

Children's Garden Montessori School

End of Summer Newsletter

Summer 2015

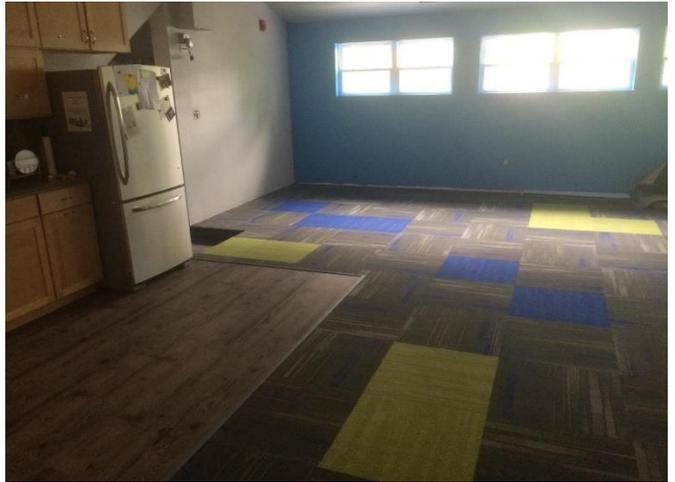


Your Fundraising Dollars at Work

Every year, generous donors give money both during the Annual Auction and to the Annual Fund. These fundraising efforts are greatly appreciated by the school and help us to accomplish many things. This year, funds from the auction were earmarked for upstairs improvements, classroom supplies, and staff education. Thanks to the generous community, we were able to paint the whole inside of our building and to recarpet our upstairs. By the end of this month, the teacher workspaces will be transformed, thanks to shelving and desks designed and installed by Smart Spaces.

Additionally, we were able to purchase classroom supplies designed to enhance gross motor development and outside enjoyment. Each classroom benefited by ordering new traditional Montessori materials. Ward Hobbs purchased a new Color Box 3, 440 a Pink Tower, and Toddlers a new dish washing stand.

The state requires that every teacher complete 15 hours of continuing education per year. Lifelong learners at heart, our staff often search for conferences and trainings that will allow them to bring new ideas to the classroom. This past year, we had a teacher attend a week long Reggio discussion group attended by educators from all over the world. Another teacher flew to Baltimore to attend the American Montessori Society National conference on Diversity. Two other teachers attended local trainings that presented new ways of working with children in language development, with special emphasis on helping those who struggle with learning to read and write under traditional methods.



Finally, a few donors gave money towards scholarships that allowed us to open our doors a little wider and to assure that our school continues to be a community that embraces a wide variety of people.

Welcome Our New Teachers!



We were delighted to welcome in two new teachers this year. Both have made their transitions seamlessly, and we are delighted with how well they fit into our community. Please join us in welcoming Michelle Bower and Kirsten Haveri!

Michelle has been working as a trained Montessori teacher for over 16 years. Born and raised in South Africa, she came to the United States to stay with her brother and took a nannying job. Soon, she was introduced to the Montessori philosophy and has been teaching the method every since. Besides teaching, she enjoys reading, cooking, and walking her dogs. She used to be a Drum Majorette and can still twirl and toss any baton you pass her way!



Kirsten grew up in Detroit, Michigan. After five years in Ohio, she moved out to Colorado and has been in the state for 3 years. She recently completed her Montessori training at the Montessori Education Center of the Rockies, and has been working with children since 2011. In addition to teaching young children, she works as a Zumba instructor. She loves to hike, walk, and run. Often draped in a scarf, she collects scarves from all over the world.

**Please join us in welcoming:
Charlie Reford Berry
Born to Belle and Lee Berry on
September 4, 2015!**



Montessori in the Mountains

This year, our staff will be combining getting our continuing education hours and our staff retreat into one event. We will be travelling to Estes Park to spend September 25 and 26 attending Montessori in the Mountains. For this event, Montessori educators from all over Colorado gather to share knowledge. We are very grateful to all the Children's Garden Community members who have donated to our school, giving us the opportunity to attend this event as a group. Thank you!