

Melanie Benware, IACP CDT, CDTA/PDTI

Melanie Benware is a Certified Dog Trainer through The Tom Rose School of Professional Dog Trainers in St. Louis, Missouri as well as having her Certified Dog Trainer (CDT), Certified Dog Trainer Advanced (CDTA), and Professional Dog Training Instructor (PDTI) through the International Association of Canine Professionals (IACP). Melanie has been training dogs for over 15 years. She has spent the last three years living in Ireland, hosting workshops for trainers from all over the world, volunteering at the Dublin SPCA, and working with clients around Ireland. Before her time in Ireland, Melanie helped run the training program for one of the nation's oldest and largest kennels in Richmond, Virginia and volunteered her time as a trainer/foster for Ring Dog Rescue. Before professionally training dogs, she trained for a Labrador rescue in St. Louis, Missouri. She is delighted to be back in Richmond to run her own business: Kindred K9 Solutions. Melanie is dedicated to helping dogs develop and maintain a healthy, happy, and balanced relationship with their families.

Melanie was honored to receive the International Association of Canine Professionals (IACP) Ambassador award in 2013 and serve on the IACP Conference Committee since 2014. She was elected to the IACP Board of Directors in 2015 and also served as Vice President for IACP in 2017 and 2018 before being elected President for the 2019 term.

In her spare time, she enjoys scuba diving with her husband and hiking with their four dogs; Mongo, a German Shepherd; Zhenga, a South African Boerboel; Bogart, a Bull Mastiff; and Autumn, a Lurcher.