

## *Derry Center for Adult Studies*

### *Faculty Biographies*

**Brenda Caldwell** – BA in Dance from Eastern Michigan University and is a certified Pilates instructor (Aerobics & Fitness Association of America). Her knowledge of anatomy, physiology and kinesiology has given her the confidence to teach all ages and to develop safe and challenging classes. After starting her family and moving to NH, she opened Local Motion, offering fitness classes for pre-natal women, new mothers and children from infancy to 5 years of age. Her teaching experience also includes aerobics, stretch and tone and Pilates.

**Judy Krassowski** – As an artist, arts administrator and art educator, Judy works in a variety of media including acrylics, oils, watercolor, pen and ink, photography and film/video. She finds inspiration in the events of daily life and as a colorist, fuels her unique view with intensity and emotion. Her works include a graphic novel as well as a series of commissioned family and home portraits.

Judy earned her BA in Fine Art – Studio Art from Notre Dame College, Manchester, NH and M. Ed Technology in Education from Lesley University, Cambridge, MA. Judy shares strong technical skills and the ability to find and nurture creativity in her students at Trinity High School, Nashua and as a watercolor teacher with the Derry Center for Adult Studies. Her works can be viewed at [www.judykrassowski.com](http://www.judykrassowski.com)

**Kris Robertshaw** – Certified in Kripalu Yoga and a member of the Kripalu Yoga Teacher's Association, Kris has been leading yoga practice in the community for nine years. She also teaches Meditation for the Derry Center for Adult Studies program and is a Certified Level 1 ski instructor at Mt. Sunapee.

A resident of Derry for over 28 years, Kris is originally from New Jersey. Prior to her present teaching jobs, Kris worked as a speech/language pathologist in the private and public sectors in NH and NJ. She began her Adult Ed involvement as a Sign Language instructor.

**Ken Taft** – Ken has been teaching guitar at the Berklee College of Music for over thirty-five years and is an alumnus of Berklee himself, having excelled at his own guitar skills much like the students that take his classes today. Ken has authored five classes at the college that are currently available on the curriculum including Jazz and Blues Labs, Studies in Arpeggios and Special Effects for Guitar. Ken has also traveled to Costa Rica to teach several master guitar classes and to perform at various performances. Ken's down to earth teaching style has been proven effective in teaching and influencing all levels of students from the novice to the seasoned guitarist.

Ken has received several endorsements from outstanding musical product companies such as Godlyke Corp. (masters in guitar pedals) and Hamer Guitars (makers of beautiful hand crafted guitars).

A seasoned performer, Ken has played across the US in several bands and many productions including extensive live radio and cable performances, as well as Broadway plays such as Cats, Man of La Mancha and Little Shop of Horrors.

Ken possesses the ability to perform all styles and varieties of music, confirming Ken to be a versatile, proficient and incredibly talented player from solo Jazz, Flamenco and Classical guitar as well as various ensembles from small groups to big bands.