

The Virgin Islands  
Department of Education Presents  
**2022-2023 ST. THOMAS-ST. JOHN DISTRICT  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR CANDIDATE**



**LYDIA MULCARE-HARRIS**

Kindergarten  
Lockhart Elementary School

————— **For full bio, visit [www.vide.vi](http://www.vide.vi)** —————

————— *"Transforming Today's Learners Into Tomorrow's Leaders"* —————



# Lydia Mulcare-Harris

## Biography

"There is no end to education. It is not how you read a book, pass an examination, and finish with education. The whole of life, from the moment you are born to the moment you die, is a process of learning."-Jiddu Krishnamurti-

My educational journey began on the Caribbean Island of Dominica, where I finished primary school and part of my secondary education. I indirectly influenced my path to becoming an educator at an early age, not realizing that my current position would result from my life experiences. A child raised by parents who were farmers, I knew better than anyone that obtaining an education and serving my community in any capacity would be a true testament to hard work and dedication. As a teen growing up in an environment that catered to children of a specific age range, I became perplexed by the number of students who began their official educational journey in grade 1 with no prior exposure to academic rigor. As a result, I petitioned Brain Allen, my local parliamentary representative at the time, to help me secure funds to establish my village's first-ever preschool/kindergarten program. Ms. Mulcare's Kindergarten program begun in 1996 and is still active catering to students even though I have migrated to the United States Virgin Islands.

In pursuit of my academic endeavor, I came across my alma mater, Ashford University where I earned an Associate of Arts and a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education from the College of Education and a Master of Arts in Early Childhood Education Leadership from the College of Arts and Sciences. In addition, I became an inducted member of the Golden Key International Honor Society and the Delta Alpha Pi Academic Honor Society's Gamma Upsilon Chapter at my alma mater. While working on my various academic pursuits, I became gainfully employed at College Preparatory Learning Center, where I taught for five years as an early childhood teacher at the first-grade level. Later in my career, I began working for the department of education as a paraprofessional at the Emmanuel Benjamin Oliver School for two years before becoming a full-time teacher at Lockhart Elementary School.

At this point in my career, I am proud to see my students excel in their courses by mastering various subjects and using their newly acquired skills. As a Kindergarten teacher and leader at my current institution, I can differentiate instruction to meet the needs of students in my classroom using a variety of modalities. To ensure my students' academic success, I have worked tirelessly to foster a healthy working relationship with parents/guardians to support and encourage all who are influential in my students' academic success. Over the years, I've seen the fruits of my labor in my students' academic progress. The ability to match my education to the needs of my students led me to observe knowledge transfer and the impact of transferability.

Furthermore, on weekends, I volunteer to tutor students at my residence at no cost to their parents and offer my time to various causes within the local community. These efforts, in my opinion, exemplify civic involvement and ensure that our community's future leaders have the knowledge required to propel our society forward. I have volunteered for the Salvation Army, the Red Cross, and other charitable organizations within my community. I am currently the

Leeward Islands Masters Cricket Club secretary and St. Thomas over 40 men's cricket club president. As members of our local community, I believe we can all do our part to support our community within our capacity.

As I continue my profession in education, I aim to ensure that all my students, regardless of their socioeconomic status, obtain a fair opportunity to pursue their academic goals. I intend to work alongside my colleagues to ensure my student's academic progression from kindergarten to upper-level courses is as smooth as possible. I pledge to continue to support our future leaders of tomorrow through my steadfast devotion to the advancement of my local community.