

ALANA STEVENSON, MS

617.921.1224 www.AlanaStevenson.com/AnimalBehaviorServices.com Boston MA, Charlotte VT

ANIMAL BEHAVIORIST, DOG TRAINER, AUTHOR

Animal Behaviorist, Dog Trainer

Assist clients with dog and cat behavioral problems. Provide behavioral consultations, dog training lessons and classes, and animal behavior workshops and presentations. April 2003-Present.

- UVM Program Trainer for ACTS (Assistance Canine Training Services), Aug 2023-Present.
- Elite Fear Free Certified Professional, Oct. 2017-Present.
- Certified Silver in Low Stress Handling for Dogs and Cats, July 2015-Present.
- Cat Friendly Practice Advisory Council—American Association of Feline Practitioners, 2015-Present.
- Certified with the Association of Animal Behavior Professionals (2003-Present)
- Certified with the Bancroft School of Massage Therapy (2006-Present)
- Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (2007-2020)
- Certified IAABC Consultant (2003-2010)

Author

The Good Cat Parent's Guide to Feline Behavior Modification. Routledge, Taylor & Francis, 2024.

Training Your Dog the Humane Way: Simple Teaching Tips for Resolving Problem Behaviors and Raising a Happy Dog. New World Library, 2011.

The Right Way the First Time: Teaching Your Dog Kindly and Humanely (Self-published) 2007.

Il Metodo Dolce Per Allevare Il Tuo Cane. DeAgostini (Italian), 2014.

Educational Programs and Projects (Created/Developed)

Webinars: Canine Fundamentals: Behavior & Body-Language. 2020.

Feline Fundamentals: Behavior, Body-Language & Communication 2020,
Approach, Scruffing & Minimal Restraint 2019, Low-Stress Handling Basics 1 & 2
IAABC, CCPDT CE Approved. CattleDog Pub. 2019.

Feline Behavior and Development. Undergraduate Full-Semester Curriculum for the University of Vermont (Burlington), Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences. May 2018.

Humane Feline Handling (SOP) Standard Operating Procedure for animal shelters and rescue facilities in conjunction with and approved by the Executive Director of the American Association of Feline Practitioners.

Contributed article for American Association of Feline Practitioners published on CatFriendly.com. Hide & Hiss (Behavior).

Instructional videos for Animal Wellness Magazine: Putting on Harnesses and Leashes for Jumpy and Hyper Dogs and How to Pick Up and Carry Cats who Dislike Handling.

Professional Memberships

- American Association of Feline Practitioners
- Association of Animal Behavior Professionals
- Animal Behavior Society
- International Society for Applied Ethology
- Association of Professional Dog Trainers
- International Association of Animal Massage and Bodywork

Instructor of Animal Behavior, Handling, and Management

Developed curriculum and taught animal behavior, handling, and management for the Bancroft School of Massage Therapy—Small Animal Massage Program, 2007-2010.

Small Animal Massage Therapy

Certified in Small Animal Massage Therapy by the Bancroft School of Massage Therapy. 2007. Teach animal massage therapy and techniques to dog and cat owners (2007-Present).

Secondary School Biology & Environmental Science Teacher

Taught high school biology, bioethics, college biology, environmental science, and freshman physics, 1997-2002.

Veterinary Receptionist/Assistant

Observed surgical procedures, assisted with medical examinations, performed general animal care, administered medications, maintained client records, serviced clients, 1987-1989.

Research Experience

- Compiled research on using animal abuse as an investigational tool and lethality predictor as an indicator of violent crimes against people. This research was used by Illinois State Police Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board in a curriculum to train law enforcement officers, 1998.
- Alternatives to Dissection: An Evaluation of Software Programs in Anatomy and Physiology. Evaluated software programs in anatomy and physiology to replace animal dissection. 1995.
- Directed educational research on college students' experiences with animal dissection in Biology, Fall 1995-Spring. 1996.
- Manatee Population Study. Surveyed manatee populations in the Florida Intracoastal Waterway, 1989.

Education

University at Albany, M.S. Biology Education
NY and MA teaching certifications Albany, NY 1996

University at Albany, B.A. Biology
Minor Anthropology

Graduated cum laude, Albany, NY 1995

Dean's List, 1993-1995

Certified in Low-Stress Handling for Dogs and Cats (Silver)

Behavioral topics included low stress handling of difficult dogs and cats, towel wrap techniques for handling cats; handling, moving, and restraining medium-sized to large dogs; handling, moving, and restraining small to medium-sized dogs; preparing the patient and setting up the hospital to create a relaxing environment; the science of animal learning; recognizing and reversing fear and aggression, July 2015.

Small Animal Massage Therapy

Completed a 200 hr small animal massage therapy program at the Bancroft School of Massage Therapy, 2007.

Certified Canine Behavior Counselor

Full-time 240 hour internship in canine obedience and behavior modification at the Animal Behavior Center in Queens, NY. Certification with the Association of Companion Animal Behavior Counselors. Curriculum coursework from Clinical Behavioral Medicine in Small Animals by Dr. Karen Overall, Teaching Clicker Classes: An Instructor's Guide to Using Positive Reinforcement in Dog Training by Deborah Jones, Ph.D., and Delta Society's Manual on Mission and Ethics for Trainers, Jan.-Feb. 2003.

Additional Coursework & Experience

Below is the syllabus for the internship at the Animal Behavior Center in NY. This internship was a 240 hour full-time program taken in Jan-Feb 2003.

Course Content

- History of applied animal behavior
- Scientific inquiry and critical thinking
- The analysis of behavior
- Stimuli, reinforcers, and punishers
- Extinction and schedules of reinforcement
- Stimulus control
- Respondent conditioning
- Acquiring and maintaining behavior
- Biology of behavior
- Biology of stress
- Principles of ethology
- History of the species
- House training and elimination disorders
- Basic canine behavior pharmacology
- Clinical applications of canine behavioral pharmacology

Additional Topics

- Ethological definitions
- Molecular evolution of the dog family
- Comparative and contrasting roots

- Can you ID a dog with DNA?
- Rabies virus
- Medical consideration for dog bites
- Pica behavior in adult dogs
- Separation anxiety
- Problem barking
- Submissive urination
- Acral Lick Dermatitis

University Undergraduate & Graduate Classes

- Veterinary Science
- Anatomy and Physiology 1 & 2
- Medical Terminology
- Genetics
- Immunology
- Hematology
- Animal Biology (Graduate)
- Animal Social Systems (Graduate)
- Urinalysis
- Primatology
- Oceanography
- Animal Behavior (Graduate)
- Marine Biology
- Child and Adolescent Psychology (Graduate)
- Ecology (Graduate)
- Classroom Research (Graduate)
- Perspectives in Science (Graduate)
- Sociology of Families
- Teaching Science (Graduate)
- Child Abuse Seminar (Graduate)

Media (Partial List)

- Featured in Hondenleven magazine.
- Podcasts/Radio: Interviewed by Animal Voices Canada 2011, Lucky Dog Show 2009, Rich Britton's Passionate about Pets 2012, Pet Place Radio 2008.
- Featured in local newspapers, The Newton Tab, Boston Tails 2008, 2009 and in the Boston Globe, as a feline behaviorist 2011.
- Magazines: Dog Living, Modern Dog, Northern Virginia Dog, American Dog, Animal Wellness, Animal People, K9 Magazine.
- Behavior articles (feline) for LifewithCats.tv.
- Behavior articles (canine) for LifewithDogs.tv.
- Featured segment on Chronicle, a local television show about New England, on my animal behavior consulting practice, 2006.
- Appeared on Capital News 9 - provided tips on how to calm down high-energy dogs, 2004.
- Appeared on local news stations regarding "Jimmy," a Capuchin monkey kept at pet shop, 1994-1996. Jimmy was released to Jungle Friends Primate Sanctuary in Jacksonville, FL.