MEET THE VISUAL ART FACULTY

MR. BARRUS

I'm originally from Utah, and I've been teaching here at TAS for the past 12 years. Before I ever set foot in a classroom, I studied graphic design in college and started my career as a freelance designer. That led me to become a creative director at a digital marketing agency, where I worked on all kinds of digital and print campaigns. When YouTube and online video exploded, I shifted gears into commercial filmmaking, creating commercials and promotional videos for companies and sports teams. Teaching wasn't part of my original plan, but when the opportunity came along, I took it—and it's been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I love bringing my real-world creative background into the classroom and helping students explore their own creative potential.



FILM PRODUCTION I, HONORS FILM PRODUCTION 2-5, GRAPHIC DESIGN

MS_ HUANG

I was born in California and raised in Taipei (Taipei American School, to be exact, not quite a tiger baby though!). Before teaching, I was a costume designer for theater in the Boston area and front of house staff at an seafood restaurant called Row34. I have a deep love for all the arts. Whether it's in a museum, theater, concert hall, film, etc -I love it all! I believe the exploration for truthful expression is never ending and the artist voice is everchanging. I can't wait to witness your work and learn from you as develop your artist voice. During my free time, I like to engage in Actor's Training to work on voice & movement. My first role on stage from my experience in the TAS Middle School Musical was Polly (yes, the parrot!) in Treasure Island. If I could paint anything, it would be a large scale sublime landscape.



COSTUME & FASHION DESIGN,
PAINTING, PUBLIC SPEAKING &
PERFORMANCE, ACTING 1, IB
THEATER YEAR 1

MS. INDIGO

I've been at TAS for almost two years now, and I've really enjoyed my time here. I'm a ceramic artist, illustrator, and dancer. I love working with my hands and often find myself daydreaming—turning those dreams into artworks is one of my favorite things. I'm always happy to chat or brainstorm, because I believe some of the best art happens when ideas are shared.



US VISUAL ART ASSISTANT

MS. ADELE CHEN

Ms. Adele Chen joined TAS as a Secretary for K-12 Visual Arts and US Social Sciences Dept. since 2021. She's in charge of daily administration for these departments and also chaperone for student events sometimes. Besides work, she is a fully-trained visual artist, specialized in painting and photography. She holds honors bachelor degree of Fine arts and Humanity (from Indigenous culture major).



VISUAL ART DEPARTMENT SECRETARY

MR. BADGLEY

I hate beginnings and endings. Maybe that's insight into my more than twenty-five years here. I am curious about space, how art inspires, and design enhances. I'm an avid fan of Starbucks as a third space where I consider, wonder about possibilities while charting potential pathways. Having taught for more than four decades, it never gets old and is always a surprise. I'm lucky to be surrounded by people of depth, who speak with emotion and concern and are courageous every day. I can be found in 4c21 from 7-4. I'm known as Mr. Badgley.



AP 2D ART & DESIGN AND AP DRAWING. DRAWING/HONORS DRAWING.

MS. KAO

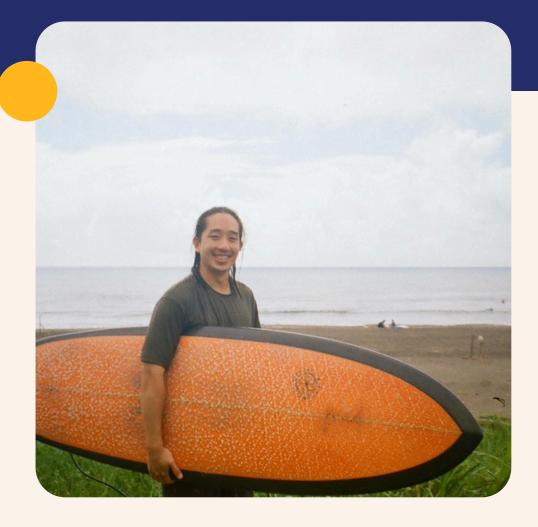
I first came to TAS as a high schooler and absolutely had a blast doing Stu Gov and performing arts. It was only in college that I discovered my love for the visual arts and became an art educator. I love transforming spaces and creating experiences. My hobbies include baking cookies, growing spices, reading plays and short stories, and biking with my two little boys.



YEARBOOK, ANALOG
PHOTOGRAPHY, IB VISUAL ARTS,
PUBLIC SPEAKING & DEBATE

MR. TOWN

I first arrived at TAS in 2002... as a 2nd grade student. I came back to TAS in 2019 as an Upper School Film Teacher after several seasons in the trenches of the Film Industry. I first became an artist when I was a kid in school and pursued filmmaking as a career because I am obsessed with exploring our world and the experiences of the people in it. My second obsession is with creating and deconstructing—whether it's with physical objects like making art or engineering, or with ideas which usually happens through conversations, meditations, or teaching! I love working with students because I find that everyone has the capacity to be boundless in their creativity (kids are often far more creative than adults). I believe that being creative in a serious academic or professional business setting requires the same type of thinking as being creative in an artistic or recreational setting. It requires you to be somewhat playful in thinking or doing. That is why I spend most of my free time engaging in play: surfing, skating, playing video games, reading (mental playing), watching TV shows/movies, and even flying FPV drones. If you ever have creative ideas or creative problems that you want to bounce around, you can usually find me in the 2B77 film studio!



HONORS FILM PRODUCTION, DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY, AND DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

MR. LEU

I love the film, animation, and video game industry which eventually led to my passion to create and teach the digital arts. On my free time, I enjoy training Brazilian jiu jitsu, fencing, and learning self defense. During the weekends, I am usually at the beach wakesurfing, fishing, or freediving.



VIRTUAL REALITY, 3D MODELING & CHARACTER DESIGN, ARCHITECTURE

MR. HUANG

If you're reading this, you've already arrived.

Maybe you're still figuring out where you fit. Maybe you're walking through these halls wondering if anyone really sees you. I want you to know that we do. Hiiiiii I'm Mr. Huang.

Before I was a teacher, I was an architect and designer, building things in New Zealand, Dubai, Egypt, and Taiwan. I've shaped concrete, steel, and glass. but the most meaningful thing I've ever helped build is people's dreams and ideas. That's why I'm still here. Right now, I'm also a student just like you, at Harvard, learning how to make a classroom feel like a place where you belong, not just because your names are on the roll, but because your voice matters. That's the kind of space I want for you this year and every year. Outside school, I'm a 2.7-year-old dad who wants to throw her backpack away because she doesn't want to go to school. I love cats and dogs, but I only keep fish at home. They're peaceful, low drama, and a reminder to slow down. I'm also into K-pop TWICE, NewJeans, BLACKPINK, that's how I heal! If you're in my class, you're not here to be perfect, you're here to try, to explore, to make mistakes, and to grow. My job is to see you, hear you, and help you bring your ideas to life. Together, we'll create things that might surprise you... and maybe even change the way you see yourself.



AP 3D STUDIO ART, ARCHITECTURE, HONORS ARCHITECTURE, HONORS ADVANCED DESIGN

MR. MORRIS

I'm originally from Indianapolis (go Pacers!

and moved to Taipei in 2011 from Dallas,
Texas. I've been in Taiwan for 14 years now
and absolutely love it! I have an incredible
spouse and two wonderful children, ages 9
and 7. I find great joy in guiding students as
they develop their interests and individual
goals within art and design. I learn so much
from my students! I am also super excited
for how creativity and art-making can serve
the greater community. When I'm not
teaching, you can often find me in my
ceramic studio in Beitou, or exploring the
beautiful trails of Yang Ming Mountain and
relaxing in New Beitou's hot springs!



CERAMICS WHEEL THROWING, CERAMICS HAND-BUILDING, AP ART HISTORY, AP DRAWING, & AP 2D ART & DESIGN