

ABSORBENT OBSERVER

July/August 2020

Education for Peace

'This is education, understood as a help to life; an education from birth, which feeds a peaceful revolution and unites all in a common aim, attracting them as to a single centre. Mothers, fathers, politicians: all must combine in their respect and help for this delicate work of formation, which the little child carries on in the depth of a profound psychological mystery, under the tutelage of an inner guide. This is the bright new hope for mankind.' -Dr. Maria Montessori

(All following quotes are Dr. Maria Montessori's own words translated from Italian)

The primary goal of Montessori inspired education is to help create a more peaceful generation and world.

Perhaps now more than ever before, this mandate seems crucial. Our goal has always been to help our students and our broader community improve their status as allies to the underprivileged along with being ambassadors of peace. There are so many different ways that this task begins in early childhood.

Much of what Maria Montessori wrote references the need for self-discipline in order for humans to have control over themselves and their reactions. Once self-discipline is attained, humans have the freedom to become peacemakers. There are countless ways Montessori was way ahead of her time, sadly it would seem she saw past our time here and now, into a peaceful future that is absolutely within our grasp.

After working with children in the slums of Rome, she went on to live through both world wars and was exiled due to her open distaste for the facism taking root in Italy. Her experiences, rather than disheartening her, emboldened her to teach and spread her insights into the potential of mankind she observed through children.

'Averting war is the work of politicians; establishing peace in the work of education.'

"...we must gather together all the elements of the world and organize them into a science of peace."

'Times have changed, and science has made great progress, and so has our work; but our principles have only been confirmed, and along with them our conviction that mankind can hope for a solution to its problems, among which the most urgent are those of peace and unity, only by turning its attention and energies to the discovery of the child and to the development of the great potentialities of the human personality in the course of its formation.'

'Within the child lies the fate of the future.'

'If salvation and help are to come, it is through the child; for the child is the constructor of man.'

'Peace is what every human being is craving, and it can be brought about by humanity through the child.'

"The study of the child... may have an infinitely wider influence, extending to all human

questions. In the mind of the child we may find the key to progress...."



We see everyday the incredible potential for a peaceful humanity through our students. We do not prevent or shy away from conflict, which allows our students to develop empathy while practicing resoultion techniques. New adult visitors to our classroom are often astounded as to how smoothly our kids are abe to express theirselves. We see spontaneous displays of empathy on a daily basis. These are the skills that will allow our students to move forward in these uncertain times with confidence and a belief in a brighter, ever more peaceful future.

Non-Profit News Friends of Pisgah Collective

We are so excited to formally announce the establishment of our tax exempt, non-profit organization, Friends of Pisgah Collective. This project will allow us to raise funds and apply for grants in order to support and continue to grow our program.

PLEASE share this information with anyone who is interested in our program and would be interested in supporting our goals.

Check out the website: friendsofpisgahcollective.org

One of the easiest ways to support FoPC is to make us your charity on AmazonSmile!

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

- 1: Go to smile.amazon.com
- 2: Login to your account
- 3: Select FRIENDS OF PISGAH COLLECTIVE as your charity
- 4. Every purchase you make supports FoPC

We are officially listed on GuideStar which helps donors trust their money is being used well.



2020





We discuss the life cycle of many living things year-round in our programs. Spring and summer are of course filled with life to observe. Our tadpoles are still growing and we have a new group of Painted Lady butterflies that we have been watching go through metamorphosis. In the garden we talk about the various life cycles of different plants and have been honing in on the bean plant. We have been watching our bean seeds sprout and grow and have been transplanting them into soil when they are ready!

Important Dates

Barring any changes in public health recommendations, and the health of our community, we plan to continue to be open!

- Summer Session 2 June 29 - July 17
- Summer Session 3 July 20 - August 7
- CLOSED: August 8 - 23
- First Day of Fall Sprouts August 24
- First Day of Fall Seedlings August 31
- CLOSED:
 September 7 *Labor Day*

Summer Payment #3 Due:
Wednesday, July 22
Fall Deposit Due:
Wednesday, Aug 5
Fall Payment #1 Due:
Wednesday, Aug 12