public Schools / 1996-1998

- Taught 8th grade Spanish and world studies as part of an interdisciplinary team.
- Developed an innovative Spanish class to motivate students to study a second language.
- Worked to accommodate special needs students in an inclusion, interdisciplinary program.
- Team-taught learning disabled and gifted & talented students in grades 6 through 8 during a summer program using Gardner's Multiple Intelligences Theory.