

## Sonya Brown Bio



I am proud to be a twenty-five year veteran teacher of Boston Public Schools, twenty-four years of which have been at Boston Arts Academy. While I have always been a humanities teacher and dance advisor, some years, I was also honored to be a department chair, mentor teacher and board representative. Currently, in addition to teaching ninth and tenth grade humanities, I am working to establish a literary arts minor at BAA.

As a Boston resident too, I have joined the work for environmental, racial, and socio-economic justice through efforts to make nutritious foods more accessible and affordable. To that end, I was part of a state-wide coalition of educators, non-profit organizations, and policymakers that successfully got Breakfast After the Bell legislation passed in Massachusetts in 2020. Locally, I joined forces with neighbors to encourage the City to turn favorably situated abandoned lots into community gardens, and in our own community garden, continue growing fruits and vegetables, organizing music performances, developing youth jobs, and connecting community gardeners with local farmer's markets.

Finally, taking time to connect with Mother Nature helps me better understand my own human nature and humanity. So, in my family, friend- and free time, you'll often find me making remedies in my herbal garden, hiking in the Blue Hills or camping at a state or national park.