

Helene Forst
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Professional summary:

I've been a teacher and private tutor since 1973 certified in the following areas: Nursery, Kindergarten, Grades 1-6, Reading, Special Education, and Secondary English 7-12. I was the founder and director of The Pioneer School, a private NYS certified charter school located in Bridgehampton, New York, which focused on teaching children with language-based learning difficulties, specifically dyslexia. I'm a senior partner and the vice-president of a family-owned, East Hampton building corporation. Along with my teaching and business responsibilities, I'm presently working on a third master's in creative writing and literature at Harvard University where I've discovered a love for screenwriting and film.

Education:

Academic Regents Diploma – June 1969
Roslyn High School-Roslyn, New York

Bachelor of Arts – June 1973
S.U.N.Y. at Stony Brook-Stony Brook, New York
Major: Elementary Education
Minor: English
Honors: Dean's List-Graduated Magna Cum Laude

Master of Arts in Liberal Studies – June 1977
S.U.N.Y. at Stony Brook-Stony Brook, New York
Major: Liberal studies-English/Science/Theater/Music
Honors: Dean's List-Graduated Summa Cum Laude

Master of Science – May 1996
Dowling College-Oakdale, New York
Major: Special Education
Minor: Reading
Honors: Graduated Summa Cum Laude

Master of Liberal Arts: Creative Writing and Literature
Harvard University
Accepted - January 2021
Expected Graduation – Spring 2015

Work experience:

Senior Partner – Custom Residential Building Corporation

Forst and Silverblank, Inc.

1979 to Present

Financial management, advertising, hiring, and firing, developing computer systems for accounting, estimating, job profitability, and scheduling, and OSHA coordinator and trainer.

Reading/Writing/English-Learning Remediation Specialist

1973 to present

Private Practice

Reading Specialist for Grades 5-8

2004-2006

East Hampton Middle School

East Hampton Unified Free School District

3rd/4th Grade Classroom Teacher

2001-2002

Hampton Day School

Bridgehampton, New York

Founder and Director of The Pioneer School

1991-2001

Bridgehampton, New York

The school, modeled after The Landmark School in Prides Crossing, MA, educated students with dyslexia.

English Teacher/Special Education Teacher-Leave Replacement

March 1996 to December 1997

Montauk Public School District

Montauk, New York

High School English Teacher for the Homebound

1978-1980

Sag Harbor Public School

Sag Harbor, New York

Head Teacher for combined 2nd/4th grade class

1977 to 1978

Arrowhead School

Eugene, Oregon

Skills:

Seasoned and skilled teacher, savvy businesswoman, possessing outstanding organizational skills.

Personal interests:

Organic gardening, hiking, canoeing, cross-country skiing, fast walking, cooking, dancing, and the practice of tai chi.

Community service:

From 2014 to 2019, I was a member of the Auxiliary Squad in East Hampton Volunteer Ocean Rescue responsible for public relations, news articles, photography, and water safety/hands only CPR presentations. Two of those years, I served as the squad's lieutenant.

During that same time, I was a member of the East Hampton Environmental Coalition - a group that works to preserve and improve the natural environment in East Hampton.

In 1998 to 2000 – I chaired the Environmental sub-committee for the East Hampton Town Cancer Task Force after our high school had a cluster of student cancers.

From 1995 to Present – I sponsored, coordinated, and participated in various Hampton Lifeguard Association events.

From 1981 to 1986, I co-chaired The East End Shoreham Opponents, running weekly meetings and events, while delivering speeches at the PSC and NRC hearings. Our volunteer organization was part of a larger group, The Shoreham Opponents, who, after many years of fighting, successfully shuttered the Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant.

From 1987 to 1990, I was invited to be a founding member of The Joint Town East End Lyme Disease Task Force, involved with legislative issues, funding, and educational awareness for the public sector.

From 1982 to 1987, I was a 4-H Organizational leader.
A rainbow of kids made up my group. We called ourselves, *The East Hampton Stars*.

From 1979 to 2006, I was a PTA member and a class mother that supervised school dances, field trips, and other events.

Accomplishments:

Married to my high school sweetheart for 52 years, a mother of two grown sons, and a grandmother of two amazing young adults.

Lived through and thriving from two open heart surgeries.

Publications:

2013 – Published the YA novel *The Journey of Hannah Woods*.

2016 – Published the YA novel *Stoked-1969*.

Awards and honors:

Woman of Distinction Award Nomination
Awarded by Senator Kenneth La Valle
May 2000 – for recognition of noteworthy achievements.