



Welcome to MICH's 25th Anniversary Year!

Celebrating our 25th Anniversary is an accomplishment that all of us who have touched MICH and been touched by it can be proud. These years have been filled with growth, expansion, and incredible learning for our students based on a strong sense of community, the vital involvement of parents, and the outstanding ability of our staff to Teach Students to Shine!

The trust you have placed in us through the years from educating your children for what they need to know now to helping shape them into the adults they will become has been a privilege and a responsibility that we have not taken lightly. Our belief in helping each student shine in their own way has been supported by parents, grandparents, and the extended MICH family.

We would not be where we are today without your support. As a vibrant educational community that continues to evolve and respond to the needs of today's students, we thank you for getting us to this milestone. Together we have turned a home into a House of learning!

Memory Milestones

- 1985 Parents for Montessori Education incorporated
MICH opened with 70 students in two Primary Classes and one Toddler Community
- 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
- 2007 Toddler Playground renovated
- 2009 Outdoor classroom - The Glen - dedicated
- 2009 Napper Program expanded
- 2010 MICH designated Maryland Green School
Upper Playground renovation started
Toddler Community increased from 9 to 12 students

Today at MICH

- 142 students in 1 Toddler, 3 Primary, 2 Lower Elementary, and 1 Upper Elementary classes
- 27 Staff members
- Extended Day program including before and after school care
- After school activities including Boy and Girl Scouts, Violin and Cello lessons
- Library containing over 9,000 volumes
- Technology integrated in Upper Elementary curriculum
- Curriculum that teaches respect, responsibility and environmental awareness

Help the Auction

- Send in a donation
 - Advertise in catalog
 - Purchase Restaurant Raffle Tickets
 - Underwrite an Expense
 - Spread the word
 - Attend the Auction
- What a perfect opportunity to reconnect with your MICH friends



Save the Date!

Saturday, April 9, 2011

6 pm to 10:30 pm

Loews Annapolis

Montessori International Children's House

25th Anniversary Auction for Our School

Donation and Advertising forms are available online at www.montessorinternational.org/support/auction

For questions or more information, please contact Mary Beth Jones, Auction Chair at mbejones@comcast.net

MICH Can Use Your Help

- Donate to the Annual Fund – help continue the excellent education your students enjoyed
- Shop at amazon.com via the link on our homepage – montessorinternational.org
- Send us your Giant, Safeway, and Food Lion card numbers – MICH benefits when you shop
- Drop off ink cartridges for MICH to recycle
- We still collect Box Tops – please cut them out and send them in
- Please use the Abitibi dumpster in the parking lot to recycle paper, mail, magazines

Congratulations to our Newest Graduates!

The following Middle Schools are fortunate to have our graduates attending:

Martha Campbell is attending Magothy River Middle School.

Abigail Goodman is in the Visual & Performing Arts program at Bates Middle School.



Raindrops Fill Our New Rain Barrels

Ethan Goodman, as a requirement of becoming an Eagle Scout, had to demonstrate his leadership and organizational qualities through a project that benefited a community institution. Recognizing MICH's need to control runoff water and be more environmentally friendly, Ethan proposed the installation of rain barrels in strategic locations at MICH. He raised funds and recruited a crew to accomplish this. Thank you, Ethan!



Alum Updates ...

Don't see your name? It must be because we don't know how you are doing and we want to!
Please email information and pictures to mking@montessoriinternational.org

Monica Anselm (1990) married Matthew Garcia in a beautiful outdoor ceremony on August 15, 2010. Monica is currently teaching at Chesapeake Montessori School.



*Mark Anselm (1993)
Bill Anselm
Monica Garcia
Matt Garcia
Nancy Anselm
Max Anselm (1999)*

After graduating from Mount St. Mary's, **Nathan Beidle** began working for Toll Brothers, Inc. where he is a project manager for the Arundel Preserve project in Hanover MD. Nathan, his wife Heather and their son Paxton live in Patterson Park.

Lyndsey Beidle graduated from Washington College, then completed a law degree (JD) and MBA from U of Baltimore in May 2009. She passed the bar in October 2009 and is an attorney with the Injured Workers Insurance Fund. She is living in Canton and also works part-time at Riptide on the Bay in Fells Point.

Meghan Burgess married Patrick O'Brien in a lakeside ceremony on October 10, 2009. They are living in San Francisco where Meghan is a Montessori teacher.



*Meghan O'Brien
Patrick O'Brien*

Julia Deckman (1996) is getting married on November 5th to Wes Stinchcomb. Her sister, **Tracy** (2002) is her maid of honor and her brother **Joey** (2001) is a groomsman. Julia is also busy working to establish her art and design business, visit her website at jdeckmangallery.com.

Miranda Durner (2008) graduated from St. Martin's in the Field and is a freshman at Severn, playing on the JV field hockey team and loving her acting class. She earned her silver award as a Cadet Girl Scout and is working on her gold award. She performed on the piano at the American Music Festival in NYC in June.

Aaron Finkle (2004) is in his senior year at Severn and was recently named a National Merit Semifinalist. His busy summer included shadowing physicians in the Baltimore area and spending 10 days in Peru helping to build a school, greenhouses, and teaching children English.

Joanna Gawell (1993) is the Virtual Admissions representative at Savannah College of Art & Design where she received her MA in Art Administration.

Rachel Gawell is living in Boston, teaching cello at the Milton Academy and pursuing her musical career with several ensembles.

Lana Humes (2008) graduated from St. Martin's in the Field and is a freshman at Severn where she is playing on the JV soccer team.



*Lana Humes
Josephina Chafe
Miranda Durner*

*St. Martin's
Graduation
2010*

Pam Stevens-Haydar emailed that **Gabe Haydar** and his sister **Olivia** are finding that their new public schools in Marblehead MA have an appreciation of the Montessori method and they are right at home with group and programs that honor their autonomy.

Andy Irwin is attending Key School.

Carlana Jackson and her brother, **Jack**, are now attending Davidsonville ES in 2nd grade and kindergarten respectively. The Jacksons are living in Davidsonville and Ted has taken a position as a teacher specialist at Arlington Echo.

Maggie Mei Lewis' (2005) book, *Moonlight Memories*, continues to garner acclaim: first place gold medal in the Spirituality category of the 2010 Next Generation Indie Book Awards, from the Young Voices Foundation 2010 Book Awards – The Gold Award for Best Regional Fiction in the Mid-Atlantic, the 2010 Silver Award in Inspirational and Spiritual, and the 2010 Silver Award for Children's Picture Book for All Ages. *Moonlight Memories* is also one of the finalists in the 2010 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards for Best First Book, Picture Book. Maggie's book can be purchased from her website moonlightmemoirs.com or amazon.com.

< Go to montessoriinternational.org → Alumni
to see the newsletter in color >

Devon Litherland (1999) graduated last May from St. Mary's College of Maryland with a BA in Public Policy Studies and a minor in International Language (Chinese).

*Abigail Goodman
Devon Litherland
Ethan Goodman*



Kellan Mann (2005) is busy with his college search as he finishes his senior year at Broadneck HS.

Indy Mitra (1997), currently a production assistant for three Discovery ID shows, starts his new position as an Associate Producer for a TLC show next month.

Sam Renaut is keeping busy – finishing up law school this year, president of his law fraternity, president of the Sports & Entertainment Law Students Association, and Founder/Editor of a brand new Sports & Entertainment Law Journal at ASU's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law and interning at Gaylord Sports Management in Scottsdale, AZ.

Nicholas Rosetti is a sophomore at Broadneck HS where he is one of the Team Captains for the JV soccer team. He is also playing on the Bowie U-16 Freestate Soccer Team.

*Nicholas
Rosetti (#10
far left)
successfully
going to goal*



Bryan Sanders (2000) cut his longer locks to benefit Locks of Love.



*Kathy Sanders
Matt Sanders
Rodney Sanders*

Matt Sanders (2001) is in his third year at the Air Force Academy and is a goalie for varsity lacrosse.

Johnny Scaturro, 5th grade at St. Mary's, achieved straight A's last year and is a lineman for Cape football. This past summer he and Jonah Svendsen visited Gabe Haydar in Massachusetts and went whale watching.

Kenny Scaturro, 7th grade at St. Mary's, achieved straight A's all last year. He is a quarterback for CAPE football.

Krista Sondergaard (1991) recently earned her MA from North Carolina State U in Genetics where she won several teaching awards including a national one. She will be going to Case Western Reserve U for their master's program in Genetic Counseling.

Nikki (2006) and **Lexi Sortisio** attend Broadneck HS and are both playing soccer for Broadneck this fall.

*Lexi Sortisio
Frances Howard*

*Recognized at Magothy MS Award
Ceremony for earning straight A's for
all 3 years of middle school*



Jackii Stomski (2009) is in the 8th grade at Bates Middle School and enjoying their Performing & Visual Arts program. She is studying Italian, playing field hockey and looking forward to playing lacrosse in the spring.

Isabel Strachan is a freshman at Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen MI in their new Comparative Arts major.

Julian Strachan is at junior at The George School in Newtown, PA where he is the starting kicker for the varsity football team.

Christina Sughrue married Brandon Gardner on July 11, 2010.

*Tim Sughrue
Susan Sughrue*

*Christina and
Brandon Gardner*



Lizzie Sughrue (2002) is a sophomore at Washington College and looking forward to spending January in Australia to train with Heath Ryan, a multiple Olympian in dressage and eventing.

*Lizzie Sughrue
putting Social
Graces through
her paces*



Claire Whitaker was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society this fall at Severn River Middle School.

MICH Designated Maryland Green School

What purpose would education serve in our days unless it helped man to a knowledge of the environment to which he has to adapt himself? Maria Montessori

As every alumni and alumni family know, MICH has always incorporated environmental awareness in its teachings. After two long years of documenting every activity, curriculum component, and green effort, MICH received its Green School designation on June 4, 2010. Current parent, Dianna Young spent innumerable hours preparing our application. We were required to document what we achieved in the following areas: classroom integration of environmental issue instruction, professional development, celebration, demonstration of selected conservation best management practices, and sustained school-community partnerships to enhance environmental learning. Thank you to all our current and past student and families who were instrumental in helping us be green!



What Do You Think?

An anniversary is a time to reflect on where we are, what we have accomplished and what we will be. MICH's goal has always been to prepare students to shine each in his own way. We have been asking alumni and alumni parents to let us know what MICH has meant to them. We would like to share with you what Julie Deckman (1996) had to say.

As a Montessori Graduate, I often reflect on my time at MICH and think of the ways that it truly enriched my life. I have often found myself at an advantage because of the way MICH nurtures and teaches its students. What I have come to appreciate is that Montessori school helps its students understand the bigger picture and concepts and enables them to become responsible and eager learners throughout life.

Rather than focusing on memorization, MICH wants its students to understand how and why you get your answers. Montessori knows that the journey to find your answer is in fact more important than the answer itself. The perfect example, and one of the strongest advantages of receiving a Montessori education, is how the teachers instruct in mathematics. By using physical objects and tools to demonstrate how multiplication and division works, students can visualize the way in which they must find their answers. Once the process can be understood, it becomes so much easier to find the right answer and reach your goals. This translates into studies years and years down the road. I usually found myself at the top of my math classes simply because I was able to "get it" so quickly. Even in college I was so surprised by how the other students weren't able to visualize and understand how the equations worked. I credit my Montessori education with my ability to see the bigger picture and understand the larger concept.

MICH also instills a sense of social and environmental responsibility in its students. Some of my most memorable lessons were about our environment, namely the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and what we can do to help save it. While this particular lesson was local, as a young girl it made me think about the world and how we should all try to protect it. We wouldn't just read about things in books, we went out into the community and painted on watershed drains, or spent time and energy on science projects to present to others in our community. We would plan thanksgiving dinners, do the shopping, and deliver them to families in need. Doing these types of things with children, by really going through an entire process from planning to execution, instills a sense of pride and excitement to do something good for others. To learn this sense of responsibility in this hands-on approach truly makes you think about how your actions affect others and your environment. This lesson learnt at such a young age sticks with you throughout life. It also makes you appreciate the work of others, as you know how much effort goes into something as small as donating thanksgiving dinner to one family.

The Montessori approach allows students to be very independent in their studies. This enables students to develop their own specific interests in addition to learning the overall general course lessons. Many of my peers excelled in science. They were able to come up with their own experiments and test whatever theories intrigued them. Others excelled in history or literature and they were able to do extensive research on topics of their choice. I was able to develop my love for and skill in the fine arts. MICH gave me the opportunity to explore different mediums and to see the world in my own unique way. This sense of independence in one's studies may be the most unique part of a Montessori education. It allows students to be more responsible for themselves and for their work. It also helps make learning and discovery a very exciting process.

MICH knows that each student, although young, is an individual. Everyone has the potential to learn and grow, and Montessori allows children to have a huge influence on this process. I can't speak for anyone else, but I believe my Montessori education helped me become more ambitious in my education as well as more thoughtful in my everyday life.

We would like to have your thoughts and comments on a MICH education – drop us an email and let us know!
mking@montessoriinternational.org

All of Us Saying Ye\$ Transform the Upper Playground



Grandparents

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Barry
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Cook
Mrs. Dolores Conroy
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Danek
Mrs. Theresa Downey
Mrs. Jacquelyn Falls
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fangmeyer
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Fazekas
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Frame
Ms. Phyllis Graham
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Griffith
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Guinan
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kerester
Mrs. Ann Klunder
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley McGinn
Mr. and Mrs. John McCloskey
Mr. and Mrs. William Minahan
Mr. and Mrs. James Myers*
Dr. Linda and Mr. Wade Pugh
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Walden
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wilds

Staff

Nancy Anselm
Bernadette Bolte
Jean Burgess
Jessica Carzon
Ben Chafe
Elena Coe
Anthea Cooper
Muffy Gawell
Annette Horan
Janelle Humes
Janice Jiles
Liliya Kasimova
Vicki and Nasi Khostinat *
Margo King *
Jamie Kirk
Toni Lipscomb
Mary Ann Little
Marge Lohmann
Pam Mitra
Jessy Oberright
Sylvia Provencher
Leona Schultz
Jenifer Scurto
Susan Sughrue
Collette Tetterer
Lisa Tomlinson



Alumni Parents

Richard Altman
George and Diana Beechener
Leonard and Pamela Beidle
Tom Cassidy and Joy Oakes
Fred and Susan Eckert
Robert and Rae Jean Goodman
Cliff Habig and Mary Hoffman
Ted and Pam Mussenden
Daniel Nataf and Elizabeth Sammis
Grover and Melissa Outland
Dick and Edna Roop
Ken and Jennifer Scaturro
Mr. and Mrs. Ibrahim Totah
Judy and George Wacker

Friends

ADA Carbon Solutions LLC (matching gift)
Mr. Michael Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. Ibrahim Totah
Upper Elementary Dance



Parents

Titus and Rona Abraham
Absolute Fire Protection *
Mark Behe and Sharon Cole
Chris and Kelly Boehringer *
Joe and Beth Bonsignore *
The Campbell Family
Andre Colaco and Rakhee Toraskar
Sean and Denise Corson
Jody Danek and Kristen Lewis *
Mike Durner and Leona Schultz
Bryan Fishback and Diana Markel
Rob and Sheila Glesmann
Rolf and Katie Hill
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Willy and Stacey Koutroumpis *
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Andy and Cara Lawton
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Yelena and Igor Vurgaftman
David Wallace
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Craig and Elizabeth Whitaker
Rod and Mary White
Richard Wicker and Tara Frame *
Pat Woodward and Lisa Lunt
Maochun and Angela Yu

* Leadership Donors

**Your Annual Fund Donation this year will
Transform the second half of the Playground!**