

## Margaret Leaf Bio

A resident of New Orleans since childhood, Margaret Gaffney Leaf believes that every student deserves a free, excellent education, and she works with our community to improve the quality of education available to New Orleans' children. Within the framework of the Teacher Advancement Program, Margaret Gaffney Leaf works with Edna Karr's faculty and students as a Master Teacher.

A graduate of Saint John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico (BA 1995), Ms. Leaf went on to complete a Masters degree in Educational Leadership and Research at The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg (2003). She completed + 30 graduate credit hours of additional studies in Education, English and Special Education at various local universities, including Xavier University of New Orleans, Dillard University of New Orleans and the University of New Orleans. Ms. Leaf has taught in New Orleans since 1997, at Mary Church Terrell School, Lusher Charter School and Edna Karr Secondary School, teaching both middle and high school level English Language arts, and is certified in secondary English and Special Education, endorsement for the academically gifted. In addition, Ms. Leaf currently co-directs the Greater New Orleans Writing Project (G.N.O.W.P.) at the University of New Orleans, a teachers-teaching-teachers model of graduate study and professional development for and by area teachers, which focuses on improving writing and the teaching of writing in local schools. As a content seminar leader with The New Teacher Project, Ms. Leaf also works to help practitioner teachers of middle school English gain content knowledge and improve their instruction as they work toward state certification.

Ms. Leaf and her husband, social studies teacher Charles Greiner, are raising a son and daughter in Algiers.