



MICH ALUMNI NEWS

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April 2010

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& other ways to help MICH (Supporting)

Playing Around is Serious Business!

It's done! The design for the new Upper Playground has been approved by the MICH Board of Directors.

Why a new playground? All those years of MICH students playing, climbing, and jumping has taken its toll!

We've sanded, repaired and repainted and now it is time to replace!

The Playground renovation will be a custom-designed, state-of-the-art, accessible play environment which will be developmentally and age appropriate for the children.

The design will maximize natural

planting areas and opportunities for children's gardening, and include active play spaces with a minimum of formal play structures.

Existing trees, land forms and views will be incorporated into the design.

Amenities will be low maintenance and vandal resistant, and the spaces created will be visible for safety and security.

This endeavor needs everyone's help to make it a reality - please help by making an Annual Fund donation today!



Playground Components

A - PAVEMENT GAMES AND BASKETBALL

- Relocated Paved Court
- Painted Game Lines (Hopscotch, 4-Square, etc.)
- Permanent Adjustable Basketball Hoop
- Shed to store equipment and loose parts

B - PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

- Recycled Materials / Natural Colors
- Primary and Elementary Play Areas separated by low Berm and Plantings
- Primary Area with unconventional Play Unit, Playhouse with existing tunnel, Balance Beam, and Age Appropriate Boulder Climber on Safety Surfacing
- Elementary Area with Tire Swing, Net and Rock Wall Climbing Structures on Safety Surfacing
- "Tree House" for fantasy play and socialization, with accessible steps to overlook platform

C - SAND PLAY

- Natural Boulder Borders
- Raised Sand Table for Accessibility
- Archeological Dig with buried "fossils"
- Adjacent Decking to minimize maintenance
- Overhead Pergola for shade
- Removable Mesh Cover

D - NATURAL PLAY AND PLANTING AREAS

- Utilize existing trees / incorporate tree stump

- New Shade Trees and Low Grasses and Shrubs
- Berms for interest and use area separation
- Log benches and Vine Hut in natural areas

E - CHILDREN'S GARDENING AREAS

- New Raised Planters and Cold Frame
- New Shed for storing garden tools and equipment
- Wood chip or gravel surfacing to minimize maintenance
- Rain Barrels / Rain Chains / Compost Tumbler
- Continue to utilize existing planters at ramps for Classroom Planting Projects

F - OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS AND SEATING

- Rectangular Pavilion with paved floor
- Deck with Overhead Pergola for shade
- Adaptable for outdoor meals, social activities, performances, and dramatic play
- Science Study / Weather Station (wind sock, rain gauge, etc.)
- Child-sized Picnic Tables and a variety of Seating Options

G - WALKWAYS AND PATHS

- Paved walkway loop to provide accessible connection for all playground features
- Variety of Textures and Insets, Footprints, Patterns for interest and discovery
- Bridges for interest and fantasy play
- Wood chip paths for alternative routes

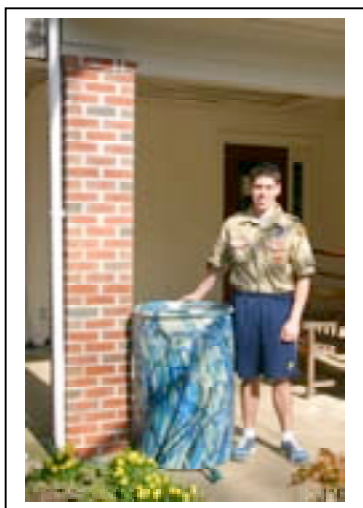
Many thanks to this year's Alumni Parent Donors!

Nancy and Bill Anselm
Bernadette Bolte
Jean and Scott Burgess
Bruce and Torii Campbell
Mike Durner and Leona Schultz
Tom Cassidy and Joyce Oakes
Muffy and Karl Gawell
Robert and Rae Jean Goodman
Cliff Habig and Mary Hoffman

Janelle Humes
Liliya and Alfred Kasimov
Pam and Kunal Mitra
Daniel Nataf and Elizabeth Sammis
Grover and Melissa Outland
Dick and Edna Roop
Tom and Joanne Sfakiyanudis
Judy and George Wacker

We would love to see your name listed here! Please donate to the Annual Fund so our current students can enjoy the Upper Playground as much as your children did!

Alumni and Current Students Help Make the new Upper Playground a Reality!



As his Eagle Scout project, **Ethan Goodman** (class of 2004) will be installing rain barrels! Placement of the rain barrels will significantly help run-off problems, conserve water, and allow watering of areas not currently accessible via hoses.



Junior Girl Scout Troup 2149 - To achieve their bronze award, the troop will be building and installing 4 raised planting beds and a new composter! This project will provide additional space for elementary planting and support the recycling efforts of the entire school. Troop members are **Maggie Campbell, Kelli Kazmarek, Miranda Russ, Isabelle Simmons, Olivia Simmons** and **Caroline Steele**.

MICH Staff Supports the New Playground!



MICH Staff - Due to the support of the staff we will be able to install a new basketball system during the first phase of the playground renovation! All the students will enjoy this welcome addition.

Alumni Notes . . . when last we heard

Monica Anselm is enjoying her fourth year as a primary directress at Chesapeake Montessori School, will appear in the Colonial Players production of *Mrs. California* in May, and is engaged to be married in August.

Mark Anselm continues to work as a graphic artist and web designer at Publisher's Clearinghouse in Port Washington, NY. He writes, arranges and performs music with the City Billies in New York City. Listen to his song, "Run Away" on youtube
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68IO_AU2qYg

Maxwell Anselm graduates magna cum laude from Lehigh University in May. Will pursue a Master's degree in mathematics at Lehigh next year with a full scholarship. Performs with and manages the Lehigh men's a capella group, A Whole Step Up.

Brad Attaway graduated from Harvard.

Tara Bliss is back at Mt. Holyoke College and is on the equestrian team. She spent last year riding polocrosse while studying in London and Dublin.

Ellie Brandenburg and **Jack Brandenburg** made the Honor Roll at Bates Middle School.

Mara Fleming is a sophomore at the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia. She is studying Fiber Arts right now, but considering changing her major to Fashion Design and minoring in Fibers instead. Her younger brother, Matteo, who is two years old currently attends MICH.

Claire Whitaker visits with Dody Goldberg at this year's Spring Performance.

Lindsey Gardner was invited to join the Sociedad Honoria Hispanica.

Congrats to **Carson Kraycik** who had a poem entitled *If I Were in Charge of the World* published in the January 2010 issue of Chesapeake Family magazine.

Irene Lewis is a freshman in high school and last summer was the youngest intern at a local public archeology project.

Jack Logansmith (2009) will be competing in the Maryland finals of the National Geography Bee.

Jacqui Stomski (2009) was one of eight 7th grade students to made the Principal's Honor Roll at Bates Middle School. She also was in 2nd place in the Bates Science Fair for chemistry and was invited to participate in the countrywide Science Fair.

Raven Thoms is at Broadneck Elementary School and after school is on a K-1st grade Destination Imagination Team.

Ana Torres is a sophomore at Broadneck High School and just finished her second year swimming for them.

John Torres is in 6th grade at Severn River Middle School. Still playing soccer for BAYS and Free State.





Thank you to all the alums who helped out with the Secret Shop: Mae Kate Campbell '07, Tommy Chafe '09, Miranda Durner '08, Emily Gove '07, Lana Humes '08, Maggie Mei Lewis, Irene Lewis, Jack Logansmith '09, Jackii Stomski '09, Ana Torres '06, John Torres '06, Claire Tucker '08, and Claire Whitaker.

Another thank you to all the alums who were wonderful resources for our parents at Ask the Expert Night in January: Tommy Chafe (2009), Miranda Durner (2008), Jack Logansmith (2009), Jackii Stomski (2009), Claire Tucker (2008), Mae Kate Campbell (2007), Lindsey Gardner (2004), Ethan Goodman (2004), Emily Gove (2007), Maggie Mei Lewis (2005), Kellan Mann (2005), Max Anselm (1999), Josh Menocal (2002), Devon Litherland (1999), Monica Anselm (1990) and Rachel Gawell (MICH Alumni). They were able to answer all the questions about Life After Montessori!

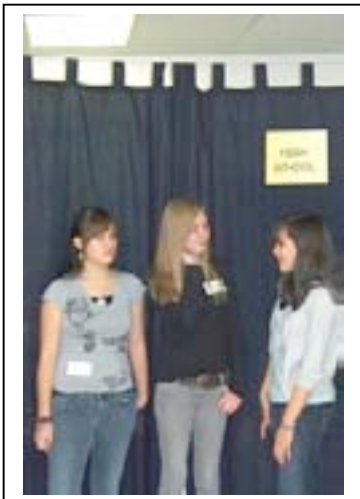
We are also indebted to the following alumni parents for sharing their wisdom: Josephina Chafe, Joanne Goodman, Leona Schultz, Laura Stomski, Sarah Hyde, Christiana and Steven Logansmith, Greta Johnson, Brian Gove, Torii Campbell, Heidi Menocal, and Bernadette Bolte.



Jack Logansmith (2009),
Jackii Stomski (2009),
Tommy Chafe (2009),
Claire Tucker (2008), and
Miranda Durner (2008)



Lindsey Gardner (2004) and
Ethan Goodman (2004)



Monica Anselm (1990)
and Rachel Gawell



Josh Menocal (2002)
and Max Anselm (1999)

Maggie Mei Lewis, Mae Kate
Campbell, and Emily Gove

Montessori International Children's House

1641 Winchester Road
Annapolis MD 21409

Phone:
410-757-7789

Fax:
410-974-4610

E-Mail:
mking@montessoriinternational.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

.montessoriinternational.org



It was a very cold and windy day as Team MICH gathered at school to bus to the 2010 Polar Bear Plunge at Sandy Point State Park. Who knew that this stormy day would be the prelude to weeks of snow! This intrepid group braved all the elements and raised over \$6,300 for the Maryland Special Olympics!

We were the top fundraisers in the private school division. Many thanks to Colette Tettermer (organizer and Team Captain Extraordinaire!) and to the parents, students, staff, alumni, alumni parents and friends who formed the team: Bernadette Bolte, Joe, Beth, Matthew and Michael Bonsignore, Jean and Scott Burgess, Blake and Jessica Carzon, Walt Clocker, Sharon Cole, Anthea Cooper and her son Max Cooper, Denise and Sean Corson, Kristen Crawford, Kirsten Deichman and her daughter Skylar, Leona Schultz and her daughters Mackenzie and Miranda Durner, Janelle Humes and her daughter Lana, Vicki Khostinat, Margo King, Jamie Kirk, Andy Lawton, Kevin Litkowski, Indy Mitra, Pam Mitra, Jessy Oberright and her daughter Kestrel, Sylvia and Raymond Provencher, Hutch and Valerie Robbins, Michael Sallustio, Ken Scaturro and his son Johnny, Kevin Wengernuk and his son Phoenix, Rod White, and Jennifer Whitlock. Join us for the next plunge on January 29, 2011 - we're a fun group!

As MICH approaches its **25th Anniversary** (which we will celebrate September 2010 - June 2011) we hope to have you "remember when" by posting pictures of former students. If you are the first person to email Margo King at mking@montessoriinternational.org with the correct answer, you will receive a special gift!

Take a moment and send us your old MICH photos - via email (mking@montessoriinternational.org) or disk (sent to school) and who knows maybe your mystery alum will be in the next alumni newsletter!

If your alum was in the first MICH graduating class (1990), we would like to hear from you! Please email Margo King.



Who is this young man??