



SUMMIT
MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Alumni Newsletter

Fall 2023



Welcome!

As we enter our 28th year, Summit is delighted to be serving 123 students ranging in age from 18 months to 12 years old at our expanded Pleasant St. campus. The 2023-2024 school year sees us at capacity at every level, from Beginners and Children's House to Lower and Upper Elementary. This of course means the School's faculty and staff has grown to support our robust community so that teacher to student ratios remain low.

Summit's faculty and staff now includes roles such as Naturalist (see inset on page 2!) and Maintenance Technician which adds richness to the curriculum and campus. The elementary team has blossomed to 7 faculty members supported by a wide array of specialists providing learning support, art, music, library, physical education, and Spanish!

It's an exciting to year to be at Summit Montessori School and we welcome you back on campus – come and see us, we'd love to show you around!

Follow us on Social Media

The best way to stay up to date on life at Summit is by following us on Facebook, Instagram, or Linked In!

We would love to share how you're doing with the folks that follow us. Share a quick update with us by emailing office@summitmontessori.org with a picture and some news about what's keeping you busy these days!



Summit Naturalist

Longtime Lower Elementary teacher, Jean Anderson, has taken on a new role at Summit as the School's first ever Naturalist!

She has great plans for relocating raised beds, kickstarting the composting program after its Covid hiatus, and exploring nature alongside our budding botanists.

Jean reports "In my new role as Naturalist, I am working with all of the students in the school--from Beginners to Upper El--to show respect and care for the Earth. We will be meeting weekly to explore areas from composting and planting to harvesting and observing nature in the magnificent and natural Summit campus. In particular, we will be focusing on native plants to support pollinators."

Not to worry, she hasn't fully left the Lower Elementary classroom! Jean's role includes serving as Lower Elementary's Assistant Teacher, aiding the efforts of lead teachers Mr. Brandon and, new this year, Ms. Diana.

Andrew Ciampa, class of 2010, joins us for Rising Up and Graduation in June 2023

"The world needs Summit students. It's so clear to me that this place was the first stepping stone into my leading a successful and confident life."

A warm day in early June 2023 found the Summit community gathered under a tent on the Elementary playground to celebrate the end of the school year. Just as in years past, students rising up from one level to the next crossed the bridge to be greeted by a student in their new level. Beginners became Children's House students, Children's House kindergarteners rose into Lower Elementary, and newly branded Upper Elementary students climbed to the top of the school!

We were most excited to be joined by our commencement speaker, Andrew Ciampa, class of 2010, to share some remarks reflecting on his time at Summit. We loved this metaphor: "When I grew up, I realized that the world is much bigger than Summit Montessori. I realized though, that having a Summit Education was like constantly holding a pair of pocket aces that only I knew that I had. I see the world differently because of the way I was taught." Thank you, Andrew!