



Camino Montessori News

An authentic tuition-free Montessori choice for families in the Maricopa and Casa Grande area

Camino Montessori Is Expanding

Blazing the trail to change the educational options and opportunities for Maricopa and nearby communities' families, Camino Montessori heads into their second semester with a continued mission to provide a Montessori education for every child. This year they will be expanding, offering Pre-school – 4th Grade, which has everyone excited at how far Camino has come in a short time.

Established as a non-profit organization in 2009, and authorized as a State Charter School in 2012, educator and founder of Camino Montessori Judy Webster and the Board of Directors saw the fruit of their vision come to be when the school opened its doors on August 5th, 2013.

Although the Montessori education model has been successfully implemented for over 100 years in many countries across the globe, it is still relatively unknown or misunderstood in America's mainstream society. Our program is inspired and implemented by following the child development and learning theories of Dr. Maria Montessori.

Camino's mission is to provide a high quality authentic Montessori education to every child. We believe that our method is time tested, validated by current scientific research, and is a perfect fit for all types of learners. We believe that educating children involves so much more than academic outcomes and achievement data (although these are important goals). Our method approaches the whole child and aims to produce life-long learners and problem-solvers who are successful, well-rounded, confident, and socially responsible adults.

Here are just a few highlights of what

Did You Know?

Alexander Graham Bell, noted inventor, provided financial support directly to Dr. Maria Montessori to help establish the first Montessori class in Canada and one of the first in the United States.

Camino Montessori classroom experience provides.

Camino's classrooms are composed of age level groups creating a community of learners which is a key foundation of a Montessori education. Emphasis is on promoting a strong sense of community in which children are learning how to live and work in partnership with their peers and adult mentors. This environment is one where children learn to do things for themselves, solve problems together, learn how to master new skills and knowledge, and engage in their own self-discovery as individual members of greater humanity.

Our classroom emphasis is placed on direct, personal hands-on contact with educational materials and/or concrete models that bring abstract concepts to life, and deepen our children's level of investigation, exploration, and discovery.

Camino Montessori nurtures and respects all types of intelligences and styles of learning. Learning begins with the child, and each child is unique.

As you think about the educational experience you want for YOUR child, whether your child in school now or getting ready to start, Camino would like you to think about the following.

- > Are your children respected by their teachers and peers?
- > Do you feel your child is learning respect of teachers, adults and peers?
- > When a conflict arises is your child being taught non-violent, conflict resolution skills?
- > Does your child know they are unique and loved?
- > Are you as a parent given support to be a champion for your child's growth?

At Camino Montessori we address these factors with you, as co-partners in your child's education. So we urge you to think about the type of person your child will become by the time they are in their 30s, then set your expectations as a goal and work backward to achieve it.

We believe for most parents those achieving those goals starts right here at Camino Montessori.

Open enrollment for Pre-school – 4th Grade is happening now. If you are ready to learn more call us today 520-868-6145.



"To assist a child we must provide him with an environment which will enable him to develop freely."

Dr. Maria Montessori

Attorney and ASU Law Graduate credits Montessori for success



*Submitted by Marianne Mulligan
Camino Board Member*

When Montessori graduate Kaitlin Perkins was asked what has helped her to succeed she was quick to credit her Montessori education from first through sixth grade. "Being free to learn on my own academic level, while interacting with other students in the classroom, enabled me to succeed both academically and socially."

Perkins, who graduated ASU Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, experienced a successful transition to public junior high and says, "Transitioning from Montessori school to a public junior high school, I was well equipped to thrive in all aspects of the public school's classroom. I was smart, social, independent and a mature student."

In closing we asked Kaitlin if there

was anything else she'd like to share with someone considering Montessori, she replied, "Yes, my social skills may be the best thing to have come from my Montessori experience. Because of Montessori I was already very well adapted to working with others in groups...Montessori taught me to be a leader as well and I would not have made it where I am today nearly as easily had it not been for Montessori and the teachers I had there."

**Now Enrolling
Preschool-Elementary
Space is Limited
CALL NOW
520-868-6145**

Fostering Growth Embracing Diversity Inspiring Creativity

Letter from the Director



Just a year ago, Camino Montessori was but an idea in my mind and a vision burning bright in my heart. I had just signed the lease for Camino's first classroom, and became even more driven to open its doors to our first community of students

and families by the beginning of the school year. It is with deep satisfaction and gratitude that "my vision" has become "our vision" and that we've just successfully completed our 1st semester! Camino's board, staff and parents continue trail-blazing together with plans to expand our program and to continue providing a high quality learning environment for all children!

It's that time of year when many parents are revisiting or defining for the first time, educational goals for their children. For some of you, the decision will be which school will be your child's first school, and for others of you it may be about making a change. Wanting a change is what led many of our current parents to enroll.

I invite you to browse this newsletter to gain more insight about Montessori education and its crucial program elements, and decide if we are a good fit for your child. Many parents worry about academic rigor and whether or not their child will do well in the 'real world'. Whether considering Montessori for the first time, or whether considering re-enrolling your child for another year at Camino, think about what raising a child prepared for the "real world" means and truly looks like.

Our classrooms offer social settings based on a strong sense of community—a microcosm of society and a mini-democracy. Emergent skills are harnessed for the good of the whole group. Cooperation and collaboration are encouraged as a way of supporting one another in efforts of learning and mastery. Comparisons made between children are avoided. Each child is viewed as an integral member of the group. Non-violence, non-aggressive behavior, and respect for self, others, and property is the norm of our school.

Please consider giving the gift of a Montessori education to your child—and to yourself—and consider joining our trail-blazing community. We are now enrolling for Pre-school – 4th Grade. I look forward to hearing from you, sharing more about Montessori, and showing you our awesome school!

With warmest regards,

Judy Webster

Judy Webster, Founder and Director
Camino Montessori

ENROLL NOW

520-868-6145

Preschool–Elementary

What the students love at Camino

Abigail – Age 6



My school is interesting. I get to explore new things. I love Spanish, art and multiplications.

Ethan – Age 6



I like picking my lessons, it's fun. My favorite is multiplications, language and the geometric solid lesson.

Evelyn – Age 7



I like sitting with different kids at lunch and doing new things everyday. My favorite is reading and science.

Lucas – Age 7



I like there is no homework, but I do like the school work. My favorite is the pegboard and the volcano. It's awesome.

Benefits of Montessori

- Independent Learners
- Confidence & Competence
- Autonomy
- Intrinsic Motivation
- Adept at Handling Guidance
- Socially Responsible
- Academic Preparation
- "Citizens of the World"



Sparking Imagination

Montessori's 5 great stories are unifying themes that spark imagination and learning –

The Story of the Universe and Earth
Astronomy, Meteorology, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Geography

The Story of Life
Biology, Botany, Habitats, Ancient Life, Animals, Monera, Protista, Fungi

The Story of Humans and Civilizations
History, Human Culture, Social Studies, Discovery and Invention

The Story of Writing and Language
Reading, Writing, Language, Structure

The Story of Numbers and Mathematics
Mathematics, Numbers, Geometry, Mathematical Application



Empowering Children









Fostering Growth

Embracing Diversity

Elementary Program Overview

Integrated Curriculum Using Montessori's Great Stories

• Mastery of Fundamental Skills & Basic Core Knowledge





-  Learning to Read
-  Mathematics
-  History
-  Geography
-  Language Skills
-  Geometry
-  Science
-  Problem Solving

• Independent Study & Research

• Enrichment Learning

-  Projects & Experiences
-  Spanish Language & Culture
-  Outdoor Education
-  The Arts
-  Physical Education
-  Library & Technology

Our Mission

-  **empower every child** to realize their fullest potential through active, reflective and creative education.
-  **foster a love for learning** through active partnerships involving students, parents, teachers, staff and community.
-  **embrace our diversity** and unique talents in a safe, challenging, respectful and supportive environment.
-  **recognize that personal growth** involves responsibility towards oneself, others and the earth; thus becoming a self-determined, self-motivated and contributing member of our global society.

Your Child's Future Starts Here

At Camino Montessori, our mission is to **empower every child** to realize their fullest potential through active, reflective and creative education. You may be asking so what is the difference between Montessori and traditional education really? The answer is this – Montessori emphasizes learning through all five senses, not just through listening, watching, or reading. Children in Montessori classes learn at their own, individual pace and according to their own choice of activities from hundreds of possibilities. Learning is an exciting process of discovery, leading to concentration, motivation, self-discipline, and a love of learning. Montessori classes place children in three-year age groups, forming communities in

which the older children spontaneously share their knowledge with the younger ones. Montessori represents a developmental versus chronological approach to education.

Research studies show that Montessori children are well prepared for later life academically, socially, and emotionally. In addition to

scoring well on standardized tests, Montessori children are ranked above average on such criteria as following directions, turning in work on time, listening attentively, using basic skills, showing responsibility, asking thought provoking questions, showing enthusiasm for learning, and adapting to new situations.

At Camino Montessori, our mission is to **empower every child** to realize their fullest potential through active, reflective and creative education.



To learn more or to enroll
Call Today!
520-868-6145

Camino's Vision for the Future

In order to ensure establishing a firm foundation, Camino Montessori plans to expand mindfully and slowly. We envision beginning work in the second or third year towards eventually having our own 20,000-30,000 sq. ft. campus with ample classroom environments, including Science labs, a school multi-media library, a multi-purpose/ gymnasium and optimal outdoor environments with ample room for play, exercise, gardening, composting and recycling, as well as other curricular enrichments and

extensions.

At full capacity, Camino Montessori will be a community of 175 to 225 learners from preschool age through 6th grade plus teachers, assistants, and support staff. We also want to open the school up to be used as a community resource and learning lab for outside educators and student teachers.

And further into the future...who knows? We may continually expand our programs until we are serving infants through high school!

Here's what a few parents have to say about Camino Montessori

"We are consistently blown away by the quality education our daughter is receiving at Camino Montessori. Our first grader looks forward to school each and every day, and our four year old is beyond excited to attend Camino next school year."

~ Nicole Dembiec

"We are very excited and happy to have a Montessori Elementary in Maricopa."

Jose and Evy have been in Montessori since they were toddlers, and when we found out a Montessori Elementary was coming to Maricopa the year they would be attending first grade it was amazing! Camino is a great school, the teachers are GREAT!! I have to thank them for all their hard work, support and most importantly, the love they have for the children. I'm happy that my children will be able

to continue their Montessori education."

~ Coronado-Lopez Family

"Being a Camino Montessori parent has been an enriching and rewarding experience for both my son and me. We truly love our Camino Family and I am looking forward to helping nurture its growth so other children can have the same opportunity as we have had."

~ Mayling Zaragoza

The teaching style of Dr. Maria Montessori is meant to spark creativity, initiative and self-confidence in children. Here's some Montessori students you might have heard of:

Dr. Maria Montessori: A True Visionary



The Montessori method of education is based on the observations and discoveries of Dr. Maria Montessori. She is noted as the first female physician

in Italy, graduating from the Royal University of Rome in 1896. From her many years of observing of children she began to design activities that would help the individual development of each child.

A Montessori program is an individualized program designed to help each child reach his or her fullest potential. The Montessori materials are designed to help develop concentration, coordination and independence, as well

as give good experience with academic concepts.

The Montessori method has been successfully implemented with children in nearly every country of the world. There was a significant influence in the United States in the early 1960s and today there are more than 3,000 Montessori programs in this country. While the Montessori method is applied most frequently in pre-school and elementary education grade levels it is also very effective in the high school setting.

Dr. Montessori's education approach allows the child to develop his or her social sense and awareness of others in a natural and unrushed way. Montessori education is education for life.

"And so we discovered that education is not something which a teacher does, but that it is a

natural process which develops spontaneously in human beings"

Dr. Maria Montessori (1870-1952)

Physician, Scientist, Anthropologist, Psychologist, Educator and Humanitarian



-  Anne Frank – author diarist from WWII
-  Mark Zuckerberg – co-founder of Facebook
-  Prince William & Prince Harry – English Royal Family
-  Julia Child – author and chef
-  Gabriel Garcia Marquez – Nobel Prize Winner for Literature
-  Jeff Bezos – financial analyst and founder of amazon.com
-  William Wright – designer of The Sims
-  Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis – former First Lady
-  George Clooney – Academy Award winning actor
-  Larry Page & Sergey Brin – co-founders of Google

"We both went to Montessori schools and I think it was part of that training of not following rules and orders, being self-motivated, questioning what's going on in the world, and doing things a little bit different, that contributed to our success."

Larry Page and Sergey Brin, Co-Founders of Google.com

ENROLL NOW

520-868-6145

Space Is Limited!

Space Is Limited!



44301 W. Maricopa/Casa Grande Hwy., Maricopa, AZ 85138

www.caminomontessori.org

 facebook.com/caminomontessori



Camino Montessori is a 501c3 non-profit committed to diversity and non-discriminatory practices.