

FEATURED TEACHER

Mr. Keil, a Gentleman and a Scholar

By MICHELLE MENDOLA

Mr. Matthew Keil is an outstanding teacher with many different achievements and wonderful qualities that make him a perfect candidate for featured teacher.

Most students and teachers describe Mr. Keil as a scholar and an interesting and kind man. Latin student Ekow Eshun said, "Mr. Keil is very spontaneous and exciting; he's always livening up the classes."

Junior Angela Garrovillas said, "Mr. Keil is a great teacher who is very caring and kind."

Mr. Keil loves learning. He went to SUNY Purchase for his bachelor of arts in English literature. He also studied in Ireland at the University College Cork.

He earned his first master's degree at Lehman College in English education and his second master's in Latin education at Hunter College. He is currently taking four graduate courses a semester to get his PhD at Fordham University.

Mr. Keil said, "Ultimately, I believe the purpose of education is to learn to love what is good and beautiful and true, whether it be in science, in politics, or in art. 'To educate' literally

means in Latin 'to lead out,' and the truly noble education is one which allows people, in Pindar's words, to become what they are. And a teacher's role is to be like a sculptor, who can see the form hidden within the stone and lead it out."

Mr. Keil loves languages and is proficient in Latin and ancient Greek. He can also read French and Russian. He has a

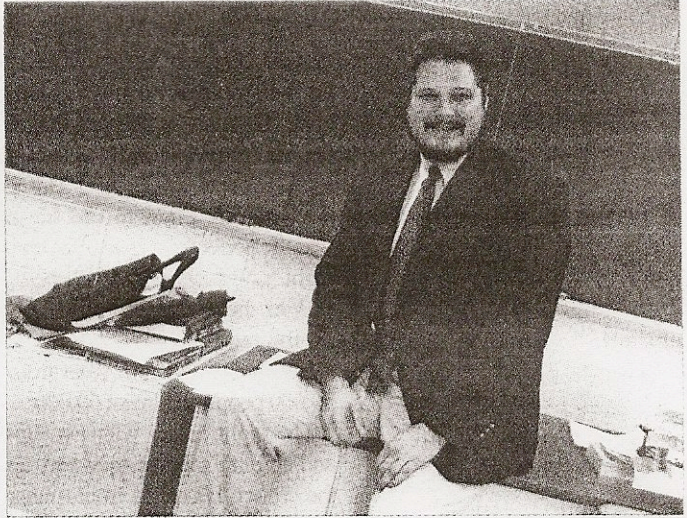


Photo: Michelle Mendola

Mr. Keil loves languages and is proficient in Latin and ancient Greek. He can read French and Russian.

German background and is one fourth Hungarian.

After teaching English for five years, he took over the Latin classes at LIC in the middle of the year in 2006. Mr. Keil said the transition from being an English teacher to a Latin

Keil said. He believes that Latin helps a person think. He loves teaching both English and Latin.

He would love to teach a philosophy class next year. When he talks about philosophy, he has a certain glow that shows how passionate he is about the subject.

When Mr. Keil is not teaching, he's enriching his life with the fine arts. He likes to go to operas, concerts, museums, and art lectures. His favorite museum is the Louvre in Paris.

He also loves traveling; he was 20 when he started to travel all around the world, especially in Europe. He has been to France many times and to Ireland, England, Italy, Malta, Turkey, Estonia, and Finland. He has also been to Japan, Costa Rica, Israel, and Egypt.

Mr. Keil likes going to other countries to meet people of different cultures with different points of view to see how they live and interpret life.

Mr. Keil's life is full of surprises and adventures. ■

"Ultimately, I believe the purpose of education is to learn to love what is good and beautiful and true, whether it be in science, in politics, or in art."

- Mr. Keil, Latin Teacher

teacher was hard, but he got used to it.

He said, "Si optas discere, doce!" This is medieval Latin which means "if you desire to learn, teach," and this is what he did. Mr. Keil also said, "Discedo docui et docendo didici." ("I have taught by learning and I have learned by teaching.")

"I really didn't know English until I knew Latin," Mr.