



## WOW! 30 YEARS! We could not have done it without YOU!

### MICH Milestones

- 1985 Parents for Montessori Education incorporated  
MICH opened with 70 students in two Primary and one Toddler class
- 1986 School moved to the house on the hill
- 1987 Lower Elementary program added
- 1994 Upper Elementary program added
- 1999 Second Lower Elementary classroom added
- 2004 6th year added to Upper Elementary program
- 2005 First 6th grade class graduated  
Last 5<sup>th</sup> grade class graduated
- 2006 Toddler playground renovated
- 2006 MICH website started
- 2007 Alumni Newsletter started
- 2007 Toddler Playground renovated
- 2008 Sidewalk installed circling upper playground
- 2009 Outdoor classroom created – The Glen – by Girl Scout Troop 547  
Napper Program expanded to include more children
- 2010 MICH designated Maryland Green School  
Upper Playground renovation started  
Toddler Community increased from 9 to 12 students  
Polar Bear Plunge top fundraiser in private school division (blizzard)  
Rain barrels installed – Ethan Goodman Eagle scout project
- 2011 Upper Playground Renovation Completed  
New program – Toddler Nappers  
Spanish Instruction increased for upper elementary students  
First MICH appearance at County Spelling Bee (Olivia Simmons)  
Students stitched needlepoint Sands House in Annapolis - Annapolis Tapestries  
Project commemorating the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the City's charter.  
Facebook page created
- 2012 Front entrance rebuilt with new stairs to lower level. Moveable wall installed  
between the large and small group rooms  
Mae Kate Campbell finishes raised bed garden – Girl Scout Gold Award Project  
Jean Burgess retires – Elizabeth Whitaker becomes Administrative Director
- 2012 Began using Google calendar
- 2013 New Kitchen, reconfigured hallway, new closet, renovated Toddler
- 2014 Renovated Elementary extended day room  
Recertified as a Maryland Green School  
Expanded Summer Programs  
Decorated Chicken for Annapolis Main Street Art Project, Montessori International  
Chicken Hawk residing outside Metropolitan Kitchen & Lounge, West Street  
Voted Best Montessori School by Readers Choice, the Capital Gazette  
Outdoor classroom refreshed with new benches and landscaping by Christopher May  
as an Eagle Scout Project
- 2015 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Voted Best Montessori School by Readers Choice, the Capital Gazette (second  
year in a row!)  
Began the school year with 164 students!

## Alum Updates ...

**Don't see your name? It must be because we don't know what you are doing but we want to! Please email information and pictures to [mking@montessorinternational.org](mailto:mking@montessorinternational.org)**

**Monica Anselm Garcia** ('90) and her husband Matt are expecting their first child in April 2016. Nancy Anselm is very excited.



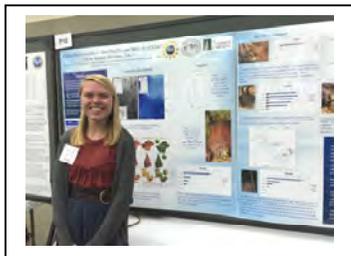
**Max Anselm** ('99) married Ana-Iulia Alexandrescu on October 3, 2015. Max is pursuing a second Master's from Lehigh University in computer sciences in Bethlehem, PA. while Ana is a professor of systems engineering there.

**Sophia Bontempo** is in the eighth grade at St. Mary's. She likes to play lacrosse and dance at Studio 180.

**Nicholas Bontempo** attends Annapolis High School's IB program. He plays varsity golf, lacrosse, and wrestling.

[Note from Becky Bontempo - They're both doing great as Montessori was a wonderful start to their education.]

**Sasha Mrose-Bowles** is a freshman at the University of Miami studying philosophy.



**Mae Kate Campbell** ('07) presented a poster at the 2015 Annual Meeting & Conference of the Geological Society of America. Her topic was "Fallout Radionuclides in Soil Profiles and History of Land Use in Yunnan Province, China." Mae Kate is a Junior at Oberlin College.

**Tommy Chafe** is in his first year at Oberlin Conservatory studying the viola. He loves it!

**Luca Cook** started 6th grade at Bates Middle School this fall. He is in the Performing and Visual Arts Magnet program in the visual arts department.



**Julia Deckman** ('96) lives in Charleston, SC and has established a freelance art career. Her work is represented by a local gallery: Fabulon. She will have a solo show at Fabulon from January 5th-30th, with a reception on January 8th from 5-8:30pm. Julia keeps a blog on her website ([www.byJDeckman.com](http://www.byJDeckman.com)) and has an Instagram account for her work: @byJDeckman.

**Lindsey Gardner Rivero** ('04) and her "Mini Me," Elliot Grace who is 14 months. They live in Chesapeake, VA.

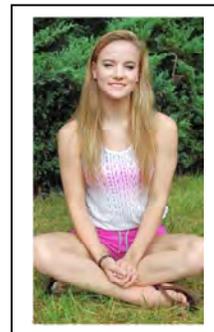


**Joanna Gawell** married Jake Nolting this past summer.



**Ellie Handel** was selected for an NYU expository writing award and is the only sophomore to have completed three stage management positions at Tisch School of the Arts, the most recent being Taming of the Shrew.

**Sophie Handel** was selected by Annapolis Gazette as teen of the week last September. Her gymnastic trio scored gold for Team USA at the British Gymnastics Nationals.



Hola from Mexico! **Rowan and Tristan Jackson** are currently in fourth grade and second grade, respectively, at the Academia Internacional de San Miguel in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. It is a bilingual IB school, so their Spanish is great! These two brothers currently enjoy horseback riding lessons, soccer, piano, swimming, acting lessons, and science club. In the picture, they're celebrating Rowan's 10th birthday on a family trip to London. They also enjoy exploring the beaches and archaeological sites of Mexico.

**William Joyce** ('99) is currently the Compliance Officer for the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board, a state government agency in charge of enforcing Massachusetts regulations related to disability access similar to the Americans with Disabilities Act. He received his BS in Political Science, with Concentrations in International Relations and Comparative Politics, from Northeastern University.

*... when last we heard*

**Sarah Killian** is a senior at Tufts University in Boston, majoring in Peace and Justice Studies. She serves on the Board of the Experimental College and is the president of the Tufts Traveling Treasure Trunk children's theatre group. This past summer she worked at Groundwork Somerville, an organization bringing urban farming to Boston highschoolers. She spent her junior spring semester in Vietnam, Morocco and Bolivia on a special project on the Politics of Climate Change.

**Eli Konikoff** and his sister attend Adams International Montessori school in Virginia and love their rural surroundings! They enjoy cultivating the gardens, feeding the chickens and tending to their rabbits.

**Quinn Lemmon** ('09) is a freshman at Salisbury University.

**Lauren Little** is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at Edgewater Elementary. She presented a speech she wrote to the entire school in honor of Veteran's Day.



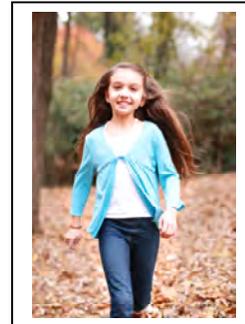
**Maggie Mae Lewis** ('05) graduated from University of Maryland College Park with a B.A. in Studio Art and a minor in Art History. Maggie has a fine arts business called Miniature Inspirations, and is a Kindergarten-Eighth Grade art teacher at the private school, St. Anne's School of Annapolis.

**Jack Logansmith** ('09) received his IB and high school diplomas from Annapolis High last Spring, and is now studying Engineering at Bucknell University. He is also singing in the University Chorale, the Rooke Chapel choir, and Bucknell's Gospel group.



**Colette Nataf** married James Bartlett in December and now lives in San Francisco where she works as a growth manager for a tech startup. Montessori inspired her love for mathematics.

**Siena Sallustio** is now in the 6th grade at Severn River Middle School in the STEM math program. She earned a position on the advanced team at the Dance Company, and is also on the pre-team at Severna Park Gymnastics. [Note from Dad - she still loves playdates and sleepovers with her old friends from the MICH days. We are grateful for her time at MICH!]



**Katy Scruggs** is a Junior at Tulane University, in New Orleans, majoring in Finance and Marketing. She is spending the fall semester in Wellington, New Zealand, at Victoria University taking classes toward her majors and taking every opportunity to see as much of the country as possible. She has hiked around a volcanic lake in the middle of North Island; during semester break she spent a week in Fiji swimming with the manta rays; then kayaking on a fjord-like lake on South Island where she also went bungee jumping; and has gone caving to see "the cave of the glowing worms." She plans to spend a week in Sydney, Australia, visiting friends and studying abroad before coming home. Katy insists that she is keeping her 3.7 GPA intact and has not missed any classes. She'll be home before Thanksgiving.

**Andrew Emory Speight** graduated from the University of Vermont, Class of 2015, with a B.A. in Studio Art and minor in Art History. He worked for the University of Vermont for two years (April 2013 onward) & through the summer as a graphic designer and photographer. He is now a Creative Intern at Solidarity of Unbridled Labour, a design firm in Burlington, VT. He has also been a freelance designer and photographer since 2012, website: speightphoto.com.



**Caroline Steele** ('12) is a sophomore at Broadneck High School. On October 17, she earned her Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do. Caroline has been training at Balanced Life Skills for 10 years. To fulfill her Black Belt requirements, she completed a community service project at the Wellness House of Annapolis. She served as a junior counselor and led art projects at the monthly children's events and summer camp.

## Snapshots

**Jackii Stomski** ('09) earned many distinctions at Annapolis High School including an IB Diploma, and graduated as Valedictorian. She's currently a Freshman at the University of Maryland in the Honors College continuing her study of Arabic. Any questions about PVA, IB, or UMD, be sure to reach out! [Jlstomski@gmail.com](mailto:Jlstomski@gmail.com)



**Claire Tucker** ('08) is a freshman at St. John's College in Annapolis, where her Montessori education is serving her in good stead.

**Carl Tucker** ('11) recently hiked another 40 miles of the Appalachian Trail with a friend. He is up to 80 now. He is a Junior at Annapolis High School.



**Amira Tuma** ('11) is a Junior at Indian Creek, where she is on the Varsity soccer team. She was recently inducted into the Spanish honor society.

**Marco Welch** attended MICH from 1st - 3rd grade and had an absolute ball! He loved school at MICH, and participated in Math club and Chess club. He is now attending 4th grade at Belvedere Elementary in Arnold, MD. He is enjoying school there too, but misses his friends at MICH very much.

**Robert White** entered middle school at Severn and is enjoying the rigors of changing classes and having multiple teachers. He stays in touch with Danny Swope and Nolan Corson, mainly through soccer.

**Gavin Wicker** ('15) is a straight A student at Severn where he made the Headmasters List and has been chosen as a student ambassador.



**Lauren Wilmot** ('04) graduated from the University of Virginia in May 2015. She is now working in sales for Oracle Corporation in San Francisco, California.



A visit last spring from **Kate Olson** and her mother Sarah

The spring plays always bring alumni back to MICH!

**Skylar Deichman** ('13) and **Madeline Myers**



**Miranda Russ** and **Trent Russ** ('14)



**Hunter Ward** ('14)



Greetings from **Lana Humes** ('08) now a sophomore at Auburn

## Thank You to Everyone

who donated to last year's Annual Fund and who supported the Auction. Your generosity put in a new driveway, spruced up the Toddler playground, and added a wonderful awning for the Toddler playground. Please consider our business donors – on our website under Supporting → Business Supporters and MICH Auction when shopping or selecting services.

### Grandparents

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Beckman  
Mr. and Mrs. William Braughton  
Mr. and Mrs. David Classen  
Mr. and Mrs. Beverly Crump  
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Fazekas  
Mrs. Martha Jones  
Mr. and Mrs. William Kessman  
Mrs. Janet Markel \*  
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Parsons  
Dr. and Mrs. Errol Phillip  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Redman  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rose  
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Ryzhikov  
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Salta  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shipman  
Mr. and Mrs. Tony Specca  
Dr. and Mrs. Lee Trent



### Staff

Nancy Anselm \*  
Jen Farren  
Janice Jiles  
Liliya Kasimova  
Margo King \*  
Jamie Kirk  
Marge Lohmann  
Pam Mitra  
Abha Parekh  
Zita Uleckas  
Elizabeth Whitaker

### Parents

Joseph & Ilona Benderson  
John Beckman & Marcela Valdes  
Amy Brumley  
Larry & Dana Cate  
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Michael Specca & Ingrid Jansen  
Gus Stern & Kirra Brandon \*  
Richard Sweeney & Diana Silva  
CJ Ward & Melissa Lauderdale-Ward  
Geoff Wawrzyniak & Celeste Kozlovsky  
Richard Wicker & Tara Frame  
Gary Wiebolt  
Tim Woodsmall & Lacey Dingman-Woodsmall



### Alumni Parents

George & Linda Beechener  
Jack and Kristin Brandenburg  
Scott & Jean Burgess  
Bruce & Torii Campbell  
Tom Cassidy & Joy Oakes  
Wes & Ellen Gardner  
Ted & Pam Mussenden \*  
Grover & Melissa Outland  
Kevin & Sarah Wengernuk  
Rodney & Mary White  
Doug Steele & Dianna Young  
Steven & Laura Stomski

### In-Kind, Business Donors & Friends

Absolute Fire Protection  
Baycove Family & Cosmetic Dentistry  
Fidelity Charitable  
Knox Family Foundation \*  
KW Landscaping Inc \*  
Mathnasium  
Nancy Parsons Hancock Fund \*  
Wakefield Family Fund \*

*\* Leadership Gifts*

As we head into our 31<sup>st</sup> year as the premier Montessori school in the Annapolis area, we want to thank every student, parent, alumni, alumni parents, grandparents, extended families and the business community for your continuous support!

Please consider making a donation today to keep us at the forefront of Montessori education!

## *In Memorium*

It is with sadness that we note the passing of Howard Joseph Brickman on October 12, 2015. Howard was an integral part of MICH's formation. His three children Rachael ('91), Ariel ('93), and Joshua ('97) attend MICH during these early years. Howard's support and efforts helped create and sustain the MICH we know today. Our deepest condolences to his family and friends.

## *Alums - Interested in helping at Secret Shop?*

### **Secret Shop – December 6<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 3:00 pm**

There are a variety of ways that you can help – Shopping Assistants with the younger students, Check-in, Packaging gifts, etc. Please email Margo King if you are interested –

[mking@montessoriinternational.org](mailto:mking@montessoriinternational.org).

## *How Can I Help?*

Many of you have asked how you can help MICH. There are several ways:

- ❑ **Register your Giant food card** to help MICH.
  - Register either online at [www.giantfood.com/aplus](http://www.giantfood.com/aplus) or in person at any Giant store.
  - You will need your Giant Bonuscard number and you must select Montessori International Children's House as the school you wish to support.
  - MICH's number is #01674.
  - If you do not have your 12 digit bonus card number, call Giant at 1-877-366-2668.
- ❑ **Shop at amazon.com through our website** – [www.montessoriinternational.org](http://www.montessoriinternational.org) - click the link on the right side of the homepage.
- ❑ **Post us on your Facebook Page**
  - We would love to know what MICH alums are doing but can't contact them because we do not have emails. It would be great if you would note on your page that we are trying to get updates on everyone. They can email Margo King at [mking@montessoriinternational.org](mailto:mking@montessoriinternational.org).
  - Help us spread the word about MICH and stay up to date by liking our facebook page (lower right of the top picture) located at <https://www.facebook.com/Montessori-International-Childrens-House-MICH-231693043558550/>
- ❑ **Make a contribution to our Excellence in Education Annual Fund.** Your tax-deductible gift ensures that MICH will continue to provide an unparalleled education – a unique education that touches lives and shapes futures for all its students.
  - In order to receive a tax-deduction for calendar year 2015, we must receive your donation in hand, postmarked by December 31st or online via credit card by December 31st.
  - Pledges may be made now, and then you may send in your donation monthly, in several payments, or in one payment – all donations must be received by June 30th for this year's Annual Fund.
  - Please note we are not part of the Combined Federal Campaigns this year – but will be next year!