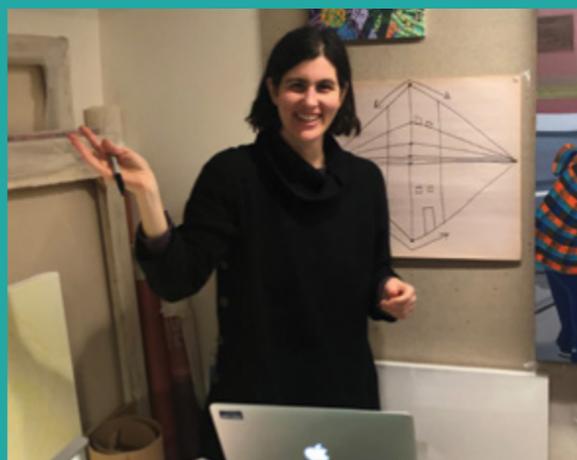


# 200

More than 200 faculty across all campuses and disciplines took advantage of professional development opportunities to reimagine their courses for online teaching.



Grade 1 Teacher Rachel Stevens (top) and Upper School Arts Faculty Lanie Wurzel in their home-based classrooms



## SUPPORT FOR FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ENHANCES ONLINE TEACHING AND LEARNING

Since BB&N transitioned to remote teaching and learning in March, faculty quickly pivoted to retool their curricula in order to bring the same creative and challenging academic experiences and opportunities into their students' homes.

Thanks to funding provided by The BB&N Fund and the uKnighthed Community Fund, faculty across all campuses and disciplines were able to participate in online courses and training opportunities provided by Global Online Academy (GOA) in March and through their Bootcamp in June, organized by Director of Global Education Karina Baum. A few reflections about their experiences are shared below.



*"The GOA course in March was incredibly helpful, and gave one a real sense of the challenges we were going to face and the tools to meet the challenges. The*

*follow-up session in June not only reinforced my work, but introduced a plethora of options for any future online experiences. I can safely say that the courses are invaluable in developing my skills as an educator. It's completely changed the way I will work in future, from how I will provide source material and coursework to the students in my classes, to the way I will provide additional materials and possibly even notes for all future productions!"*

– Ross MacDonald, Upper School Theater



*"I'm most grateful for the support for me and for my many colleagues who will be navigating our new landscape in the fall. The whole Zoom and online classroom*

*world is so very different, so things take longer than you might expect and I am still processing. It is a huge learning undertaking but I do feel more prepared—and what a wealth of new possibilities!"*

– Heather Lee, Lower School Librarian

*"I especially appreciate GOA's clearly defined learning outcomes, which I am using to guide my plans for the fall. I learned strategies to engage students in learning topics and building relationships with each other, and also enjoyed working with colleagues on all three campuses."*

– Agnes Voligny, Upper School Mathematics and Computer Science



"I took the GOA 'Design for Online Learning' course during March vacation. It was great! I had little experience with formal online teaching and learning, and it was

very helpful. It created an interactive community of teachers learning from the course and from each other off-line in the Q&A chats after class.

"I especially appreciated exchanging ideas and tips with language teachers from other parts of the U.S. The course itself included all the components they taught us to implement in our own online courses, and it worked!"

– Cecile Roucher-Greenberg, Upper School French



"The initial experience in March of GOA's system proved an invaluable tool for taking my courses online quickly. It was also a real pleasure to revisit the thoughtfully

considered systems of GOA Bootcamp. The second experience provided a deepening understanding which was even more engaging because this time there was a coach and opportunities for interacting with my fellow BB&N colleagues across discussion platforms.

"This experience made me feel so much more prepared for the probability of teaching online in some yet-to-be-determined capacity this fall, and it also provided new insights into what it means to teach successfully in any format. I am so appreciative of this opportunity!"

– Nicole Stone, Upper School Art



"In mid-March, when our world was rapidly shutting down and we were all sent into our homes, I was asked to continue teaching ceramics to my Middle School students at BB&N

online...but with no clay. My entire curriculum needed to be recreated. Support came from several directions but key to my success was the Global Online Academy (GOA) class offered to us from BB&N to learn about how to teach online. I took a one-week class in March which was critical to shifting my curriculum to this new virtual platform.

"After teaching this year, we were offered another opportunity to learn from GOA in their Bootcamp. I took advantage of this opportunity as well and learned more about creating an online presence and especially about guiding students through their online experience, something termed 'wayfinding.' This week of intense learning and coaching improved and honed my skills to support my online curriculum planning for the coming year. I was able to create a prototype of how to guide my students online in a way that matches with my teaching style.

"Thank you to BB&N for giving us this incredible resource. As I speak with other art colleagues from regional schools, I see how lucky we are to have this critical, high-quality element of support. Thank you again!!!"

– Sasha Bergmann, Middle School Art



"I really enjoyed the Bootcamp. GOA did a great job of mixing theory and practice. I came away with not only a handful of useful lessons that I can use as models going

forward but also a much better sense of how to teach well in the online format."

– Sam Carihfield, Upper School English



"I deeply appreciated this Bootcamp and Coaching Program! It made me feel much more confident about offering DEIG learning experiences online.

It gave me a framework for thinking about successful and engaging learning opportunities that empower the learner and create community. This will have a very positive impact on the DEIG family learning program, as just one example, in the coming year! I am grateful to have had this opportunity to sharpen my online learning competencies, and develop new tools for creating engaging learning experiences."

– Emma Price, Lower School Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Global Education Practitioner



"It was a challenging, productive week. I worked on thinking about goals and different ways of achieving them, giving students more choice in how they learn,

embedding more links to resources to help students as they work on the assessment, and strategies for teaching students how to give productive feedback. This work will support not only any remote teaching I do but also in-person teaching. The skill sets are complementary."

– Sharon Krauss, Upper School English

"The Bootcamp got me thinking about ways to support students in being able to navigate an online learning platform with more independence. I also liked the way that the Bootcamp encouraged colleagues to support one another. It was a good reminder to connect with other Lower School folks to brainstorm and design learning experiences, especially while we are all working from remote settings."

– Jenny Kramer, Grade 2 Teacher



"The Bootcamp provided me with a variety of pedagogical and technical tools to engage my students more effectively with the content and each other, but also

provided me with a clearer understanding of the navigational framework necessary to lead them toward optimal participation in learning and performing."

– Henri Andre, Director of Physical Education and Health

"I don't have the words to express how much the BB&N community has meant to us, especially right now. I have been blown away by the commitment of the faculty and administrators at the Lower School to staying connected, and giving Alexander a truly impressive, creative, and supportive online learning experience. From my vantage point, BB&N could not be more exceptional."

–Jennifer Chunias P'29