

A I U m N e w s I e t t e r



Montessori
International
Children's
House

Accredited by Association Montessori Internationale USA

Spring 2016



Best Montessori School



3rd Year in a Row!

One of the Reasons MICH is the Best - Our Staff!

Our staff is the heart and soul of the school. Whether a classroom directress or assistant, specials teacher, extended day caregiver, media center or office staff ... everyone is instrumental in shaping our students' social, emotional, and academic development. We wish a well-deserved thank you to all!



Please join us in extending our very best wishes to Ms. Jiles, who has announced that she will retire from MICH at the end of the school year. She has been an esteemed member of our staff for almost 25 years and we know she will be greatly missed by her students and their families. We hope you will join us to wish her a fond farewell on June 5.

We will send you an evite; please rsvp online. If you do not receive the evite, please call the office to RSVP or send your email address to mking@montessoriinternational.org.

Do you have a picture, a remembrance, best wishes, or something you would like to share about Ms. Jiles? Please send to mking@montessoriinternational.org

Packing Up a Little Love

MICH discovered a meaningful way to give back to the Annapolis community when several staff members suggested helping The Blue Ribbon Project - Backpacks of Love. This local community charity supports children who are being removed from their current living situations and placed into foster care.

Montessori International students, parents, and staff collected and filled 20 backpacks, for both boys and girls, with essential age-appropriate necessities such as a toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, children's soap/body wash, children's shampoo, age-specific clothing for the child's age, personal clothing (underwear, socks, pajamas), and carefully selected books and toys.

The Department of Social Services calls The Blue Ribbon Project when a child is being removed and a member of The Blue Ribbon Project immediately takes a backpack to the child's location.



Alum Updates ...

Mark Anselm ('93) started a new job at Agenda as a Designer/Developer in January. www.agendany.com



Monica Anselm ('90) Garcia and her husband, Matt, are the proud parents of Abigail Julie Garcia born on March 11th.

Andrew Bond is doing well in the 7th grade at Magothy River Middle School. He is applying to join the National Junior Honor Society and is a voracious reader. He loves sports, mostly basketball and soccer. He has played BAYS county basketball the last three years and just this year made the Peninsula travel team in soccer.

Casey Bond is doing well in 4th grade at Broadneck Elementary School. His internal drive keeps him going academically, and is playing county basketball with BAYS. He is also a Cub Scout and on the chess team.

Ellie and Jack Brandenburg, high school seniors are recently back from a school trip to Denmark where they did a project on windmills.

Meaghan Burgess O'Brien and her husband, Patrick, are the proud parents of Declan Thomas O'Brien born on March 15th.



Mae Kate Campbell ('07) studied in Cuba this semester.

Martha Campbell ('10) is president of the Broadneck HS chapter of the International Thespian Society, the head of the BHS Cappies Critics Team, one of the "Anchors" for the BHS Improv team, the head of the Film Society, a National Honor Society member, working on an internship with the Maryland Federation of Arts, a member of the Ultimate Frisbee Team, just finished a production of Elton John's *Aida*, and working a job at The Circle Gallery. She will attend St. Johns College in the fall.



Ian Chalmers graduated Hood College this past May with a degree in computational physics. He is working at Booz Allen in southern Maryland and looking forward to Spring and getting out on the water and coaching lacrosse.



Julia Chalmers is a freshman at Ohio State University with a major in marketing and a minor in art. She is a member of the Mount Leadership Scholar program and loving every facet of being a Buckeye.

Skylar Deichmann ('13) was named Student of the Month – March 2015-2016 at South River HS. She was nominated by the STEM program. It was noted that "Skylar demonstrates not only excellent academic success, but also strives to help fellow classmates exceed that standard as well. She is kind to everyone she meets and can brighten anyone's day. If you do not know Skylar, you are missing out."



Lacey Eden won Gold medals in the 1500m and 3000m in the AAU National Indoor Championship in early March.



Abigail Goodman ('10) will attend Swarthmore College in the fall. She was named to the Capital Gazette's 2015 All County Swimming for the IAAM Girls 200 Medley Relay, Annapolis.

Cate Hershfeld is a seventh-grader at Severn River Middle School and published her first book "The Four" in March. Cate also designed the book's cover artwork which was a winner in the Severn Town Club Youth Art Competition, and appeared at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts in Annapolis. Cate was recognized for her artistic accomplishment during the Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs convention on April 17. Copies of "The Four" are available on www.lulu.com. ["The Four is a fantasy tale about a 16-year-old girl who must fight in a battle called the Choosing to keep her magic powers"]



Evan Hodgson was accepted into the IB program at Annapolis High for next fall.

Liam Hodgson is enjoying his first year in the STEM program at Central Middle School.

Colin Hodgson is in third grade at Rolling Knolls and is learning violin.



Will Kirk braved the shave to help fight childhood cancer for St. Baldrick's Foundation.



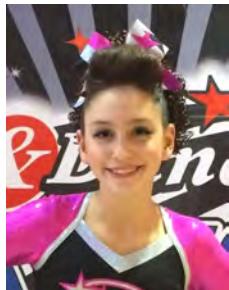
Eli Konikoff is still enjoying Adams International School in Goochland County, VA. He has been practicing karate and Brazilian ju jitsu, and will soon be going for his first belt test.

Carissa Lipton ('06) graduated early, and was on the Dean's List, from University of Delaware in December, with a BA in Political Science. She is currently working as a manager at Express Fashions at the Annapolis Mall. She is looking for a starting position in a non-profit organization and would love any connections people in the Montessori community might have.

Ben Marculewicz is in 9th grade at Severn, plays baseball and is on the fall sailing team.

Charlie Marculewicz is in 10th grade at Severn is playing varsity football, swimming and lacrosse.

Nivedha Rao was awarded outstanding student of the month in English language arts at Magothy River MS – 6th grade.



Erica Reece is in the 8th grade at Centreville Middle School. She is in the National Junior Honor Society and excels academically. After auditioning for a spot in the Junior All-Shore Band, Erica earned 6th chair in flute. She also plays in

her school's Symphonic Band and Marching Band and will represent her school at the State Solo and Ensemble Festival in May. Erica is still active in Girl Scouts and loves to volunteer in the community. She began competitive cheerleading last year and plans to sign up again next season. Erica will be heading to a private college-prep school in the fall and plans to become an oncologist! [Note from Gina - We are extremely proud of Erica and know that MICH played such a formidable role in her early education.]

... when last we heard

Sam Renaud ('92) took a job as Assistant Director of the Sports Law & Business Graduate Program at Arizona State University last December. He is still an agent for NFL players and NFL/NCAA football coaches as well, but his focus is shifting to academia!



Sam is engaged to Katie Koone and they will be married on June 25th, 2016 in Rutherfordton, NC on her parents' farm looking out over the Blue Ridge Mountains! She's a 2011 graduate of Wake Forest University and a 2014 graduate of Elon University School of Law in Greensboro, NC. After completing a graduate fellowship in Academic and Membership Affairs at the NCAA in Indianapolis, she was offered a job with the Office of the General Counsel for Athletics Compliance at Arizona State University, where she currently works. They live in Scottsdale, AZ with their new puppy, Deacon.

Henry Robbins continues to enjoy school as well as soccer and is looking forward to playing lacrosse this spring. He continues to plug away at Jing Ying Institute, developing his practice of Kung Fu as a red belt. Academically he enjoys a broad range of disciplines and continues to do well in Math -- a strong foundation provided by MICH and Mrs. Mitra. His real love is history, however. He recently participated through the school in a local history bee and will be proceeding to regionals this spring.

Teddy Robbins is in 10th grade at Key and enjoys both his coursework and extracurricular activities. He has been active in both soccer and lacrosse but is considering a return to tennis this spring. He continues to excel in math and sciences and this year joined Key's nascent robotics team (nascent as in its fourth year, so not quite). The team recently won a competition in Howard County and will be, for the first time, heading to the state competition. Teddy is the lead "driver" of the team's robot as well as one of two coders. (The team is comprised of seven students, slim as these things go). He's loving it!

[Note from Valerie: MICH continues to factor in our conversations on a regular basis. We're so grateful for such a wonderful place as well as teachers.]

Trent Russ ('14) will be attending 9th grade at Spalding HS in the fall where he has been accepted to participate in their Project Lead the Way - Pathways to Engineering curriculum. He was selected for their Advanced Placement World History class, and received a Presidential Scholarship Award.

More News

Isabelle Simmons ('13) made Grade 9 First Honors at Archbishop Spalding HS.

Olivia Simmons ('11) made Grade 11 Principal's Honor Roll at Archbishop Spalding HS. Olivia was selected to represent Archbishop Spalding High School as an outstanding junior in the Capital Gazette's 2016 High School Outstanding Student Achievers. Read all about her at

<http://www.capitalgazette.com/news/schools/ph-ac-cn-achiever-simmons-0324-20160324-story.html>

Nicolette Sortisio ('06) is a senior at Villanova University with a double major in Economics and Finance and a minor in Business Law and Corporate Government. She is also a member of the Villanova Women's Lacrosse Team. Upon graduation she will move to NYC to work for PwC in Forensic Advisory.

Lexi Sortisio is a sophomore at Washington & Lee. She just declared herself a Math major and plans to study in Budapest in the fall. Lexi is a member of Washington & Lee's Women's Lacrosse team.

Jenna Sortisio is a sophomore at Severn School. She is a competitive gymnast, and a member of the Severn School Swim team, and the Track & Field team.

Caroline Steele ('12) has been selected as a member of the English Camp Team for First Presbyterian Church of Annapolis. She will travel to the Czech Republic this summer and lead music activities for the weeklong camp. Caroline is a sophomore at Broadneck HS.



Julian Strachan was accepted at George Washington University, Elliott School of International Affairs for the fall 2016 semester. He is a senior at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, OR and graduates in May with a degree in International Affairs. He spent the spring semester 2015 in France in order to teach English and improve his language skills.



Isabel Strachan is a sophomore at George Washington University. She is studying Business and is a member of the varsity sailing team. Isabel and her teammates clinched the Mid Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association's (MAISA) Women's Fall Championship for the first time ever.

(Isabel is in front in the photo).



Christina Sughrue is the RN Case Manager for Compass Point Hospice in Kent and Queen Anne's Counties and is engaged to Michael Warden.



Lizzie Sughrue ('02) attained her A certification in the United States Pony Club. She was one of only 8 individuals nationwide that passed this riding and knowledge of horsemanship test. and she will attend the University of Pennsylvania's Veterinary College in the fall.



Charlotte Taylor of Mrs. Mitra's class 2013-2014, has moved to Swarthmore, Pennsylvania where she is in the first grade. She appeared in her first onstage production in December in Aladdin with the Swarthmore Young People's Theater Workshop, and she will play the role of Greta in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang this June.

Amira Tuma ('11) is a Junior at Indian Creek. She is playing Varsity Lacrosse this spring. She has assumed a leadership position in the Spanish Honor Society and was recently inducted into the National Honor Society.

Alexander VanWie will be going to high school at Mount St. Joseph in Baltimore. He was awarded the Brother Placidus leadership scholarship. In addition to playing soccer, basketball and lacrosse, he is a Boy Scout with the rank of Star scout. He also has received all A's. [Note from Renee: Thank you Montessori for a great start.]



Addy and Baily Walden are now in 4th and 5th grade at St Mary's of Annapolis. They are both doing very well academically and are playing on the same recreational basketball team. [Note from Mike: My wife and I are very grateful of the educational experience that MICH provided for our girls at an early age of development. MICH's foundation has been instrumental in the overall development of our girls.]



Robert White has made the Headmasters List at Severn where he is in the Chess Club. Robert still enjoys archery and hopes to go to the Nationals in Louisville. He vacationed in Costa Rica last August. He keeps up with MICH friends via soccer, Minecraft and Clash of Clans. [Note from Rod - Robert attributes his successful "renaissance" life style to those early years at MICH and, specifically, to a prescient quote from Muffy G, "(he) is so ready to learn!"]

Excellence in Education Annual Fund

Donors as of 4/22/2016

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Stephen and Chris Killian Doug Steele and Dianna Young
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ALUMNI & ALUMNI PARENTS

Please keep us updated with your email and snail mail addresses!
We don't want to have to send out a search party!

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John Beckman & Marcela Valdes
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* Leadership Gifts

We want to thank every student, parent, alumni, alumni parents, grandparents, extended families and the business community for your continuous support!

With a Little Help from Our Alumni & Future Alums

Alum Jacob Whitaker & shopper



Lana Cate
6th year



Alum
Skylar
Deichmann

The long and short of it is – the **Secret Shop** is as popular as when you were at MICH!

Top row from left: Alumni - Gavin Wicker, Martha Campbell, Maggie Campbell, Jacob Whitaker

Bottom row from left – 6th years Summer Salos, Sophia Phillips, Ryan May, Danny Swope

Our Experts for Ask the Experts

From left: Gavin Wicker, Jacob Whitaker, Claire Whitaker, Martha Campbell, Skylar Deichmann, Hunter Ward, Jack Dunshee, Trent Russ, Will Heard, Logan VanMetre



Elizabeth Whitaker really got into Spirit Week Crazy Hair Day this year!

How Can I Help?

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

- **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 this school year we must receive your donation in hand, postmarked or donated online via credit card by June 30th.
 - **DONATE NOW! – www.montessoriinternational.org**
 - Click on [Donate Online Here](#) in the right column.
- **Shop at amazon.com through our website** – www.montessoriinternational.org - click the amazon 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.
 - Help us spread the word about MICH and stay up to date by liking our facebook page
 - Go to – www.montessoriinternational.org
 - Click on the facebook link in the bottom of the left column
 - When you get to our page, please 'like' the page (located on the bottom right of the school picture at the top of the page)
 - When we post an item to the page, it would be very helpful if you would like and share it to your timeline – great way to keep our alums and alumni families in touch with MICH!

[Yes – We Still Collect Box Tops!]