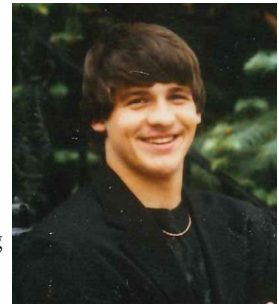




"I enjoyed being able to work at my own pace without feeling pressured. After I graduated from MSR and went to middle school, I was surprised at how far ahead I was in my studies. Also, I noticed my work ethic was strong, and my thinking patterns were more independent than some of my classmates."

~ Bridget Ivey, 19

"The Montessori method helped develop my entrepreneurial spirit. As a founding member of The Breakfast Box and The Lunch Box, I learned how to run a small business and reach our goals by working together. In my 9th grade year, we made enough money from our business to take a trip to the Grand Canyon and hike down into the Havasupai Indian Reservation. Knowing we earned the money ourselves through our business was an incredible feeling. I graduated from Darlington in 2010 and will graduate from Berry next month, but I credit my years at Montessori with developing my ability to think creatively and enjoy the process of learning. Ms. Shemi, when I have children, I'm sending them to you for their education! Get ready!"



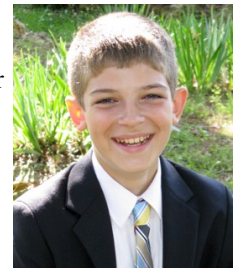
~Michael Montanaro, 21, Class of 2007



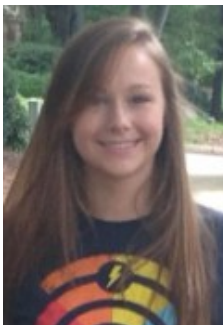
"Montessori is the root of my education. I learned things much differently than students in traditional classes. The teacher/student interaction has helped spur my success. I learned math facts, geography, and many other things using manipulatives. I learned how to step up and not be too shy in front of crowds, and I learned how to voice my opinion without being concerned about others' opinions of me. This has helped me succeed both in the classroom, and beyond, and for this I am grateful."

- Isabella Carlton, 13, 2012 graduate of MSR

"Having graduated from Montessori, I am aware nearly every school day of a keen desire to return to a Montessori-type environment. I had some of the greatest teachers I will ever have while at MSR. I was wonderfully prepared for my middle and high school careers. It is impossible for me to fully put into words the quality and the well-rounded nature of the education I received from Montessori.



~Nicholas Carlton, 15, 2010 graduate of MSR



"I will always remember getting to pick the sun on my birthday and doing the birthday walk! I also remember the peace rug and working out difficulties with my classmates. This approach helped me to problem solve and build relationships. I bonded with my classmates in such a unique environment that has led to friendships which have lasted through the years. Doing the golden chain in the lobby was one of my favorite memories!"

~Jessica Mauer, 17

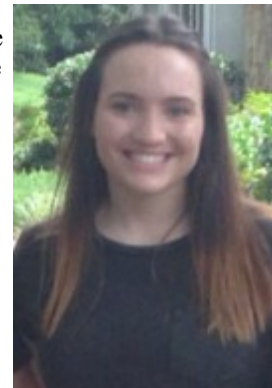


"The friendships and memories I made during my nine years at Montessori will last a lifetime. I will always cherish the hands on experience and amazing atmosphere Montessori offered; there's no place like it! Being able to say I have had the same best friend for fifteen years through Montessori is quite remarkable. I can't thank the incredible teachers enough for pushing me to excel and doing my best. Attending Montessori was a wonderful experience that I will always appreciate."

Anna Loyd, age 17

"I attended Montessori from Primary to Upper Elementary fifth year. I have found that the skills I acquired at MSR have been extremely beneficial to me throughout high school. One of my favorite memories was working through any issues with fellow classmates on the peace rug. Now that I'm older, I realize how valuable the curriculum is at MSR. From an early age, the classroom is divided between subjects such as math, language, and practical life tasks. I am so thankful for my time at Montessori, and I will carry the memories with me forever."

Suzannah Peek, age 17



I began MSR in the toddler program, and I was in Ms. Kumar's last Primary class. On my first day in her class, she discovered within three hours that I needed glasses, and it changed my life. As a +8 power in glasses, I desperately needed them. After the world wasn't just a big shadow, I really began learning. Montessori made my childhood experiences fun, and I learned so much without even realizing it. There were some tears in Lower El as the work expectations increased, but I am so thankful my parents stuck it out and listened to Ms. Dolores and Ms. Diane that I could do the work. They believed in me when I didn't even believe in myself, and I left Lower Elementary ready for the challenging program of Upper Elementary. That's what we called the pinnacle where it all came together for some of the best days of my education so far. I'm still disappointed that there wasn't an adolescent program for my group! I told Ms. Shemi to please begin the adolescent program again because she should offer the opportunity of a Montessori education for as many years as possible. When I graduated and went to Darlington, I really began to understand just how valuable my education had been--not just academically but because it taught me to be confident in my abilities and face the challenges of middle school and high school with the skills I needed. I am so grateful for my Montessori education, and my advice is to stay in the MSR bubble as long as you can!

Elisa Montanaro, 17