



The Athens Montessori Ukelele Club performed at the Human Rights Festival

Dear Parents,

Summertime offers your families a change in the rhythm of daily events and creative opportunities for stimulating your children’s perspectives on past and on new experiences. Hopefully, summertime will include some “downtime” away from the frantic scheduling and frequent transporting.

The construction of entertaining and learning activities can be shared in a family meeting where everyone shares their ideas for what they would like to do or schedule. Whenever my children complained of being bored, I would exclaim “good” because I need your help with some chores. Idle time allows for reflection and spaces for creative breakthroughs.

Summer might also be a good time to discuss and establish boundaries for media

and computer use according to the age of your child. My website:

www.montessorisynergies.com has well researched, age appropriate guidelines for computer use in the home under the heading Parenting or you can go directly to www.parentingfurthering.com for additional information.

More flexible time also supports efforts to include the whole family in the planning and preparation of meals. Try to shift away from prepackaged foods and prepare dishes from seasonal vegetables and fruits. Identify foods, in books at your local library and through online resources, that provide sound high nutrient value to counter our culture of imbalanced diets. Make trying new items and recipes an adventure. Shop at the Dekalb Farmer’s Market for a sweep of

international foods and unique selection of fruits and vegetables.

Walk the trails at the Botanical Gardens and witness the new additions to the International gardens.

Get out your cards and your board games, construct a giant jigsaw together, sing and dance together!

The best things in life really are free and most precious when shared with family.

- Warren

In this issue:

Annual fund	2
Auction	3
Classroom News	4

Montessori Connection



Spring/Summer
2012

The mission of the Athens Montessori School is to provide the highest quality Montessori education to children ages three years through fifteen years. Our aim is to provide programs that will create wholesome experiences for the parent and child in the areas of education, social, emotional, and physical development.



Field Day on the newly updated Spring Field!

Annual Fund

The annual fund this year has been devoted to several wonderful projects around the school. We have funded the extra amount needed to replace the roof on the brick building with a more environmentally friendly white membrane; we can't see it but nevertheless we are excited about it! We have supported improvements to the Spring Field, allowing us to hold our field day there a few weeks ago. Our website and school logo have been completely redesigned and will be

activated this summer. Additionally, we were able to make contributions to staff development, mortgage repayments and to a special scholarship fund in honor of the retirement of Anne Marie Fitzpatrick.

We especially appreciate the generous support we have received from grandparents and alumni families. If you would like make a donation and see your name on this list, we accept tax deductible donations year round!

Thanks for the Memories!

My heartfelt thanks and best wishes go out to **Ann Marie Fitzpatrick** who retired this year. She was my first assistant when the school opened and has served the children with love and dedication for over 34 years. We are glad she will remain involved with the school next year as a substitute teacher and advisor in crafts and French language and culture.

Thank you, Ann Marie, for your dedication and loving services to generations of Athens Montessori students.

I would also like to thank **Sabrina Sweeney** for her many years of service to the school, including all the hours she put in creating the Montessori Connection. Your patience and creativity are truly appreciated.

Finally, I would like to thank **Rhonda Byers** for all of her hard work and years of service, especially for the many successful Fall Festivals!

Many Thanks to Our Donors

Heyward Allen, Cadillac, GMC,
 Buick, Toyota Scion
 Elaine Atkins
 Sue and Charles Baldwin (Robert M & Lilius Baldwin Turnell Foundation)
 Barnes and Noble Book Fair
 Hortense Bates
 Mike Blake
 Sammy & Mary Ann Bowers
 Carrie Brooks
 Pat Condie Brown
 John and Mary Beth Brient
 Annabelle Burkins
 Ellen Cobb
 Ruth & Lee Curtis
 Alan and Janet Darvill
 Kathy and Jason Dean
 Roger and Barbara Dean
 Danielle ate the Sandwich Family concert on the Lawn
 Ann Enghauser
 Frontier
 Tita and Simon Gatrell
 David Sweat & Kay Giese
 Michael & Irma Glickman
 Robert Ambrose and Kathryn Hatcher
 Judith Meyer and Eugene Helfman
 Debby Lyon & Jeff Herten
 Pauline Hines
 Lillian Hood
 Dan and Dawn Horne
 Carl & Pat Horst
 Stacey Farrell and David Hyde
 Ange Kahn
 Steve Kimsey
 Pats Laniak
 Pauline LaPlante
 Geoff Lewis, Dancing Sprout Farm
 William Mance, Jr.
 Charles & Lynne Marquardt
 Morris & Sara Marx
 Robert and Janice Matthews
 Melaleuca
 Richard and Angela Meltzer
 Angeli and Nanda Menon
 Alexandra Mettler
 Lawrence Stueck & Kathleen McQuiston
 Ken and Teresa Morneault
 Richard Saunders & Carol Myers
 Gayle & Donald O'Kane
 Rosemary Padilla
 Carlos Perez & Elaine Brown
 Albert & Bebe Reichert
 Anthony & Marlene Ross
 Frances and Susan Sellow
 Laura Shedenhelm
 Ralph and Lilian Stuart Smith
 Janice Snyder
 Amy Steele
 Fran & Kieth Stroud
 Triple J Foods, Stevie B's Pizza Athens
 Barbara Waller
 Deborah Waller
 David & Deborah Warner
 April & Martin Webb
 Raymond & Susannah Wolford
 Karen Klingel Yu and Yuanshan Yu

Thank you to our Auction Sponsors!

5 Points Eye Care Center
The National Bank of Georgia
Classic City Chef
Veterinary Housecalls LLC
Publix

2012 Auction Donors

Angel Creek Nursery	Jakie Williamson
Ann Peden Jewelry	Jamie Caulkin
Ann Read-Hill	Jennifer Graff
Ashford Manor	Jennifer Thompson
Athens Clarke Heritage Foundation	Jimmy Carter Museum
Athens Eye Doctors and Surgeons, LLC	Jonas and Casey Barnes
Athens Stonecasting	JWR Jewelers
Atlanta History Center	Kay Wang
Augusta Canal Authority	Kevin Barnes
Avid Book Shop	Krimson Kafe
Bee Natural Honey Pots	LEAF
Beth Thrasher Studios	Liz Doerr
Big City Bread	Lizzy Meltier
Blue Class	Madelyn Wickwire
Books Galore	Mary Wickwire
Brad Snyder	Meagan Reed
Cali n Titos	Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament
Carrie Brooks	Meg Brya & Mike Wheeler
Center for Puppetry Atrs	Megan Wickwire
Chappelle Gallery	Melissa Gray Design
Classic City Tours	Menchies
Classic Martial Arts Club	Michael C. Carolos Museum
Comet's Class	Michael Oliveri Studio, llc
Dan Smith	Mickey Wickwire
Dante's Down the Hatch	Middle School
Debbie Miller	Mind Body Institute
Debra Barry	Moes Southwest Grill
DogTrot Nursery	Morrison Museum of Art
Dory's Heath and Home	Nuccis Space
Downtown Athens	Orange Class
Dwayne Allen Portrait Design Studio	Pamela Gilchrist
Erik Miller	Par Ramey
Five Points Yoga	Path of Wellness
Flagpole	Patterson Hood
Foundry Park Inn	Peter Loose
Four Seasons Pet Resort	Purple Class
Georgia Theatre	Rachel Snyder
Glo Salon	Rainbow Room
Green Room	Render Vignos
Gwenda Malnati	ReVive Salon & Massage Therapy
High Museum of Art	Robin Nunan
Homeplace Gifts	Sara Beresford
Hotel Indigo	Sean Gillian
INK Interactive Neighborhood Kids	Shakespeare Tavern
Jackson Street Books	Showtime Bowling



Many thanks to Sabrina Sweeney for her years of dedication and hard work on the Auction! We will miss you.

32nd Annual Auction a Huge Success

Nearly 200 friends and family of AMS gathered at St. Gregory the Great on March 31, 2012 for the 32nd Annual Athens Montessori Auction. This year's theme was Bacchanalia! and guests enjoyed a delectable Greek feast prepared by Mickey Wickwire, parent to middle school student Megan and stars class student Maddy. Once again, Sabrina Sweeney and Mary Wickwire were auction co-chairwomen, heading up a fantastic team of volunteers that gathered more than 300 items for bid. The auction committee included: Debra Barry, Rachel Snyder, Rhonda Byers, Lara Carrigan, Laura Straehla, Jerry Daniel, Melissa & Brant Rackley.

Auctioneer Patterson Hood kept the evening lively helping to bring in our largest live auction bid ever on Cap Man's beautiful painting "Primary"! (Thanks Liz and Tony DeMarco!). All in all the evening was a tremendous success, raising more than \$25,000 for scholarships and classroom materials. We are already looking forward to next year!

Thank you to our race sponsors!

5 Points Eyecare * A La Fera Salon, Inc. * Athens Eye Doctors & Surgeons, LLC. *
Roll-Off Systems * Total Training Gym & Yoga Center * Big City Bread

Lillian Schulz * Cordula Schulz * Zoe Brient * Hoffman-Oliveri Family * Castleberry Family * McPherson Family * Elizabeth Marx *
Barnes Family * Wheeler Family * Thrasher Family * Mabel Fezekas & Family * Shaikun Family * Hilyard Family *
Monachello Family * RENDER * TITA * Bianca's Family * Barnett Family * Futris Family

Inaugural March Moving for Montessori 5k/10K

On March 3rd AMS hosted an inaugural 5K and 10K Race 'March Moving for Montessori'. Weeks before the race staff and students could be seen walking round campus, round the Spring Field and up



and down neighborhood sidewalks. Race day dawned damp and chilly but more than a hundred people

turned out to run and walk. Many thanks go to our race organizer Melissa Tatarski and our generous sponsors. We would also like to thank Classic City Race services, all the staff, parents and friends who donated food and worked on the day for their help in making this year's race a success. We raised over \$500 for UNICEF and over \$3,000 dollars to help with improvements to our Physical Education facilities. Our funds enabled us to purchase a new mower to help with the Spring Field maintenance. See you all next year!

about the importance of taking care of our environment.

- *The Yellow class performed a play about Norse gods inspired by the Vikings auction donation of Thor's hammer necklaces.
- *The Stars class performed the play "George Washington Carver, the Scientist that Saved the South!" and made many improvements to their garden. While the Comets and Vikings both spruced up their environs and continued to grow much of their own food in the fine Montessori tradition.
- *The Aces hosted an international dinner as the culmination of their world studies and in celebration of the completion of their world atlas project.
- *The Middle school returned from their annual visit to Edisto with a note that this is the place where good memories come to life. The whole class choreographed and performed a their own version of 'I had the time of my life' at their graduation ceremony during the last week of school.

Classroom News

- *Our year at AMS ended in a flurry of dramatic, musical, artistic and culinary events as many classes hosted parents for pot luck suppers, classroom plays or musical performances.
- *The Orange class hosted an art exhibition which included works inspired by Van Gogh, Picasso, Kadinsky and their own imaginations drawn and painted in different mediums.
- *The Green class presented "The Lorax" a favorite Dr. Seuss tale that teaches us



Stars Class play.

Mark Your Calendars!

July 30

Last week of Summer Camp



August 13

First day of School/
AMPS Welcome Coffee



ATHENS MONTESSORI SCHOOL

3145 BARNETT SHOALS ROAD
ATHENS, GEORGIA 30605

TEL: 706.549.8490

WWW.ATHENSMONTESSORI.ORG