

C'est moi, Heidi Trude

Il est très simple: on ne voit bien qu'avec le cœur. L'essentiel est invisible pour les yeux.

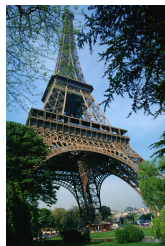
(The essential things in life are seen not with the eyes, but with the heart.)

- Antoine de Saint Exupéry



was very young. While my family was in the process of moving, my mother and I stayed with my grandparents in Pennsylvania. It was during our stay in Pennsylvania that the doctors discovered that I was in congestive heart failure because of a hole in my heart. I had surgery when I was only five months old to repair the VSD (ventral septal defect). My parents consider me to be a miracle and to this day, I have had no complications resulting from the VSD repair.

Bonjour, je m'appelle Heidi Trude (*Hello, my name is Heidi Trude*). This is my second semester at the University of Mary Washington's College of Graduate and Professional Studies. I plan to graduate with my certification in French (PreK-12) and my M.Ed. Ultimately, I would like to teach French at the high school level, but am willing to teach it at any level. I am so passionate about teaching and cannot wait until I have my own classroom. In the meantime, I am a substitute teacher for Fauquier County Public Schools.



Growing Up

Gwas born in Turnersville, New Jersey; however I never lived there long enough to really call it home. My father was in the military, so my family moved from New Jersey to Virginia when I

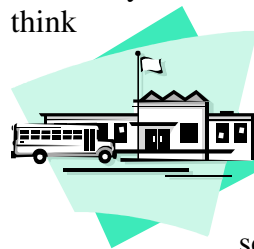
Following the heart surgery, my family settled in Warrenton, Virginia. I have lived here for the past 22 years. I attended Fauquier County Public Schools for elementary, middle, and high school. I absolutely loved school and learning. I think

this was because of the excellent teachers I was fortunate to have.

During my childhood, I was active in Girl

Scouts, softball,

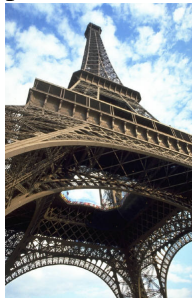
piano and voice lessons, church youth group, and many school clubs and activities. I graduated 10th in my class from Liberty High School in 2003.



Sweet Briar Bound

SWEET BRIAR
COLLEGE

After graduating from Liberty High School, I was off to spend the next four years of my life at Sweet Briar College, a small private women's college near Lynchburg, Virginia. Sweet Briar was a dream come true for me. I loved the small classes and the community atmosphere. It was at Sweet Briar that I discovered my passion and love for the French language and culture.



While at Sweet Briar, I was extremely involved on campus. I was a tour guide, Sweet Spirit (an intern in the Chaplain's Office), French Department tutor, History Department tutor, History Department

research assistant, Senior Class Secretary, French Club president, Campus Christian Fellowship leader, and a member of many other clubs and organizations. I was always busy and loved every minute of it! I was inducted into Pi Delta Phi (National French Honor Society), Omicron Delta Kappa (National Leadership Society), and Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities while at Sweet Briar. I graduated magna cum laude from Sweet Briar College in May 2007 with a B.A. in French and History. During commencement, I was awarded the Walker Family Award, which is one of the all-college awards presented to a senior with

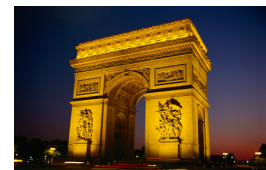


high scholastic standing, a cheerful, positive disposition, and who shows warmth, generosity and humility. My four years at Sweet Briar were amazing and will never be forgotten!



Now What?

It was not until my senior year at Sweet Briar when I realized that teaching French was my calling and passion. I had the opportunity to serve as a private tutor for a young girl who was just beginning to learn French. By working with her, I realized that I had a gift for teaching. It was just so much fun! I also loved tutoring the college students, as well. I made the decision halfway through my senior year that I wanted to teach. I knew I needed to find a program where I could receive my initial licensure and was relatively close to



my home. So, I began researching and found the University of Mary Washington's program. The program was exactly what I wanted, so applied and was accepted. I began classes in Fall 2007.



Teaching

is not just about instructing children, it is also about following your heart and sharing your joy with them. Ultimately you must show your students that you are passionate about what you do in order for them to be excited about learning. At the end of each day, I want to know that I made a difference in the life of child. I know I will be able to instill these values and more in the lives of the students I teach.

My Philosophy of Education

I have a true zeal and desire to teach French.

I believe teaching is one of the most fulfilling and rewarding jobs an individual can do. By teaching I will be able to give back to the community and share my



enthusiasm with others. As a teacher, I want to have the opportunity to shape the minds' of children and help them discover their passions and desires.



Au revoir