

Julie is a first violinist and Operations Manager for the Tampa Bay Symphony, and at alternate times plays her violin with a string quartet and somewhat impromptu “musical groups” around Tampa. When she’s not among the string players, she’s a 3rd degree Black Belt in the martial art known as Aikido. Sensei Julie Tollen, a.k.a, Jet, taught Aikido to youth for nearly 4 years in Philadelphia

before relocating to Tampa in 2013 to start the Tampa Aikido Youth Program.



SENSEI JULIE TOLLEN, A.K.A, JET

Julie holds a third-degree black belt and began her martial arts training in 1997. She practiced Aikido in Colorado under one of the nation’s most highly regarded Aikido instructors, Hiroshi Ikeda Shihan from 2000-2004. She is a graduate of the “alternative” Naropa University in Boulder, CO.

She spent mid-2004 to 2009 living in Kumamoto, Japan, studying under master Aikido instructor Munetsugu Sakabe Sensei while teaching English. Julie now speaks Japanese and is a certified personal trainer.

Teaching Aikido to children is a passionate undertaking for Julie; she recognizes Aikido’s potential to guide the youth of today’s world to make engaged, aware and courageous choices, which

ultimately helps them to become tomorrow’s powerful and peaceful leaders. She is also an NPTI Certified Personal Trainer and is AED & First Aid Certified.

Julie manages the facility Aikido Chuseikan of Tampa Bay, founded by her husband and his close friend in 2013, and runs the youth program for developing martial artists in the Ybor City section in Tampa.

Julie also works as calligrapher, bookkeeper, events coordinator and administrator for the non-profit martial arts association that their Aikido studio belongs to called ASU (www.ASU.org).

