



childpeace

MONTESSORI SCHOOL



## 2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2010



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### Childpeace Montessori School

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Portland, OR 97209

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[www.childpeace.org](http://www.childpeace.org)



## A LETTER FROM THE BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF CHILDPEACE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

2009-2010 was another successful school year for our community.

With building renovations, a capital campaign and successful bond financing behind us, the board and administration dedicated their energies to strengthening and growing our community.

- Proudly, Metro Montessori Middle School opened in the fall of 2009. This program was designed to fill the niche for seventh through ninth grade Montessori education in Portland where no other programs were available in a central location. Metro offered a needed alternative for Childpeace graduates as well as graduates of other Portland-area Montessori programs. MMM students initiated an annual Odyssey to southern Oregon to work on a farm, explore the coastline and attend the Shakespeare Festival in Ashland. As a testament to a successful launch, all of the founding 7th graders planned to return for their 2nd year.
- In 2009 in a survey of more than 150 organizations around the state, Oregon Business magazine named Childpeace Montessori as one of the 100 Best Nonprofits to Work For in Oregon. It is an accolade that illustrates the school's dedication to attracting and retaining the finest teaching staff, the backbone of all top-notch schools.
- Upon the close of the 2009-10 fiscal year, the Childpeace Board of Trustees once again engaged Gary McGee & Co to perform a financial audit for the school. With diligent and meticulous financial systems in place, all were pleased when the school received another unqualified opinion, the highest rating offered for a financial audit.
- Our 6th year students, those completing the Upper Elementary program, engaged in a wide variety of service projects in 2009-10. Projects included serving populations in need, working in natural areas of the city, helping at area non-profits, even connecting with an orphanage in China. Each year, the 6th year service projects give students the opportunity to identify a need, contribute to the solution, and feel that they can make a difference in the world.

In 2009-10, our community included two Toddler classrooms (ages 15 months to 3 years), five Children's House classrooms (ages 3 to 6 years), three Lower Elementary classrooms (grades 1-3), two Upper Elementary classrooms (grades 4-6) and one Middleschool classroom (grades 7-8). Aftercare programs thrived with the support of Montessori-trained staff and offerings such as piano, guitar, martial arts, tap, ballet and modern dance lessons at the Elementary level. One of our five Children's House classrooms is located in an assisted living facility in Southeast Portland, and offers the opportunity for both children and resident seniors to collaborate in the garden and share community activities.

Childpeace continues to grow and thrive as a vibrant community. We thank the students, parents, staff and administration for making it such a special place.

The board and administration is proud to share this Annual Report with you.

Warmest regards,

**Sue Pritzker**  
Head of School

**Kirsten Brady**  
Board Chair  
2009-2010





## BACKGROUND



### ABOUT CHILDPEACE

Childpeace is certified by the Association Montessori Internationale at all levels, and is a registered Oregon Private School, a member of the Oregon Federation of Independent Schools, an Oregon Certified Day Care Center, and a recognized Oregon Green School.

Childpeace does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or physical ability in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and financial assistance, or hiring practices.

### MISSION AND VISION

The mission of Childpeace is to guide the development of the whole child, socially, and academically, through the principles of AMI Montessori education in an urban setting. Childpeace shapes the future of our world through the cultivation of inquisitive minds and socially responsible young citizens.



### **CHILDPEACE HISTORY**

Childpeace Montessori School was established in 1976 as a non-profit corporation, first located in the YWCA where it grew to three Children's House rooms by 1984 and then added the Montessori Toddler Community in 1986. In 1988 the school moved to a leased space on the North Park Blocks, and in 1999 opened a fifth Children's House classroom in Southeast Portland, nestled in a senior living facility now called "The Terrace" at Laurelhurst Village.

In 2000, a Lower Elementary classroom was opened and two years later, an Upper Elementary classroom was added. The school moved to its current location in NW Portland's Pearl/River District in 2003 and began two additional Lower Elementary classrooms. In 2007, Childpeace purchased the building and grounds on NW Thurman Street and opened the second Upper Elementary classroom. The Metro Montessori Middleschool was opened in 2009.

Childpeace now serves over 300 children, 15 months through 15 years old.





## **FACULTY AND STAFF**

The quality of faculty and staff at Childpeace is the foundation for the school's success. Childpeace teachers are selected for their professional talents and their constant and loving concern for the children in their charge. The trained Montessori guide is an artful organizer of experiences for the child to discover, process, and practice. Constant and ongoing observation by the guide is the foundation of the Montessori program. All Childpeace guides are fully trained and certified through the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI). Most of our guides also hold Masters degrees in education. In addition, elementary and MMM students have access to specialists in many fields, including Spanish language, nutrition, physical education, and arts education. During 2009-10, approximately 50 individuals were employed at Childpeace.

## **COMMUNITY LIFE AND PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

Childpeace believes that teaching children effectively requires the close collaboration between parents, teachers, and administrators. The social life of each class and the community at large offer enormous learning opportunities for every child. Maria Montessori believed that the young child who is actively engaged in a functional social community at an early age will become a responsible citizen in their adult life. All members of the child's family are encouraged to participate in the life of the school in a variety of ways, including parent education, classroom activities, volunteer efforts, and community gatherings.

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES**

The Tuition Assistance Program is dedicated to promoting a diverse community at Childpeace, providing enrollment continuity, and assisting families who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the Childpeace community. In 09-10, a total of \$38,042 in TAP funds was offered to nine students through full or partial scholarships. Short-term assistance is offered to currently enrolled families who are experiencing an unusually difficult financial situation. Assistance is offered for a period of six months or less and is funded from the general operating budget. The Staff Tuition Benefit is offered to all employees of Childpeace. Monthly tuition is discounted and offered as part of a comprehensive benefits package.

## **FUNDRAISING**

Last year, Childpeace families, friends, and alumni contributed generously to the Annual Appeal, Spring Auction, Art Run, Cornerstone Campaign, Scrip, and the Tuition Assistance Program. During the 09-10 school year, tuition, fees, and investments accounted for 93.4% of the school's total income with our community raising the remaining 6.6% through fundraising activities. We thank the hundreds of donors who understand the relationship between fundraising and maintaining Childpeace Montessori School's unique and high quality educational environment.

## **OUR CLASSROOM AT THE TERRACE IN SOUTHEAST PORTLAND**

With just about four miles separating the school's main building from the satellite Children's House classroom at The Terrace, the connection between the two locations is strong. Each year, students completing the Children's House program at The Terrace move downtown to join the lower elementary classrooms. The administrative and teaching staff downtown also provide essential support for the community in many ways including admissions, program development, and human resources.

In addition to having a lovely classroom, The Terrace community enjoys a courtyard garden that was designed specifically to aid in the intergenerational mixing of the residents and students. The Terrace's annual Tea Party, where each student hosts a senior resident, is a beautiful capstone for the students moving on to 1st grade. Working with the seniors offers our children a lifelong awareness of the stages of life.





## **METRO MONTESSORI MIDDLESCHOOL**

The 2009-10 school year included the opening of Metro Montessori Middleschool, Childpeace's program for young adolescents in 7th, 8th, and 9th grades, with eight students and two full-time teachers. MMM was founded as a response to parents' request for continued Montessori education of their middle schoolers, primarily from Childpeace but also drawing from other Montessori elementary schools on the west side of Portland. Currently located in the rich urban environment of Northwest Portland, the work of MMM students demands that they explore the world outside the classroom, exercise independence and creativity, and develop a sense of responsibility to humanity. Based on the principles of Maria Montessori, MMM cultivates a life-long love of learning by combining hands-on work with academics, relating the students to the roles and responsibilities of adulthood, and participating in the environment that surrounds the school.. The ability to put plans into action and a strong sense of personal identity are natural results of this developmentally tailored approach to the needs of young teenagers.

MMM has five themes underlying the curriculum: Humanities, Occupations, Self-Expression, Connection to Nature, and the Living Community. Lessons in Language Arts, History and Social Studies, Practical Skills, Math, Science, Creative Arts, P.E. and Spanish are mostly given in groups of less than ten students and within large blocks of time (1 ½ to 3 hours), in the context of class projects which address each student's need to receive new lessons, gather new information, practice new skills, and make new connections with people and ideas. This experiential, project-based learning stems from Dr. Montessori's adolescent syllabus and 25 years of collaborative research in the AMI community. It will substantially exceed Oregon standards, offer a student to teacher ratio that never exceeds 10 to 1, and leave graduates well prepared for competitive high school programs. Most importantly, our students will begin the journey into adulthood with a community perspective, a body of practical life skills, and competencies in innovation and collaboration.





#### Income

Tuition & Fees  
93.1%

Fundraising  
6.6%

Investment & Other  
0.2%

#### Expense

Program Services  
82%

Fundraising  
1.4%

Management & General  
10.7%

Depreciation  
5.9%

#### Fundraising

Cornerstone  
0.4%

Annual Appeal  
41.6%

Art Run  
9.7%

Scrip  
6.7%

Auction  
63.1%

TAP Appeal  
0.3%

Other  
4.4%

Fundraising Expenses  
-26.3%

## CHART OF ACCOUNTS

### Childpeace Financial Results 2009-2010 Fiscal Year

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010 (based on audited financials)

#### Income

Tuition & Fees	\$ 3,004,603	93.1%
Fundraising	\$ 214,385	6.6%
Investment & Other	\$ 6,907	0.2%

**Total** \$ 3,225,895 100%

#### Expense

Program Services	\$ 2,567,654	82.0%
Management & General	\$ 333,433	10.7%
Fundraising	\$ 44,634	1.4%
Depreciation & Amortization	\$ 183,836	5.9%

**Total** \$ 3,129,557 100%

#### Change in Value of Interest Rate Swap Agreement

\$ -257,283

#### Net Loss

\$ -160,945

#### Net Fundraising Income Detail

Auction	\$ 107,120	63.1%
Annual Appeal	\$ 70,685	41.6%
Art Run	\$ 16,489	9.7%
Scrip	\$ 11,310	6.7%
TAP Appeal	\$ 580	0.3%
Cornerstone Campaign	\$ 751	0.4%
Other	\$ 7,450	4.4%
Expenses Allocated to Fundraising	\$ -44,634	-26.3%

**Total** \$ 169,751 100%



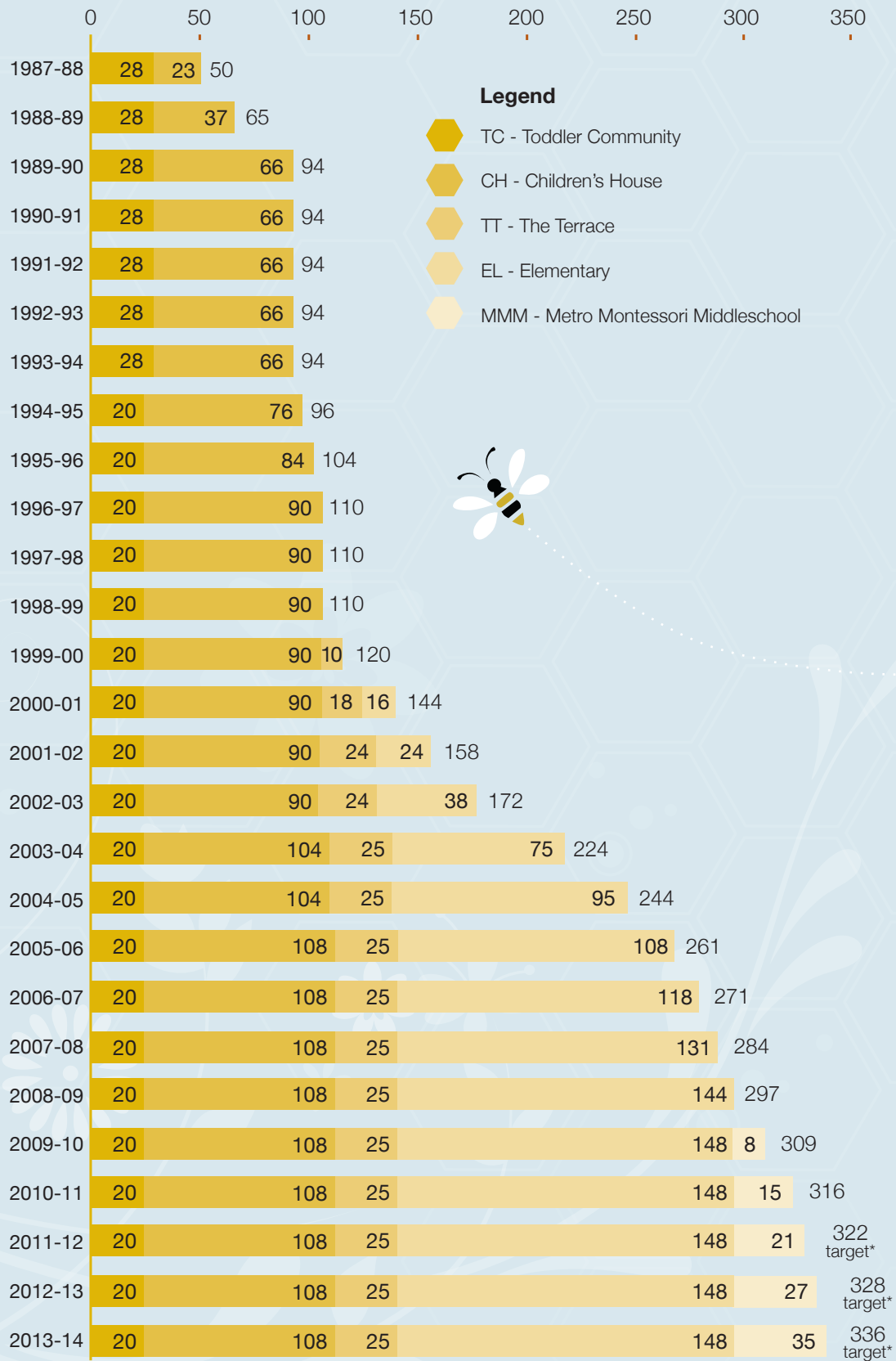
"In our opinion, the 2010 consolidated financial statements referred to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Childpeace Montessori School and Subsidiary as of June 30, 2010, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States."

Gary McGee & Co  
Certified Public Accountants

\*This number represents the liability should we have needed to terminate our long-term financing at fiscal year end.



## Childpeace Enrollment



# DONORS (JULY 1, 2008-JUNE 30, 2009)



## 2009-10 VOLUNTEERS

We thank the hundreds of parents, grandparents, community members and students who contributed their time serving Childpeace in 2009-10. Volunteering is part of what brings the Childpeace Community together, helping to offset the general operating costs of the school, giving parents insight to their child's experience, and making the school vibrant, exciting and supportive to the children in attendance.

## 2009-10 ANNUAL APPEAL DONORS

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\*The families listed above offered new gifts to the campaign or made payments to pledges made in an earlier year.

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