



THE CHILDREN'S HOUSE



EDUCATION WITH A PURPOSE

Imagining a Children's House Adolescent Program



WHY Montessori?

Maria Montessori described the young adolescent years as a period of vulnerability and self-construction—a time marked by significant physical changes, uncertainty and self-consciousness. It also is the stage of development where children explore their individuality and value systems, and discover their role and purpose within society. Montessori believed that during this sensitive period, adolescents require caring and respectful adult guides skilled in preparing environments that enable young people to develop into independent, self-regulating, resourceful, and adaptive adults.



Education should no longer be mostly imparting knowledge, but must take a new path, seeking the release of human potentials

—Maria Montessori



WHY Montessori?

Maria Montessori proposed a program for adolescents that would help them become psychologically and economically independent. The *Erdkinder* curriculum (Children of the Land) would encourage self-expression through music, art, public speaking, and theatre. Students would also study languages, mathematics, science, history of civilizations, cultures and technological innovations.

Education is a natural process carried out by the human individual, and is acquired not by listening to words, but by experiences in the environment

-Maria Montessori

CURRICULUM at a glance

Child-centered learning

The Montessori Adolescent Model provides young adults with a genuine community and meaningful work. It is a customized learning experience that meets the unique needs, interests and talents of each student. With a maximum of 20 students (grades 7-8), no middle school in the region provides this level of personalized learning—not even close.

Venturing out, and giving back

By removing obstacles and providing developmentally appropriate learning environments that balance the head and the hand, Montessori students are encouraged to explore their place in human society and the many and unique ways they might contribute.

The Montessori Adolescent Curriculum recognizes and is guided by the unique needs of the developing adolescent mind and body. Core elements integrate academic, life and job skills and include:

- Multi-Disciplinary Projects: Occupations and Humanities
- Formal Lessons in Language and Mathematics
- Workshops & Literature Seminars
- Microeconomy (student-run business)
- Self Expression: Creative Expression and Physical Expression
- Experiences of Social Responsibility and Practical Life Land-based studies
- Field Trips to locations that support learning experiences

NOW IS THE TIME

The adolescent years are pivotal in the development of a child into an adult. Adolescents are experiencing so much all at once:

- tremendous physical change and brain growth
- identity formation
- desire for belonging and a sense of worth
- need for caring adult mentors



The Children's House has a unique opportunity to extend the exceptional education currently provided from Infant through 6th grade.

