



Montessori Academy
of Chambersburg

A LEGACY OF LEARNING

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Event Calendar 2024-2025

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Date	Event	Participants	Time	Contact Person	
August					
Friday August 16	New Family Orientation	Parents/Guardians Only	5:30 -7:00 PM	Heather Edmond	
Sunday August 18	Back to School Pool Party Hosted at Waynesboro Country Club by MAPO	All Students and Families	4:00 - 6:00 PM	MAPO	
August 19-21	"Phase In" for New Toddler Community and New Children's House Students	Toddler Community New Students and Parent Children's House New Students	Appointments	Classroom Teachers	
Tuesday August 20	Back to School Night	Parents/Guardians Only	6:30 - 7:30 PM	Heather Edmond	
Thursday August 22	First Full Day of School for All Students				
September					
Monday September 2	No School for Students				

* Volunteer Opportunity

Thursday September 5	Family Ice Cream Social	All Students and Families	4:30 - 5:30 PM (No PM ExCEL)	Madison Platter Ingrid Lee Alexia Timmons	
Saturday September 14	Fall Fest BBQ Fundraiser*	All Families and Wider Community	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Carianne Rawlings	
Third Wednesda y September 18	Montessori Insights - Montessori Parenting Conversations	All Parents/Guardians invited	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Kim Kulla Cathy Davidson	
Tuesday September 24	Together Tuesday	Children's House Students and a Guest	12:15 - 1:00 PM	Cathy Davidson	
Date	Event	Participants	Time	Contact Person	
October					
Tuesday October 1	Toilet Learning Seminar Hosted by Toddler Community	Parents/Guardians of young children	5:00 - 5:45 PM	Madison Platter Ingrid Lee Alexia Timmons	
Monday October 14	Indigenous Peoples Day No School for Students				
Friday October 18	International Day Show	All Students and Families Volunteer Sign Up	10:00 AM - 11:00 PM	Stephanie Whitlock Kim Kulla	
Friday October 25	End of First Marking Period				
Friday, October 25	Parents' Night Out	Pre-Registration Required (Ages 3+) +Program Fee	5:00 - 8:00 PM	Sarah Durden	

* Volunteer Opportunity

Monday October 28	Special Friend Night	Toddler, Children's House, and Lower Elementary Students Families and Friends	5:40-6:20 PM and 6:20-7:00 PM	Cathy Davidson Kira Durden	
November					
Monday November 4	Family Night at Book Fair*	Families	5:30 - 7:30 PM	Stephanie Whitlock	
November 4-8	Book Fair*	Students, Families	School Day	Stephanie Whitlock	
Thurs & Fri November 7 & 8	School Picture Day (Make-up Pictures in January)	All Students	9:00 - 10:30 AM	Lisa de Salis	
Thurs & Fri November 14-15	Conferences for Parents/Guardians (Mandatory) and Parent/Guardian Tea Time No School for Students - Noon Dismissal on Thursday, Nov 14 - No School on Friday, Nov 15	Parents/Guardians	Appointment	Classroom Teachers Heather Edmond	
Saturday November 16	Gala and Auction*	Adult Families and Friends of Montessori and Wider Community	6:00 PM	Heather Edmond	
Third Wednesda y November 20	Montessori Insights - Montessori Parenting Conversations	All Parents/Guardians invited	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Kim Kulla Cathy Davidson	
Tuesday November 26	Thanksgiving Feast*	Students	School day	Sarah Durden	
Nov 27-Dec 2	Thanksgiving Break - No School for Students - Noon dismissal on Wednesday, Nov 27 - No School Thursday Nov 28 - Monday Dec 1				
Date	Event	Participants	Time	Contact Person	

* Volunteer Opportunity

December					
Tuesday December 17	Parents' Night Out	Pre-Registration Required (Ages 3+) +Program Fee	5:00 - 8:30 PM	Sarah Durden	
Thursday December 19	Upper Elementary Winter Brunch*	Upper Elementary Students	11:00 AM	Alicia Runkle	
Friday December 20	Winter Celebration Concert	All students Families and Friends	10:00 AM	Sarah Durden Nathaniel Byers	
Dec 23 - Jan 1	Winter Break - No School for Students • No School Monday Dec 23 - Wednesday Jan 1				
January					
Wednesda y January 15	Makeup School Picture Day	Students, as needed	Starting at 9:00 AM	Lisa de Salis	
Third Wednesda y January 15	Montessori Insights - Montessori Parenting Conversations	All Parents/Guardians invited	6:00 - 7:30 PM	Kim Kulla Cathy Davidson	
Friday January 17	End of Second Marking Period				
Monday January 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School for Students				
Tuesday, January 28	Toilet Learning Seminar Hosted by Toddler Community	Parents/Guardians of young children	5:00 PM via ZOOM	Madison Platter Ingrid Lee Alexia Timmons	
Date	Event	Participants	Time	Contact Person	
February					

* Volunteer Opportunity

Saturday February 1	Family Pancake Breakfast* Hosted by Lower Elementary (Inclement Weather Date February 8)	All Families and Friends (RSVP preferred)	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Alison Gilbert Katelyn Schindler	
Friday February 14	VIP Brunch Hosted by MAPO	Toddler and Children's House Students and VIP Guests	9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Kim Kulla	
Monday February 17	Presidents' Day - No School for Students				
Week of February 17	"Big Give" - School Registry Fundraiser Hosted online at www.myregistry.com "Search for someone": Montessori Academy of Chambersburg	Friends of Montessori Academy	Online	Heather Edmond	
Third Wednesda y February 19	Montessori Insights - Montessori Parenting Conversations	All Parents/Guardians invited	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Katelyn Schindler	
Thursday February 27	Curriculum Open House and Science Fair (Inclement Weather Date February 28)	Families and Friends	5:30 - 7:00 PM (No PM ExCEL)	Curriculum Night: Heather Edmond Science Fair: Kristin Byers	
March					
March 10-17	Spring Break - No School for Students				
Third Wednesda y March 19	Montessori Insights - Montessori Parenting Conversations	All Parents/Guardians invited	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Kim Kulla Cathy Davidson	
Monday March 24	Family Night at Book Fair*	Families	5:30 - 7:30 PM	Stephanie Whitlock	

* Volunteer Opportunity

Week of March 24-28	Book Fair*	Students, Families	School Day	Stephanie Whitlock	
March 28	Waffles and OJ Event for Toddler Community Families	Toddler Community Students and Parents/Guardians	10:00 - 11:00 am	Madison Platter	
Friday March 28	End of Third Marking Period				
Date	Event	Participants	Time	Contact Person	
April					
Tuesday April 8	Together Tuesday	Children's House Students and a Guest	12:15 - 1:00 PM	Cathy Davidson	
Friday April 11	Spaghetti Dinner and a Show Hosted by Drama Club and Student Council	Drama Club and Student Council Students All Academy Families and Friends (RSVP preferred)	4:30 - 6:30 PM	Alicia Runkle Kim Walter	
Week of April 14-16	Terra Nova Tests, Grades 3-8	Students in Grades 3 - 8	School Day	Heather Edmond	
Third Wednesda y April 16	Montessori Insights - Montessori Parenting Conversations	All Parents/Guardians invited	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Kim Kulla Cathy Davidson	
Week of April 14-17	Conferences for Parents/Guardians	Parents/Guardians	By Appointment, Scheduled with Teacher	Classroom Teachers	

* Volunteer Opportunity

April 17-21	Conferences and April Break - No School for Students				
April 26	MAPO Yard Sale - Drop Off Donations April 14-16 and April 22-23	Community Members, Volunteers	8:00 AM - ?	MAPO	
Date	Event	Participants	Time	Contact Person	
May/June					
Week of May 5-9	Teacher Appreciation Week* Hosted by MAPO			MAPO Heather Edmond	
Tuesday May 13	6th Grade Expert Project Presentations	Sixth Grade Students Families and Friends	7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Alicia Runkle	
Thursday May 15	Race for Education* (Rain Date May 16)	All Students Families and Friends	9:00 AM - Noon	Sarah Durden	
June 8 10 AM	Trout Release Family Event at Scotland Memorial Park	All families are invited.	2:00 - 3:30 PM	Heather Edmond	
Third Wednesday May 21	Montessori Insights - Montessori Parenting Conversations	All Parents/Guardians invited	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Kim Kulla Cathy Davidson	
Thursday May 22	Spring Show	Elementary & Middle School Students All Academy Families and Friends	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Nathaniel Byers Alicia Runkle Sara Spitzer	
Monday May 26	Memorial Day - No School for Students				
Monday June 2	Family Day* - Student Field Day* - Academy Family Picnic* - Montessori Student Talent Show	All Students and Families, Volunteers	Field Day 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	MAPO Madison Platter Kim Kulla	

* Volunteer Opportunity

			Family Picnic 12:00 PM -1:30 PM Talent Show 1:30 PM -2:30 PM	Alison Gilbert Talent Show: Alicia Runkle	
Tuesday June 3	Kindergarten Graduation	Kindergarten Students Families and Friends	9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Cathy Davidson	
Tuesday June 3	8th Grade Graduation and Moving On Ceremony	K, 3rd, 6th, and 8th Grade Students Families and Friends	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Kim Walter	
Tuesday June 3	Last Day of School / End of Fourth Marking Period ● Noon dismissal				
June 16 - August 8	Summer Program 8 am - 4 pm, M-F (Closed July 4) Pre-Registered Montessori Academy Students Only				



Event Descriptions

					
Family Event	Volunteer Opportunity	Student-Run Event	Parent/Adult Community	Informational Event	Fundraising

Event	
New Family Orientation 	An evening event for parents/guardians of incoming students, led by our Head of School. Come meet other families who have chosen to join the Montessori community, have another tour of the school (including knowing where your child's classroom is located) and talk about about expectations for a Montessori education, what your child needs for their first days of school, processes such as drop off and pick up lines, volunteering, school events, reporting absences, and more.
Back to School Pool Party 	A daytime event for the whole family. Join our parent's organization for a picnic and pool party to reconnect with friends and meet and greet with our incoming families.
Back to School Night 	An evening event for parents/guardians of all students. Join your child's teacher in the classroom to talk about classroom specific routines, expectations for the upcoming school year, and to connect with other families with children enrolled in your child's class.
Family Ice Cream Social	An evening event that is purely social! Bring your favorite ice cream topping to share at our epic sundae bar! Meet and reconnect with other families.

	
Toilet Learning Seminar 	The Toddler Community teachers host two Toilet Learning Seminars a year. If you are a parent of a enrolled Montessori child preparing or in the process of toilet learning, or if you have a younger child who is not yet enrolled, this opportunity is for you! Learn about how Montessori educators approach toilet learning and team up with families to promote an effective and lower stress toilet learning experience.
Montessori Insights - Montessori Parenting Conversations 	Join a team of Montessori educators in these monthly discussions focusing on a range of topics in parenting and Montessori education. These conversations primarily focus on how to apply the Montessori approach in your home environment to support your child, including supporting positive behavioral development and promoting independence and responsibility. Montessori Insights is appropriate for parents of any child enrolled at the Academy, Toddler through Middle School.
Together Tuesday 	This event is for our Children's House (preK and K) students who stay for full days. Students invite a special someone (often a parent or other adult family member) to join them for lunch. Our Montessori adults enjoy the opportunity to spend a special time with their child and to meet other families. Bring your own lunch for this event.
Fall Fest BBQ Fundraiser   	A weekend event full of fun activities for families and wider community members. This fundraiser includes the sale of chicken barbeque meals and other lunch items and treats, as well as tickets and wristbands for carnival-style fun and bounce houses. Volunteers are needed to help plan and implement the event.
International Day Show 	After learning about one or more cultures from around the world in the days approaching International Day, students invite family members in for an International Day Show where students showcase their cultural studies through song, dance, and art. After the morning show for the whole school community, teachers work with volunteers to lead international-themed activities for students, such as food tastings, games, and crafts from around the world. Plan to attend the morning show and watch out for optional volunteer opportunities for afterwards, if you are interested.
Parents' Night Out	

Special Friend Night 	An evening event for students aged 1 year through grade 3 and a special visitor. Students bring a “Special Friend” to visit their classroom for insight into the daily activities and work of the Montessori student. Grandparents, aunts/uncles, parents, god parents, or any special adult in your child’s life, enjoy the opportunity to see what your child has been working on at Montessori Academy and to connect with other families.
School Picture Day	Montessori Academy hosts a formal photographer twice a year for portraits, including a fall picture day and a spring “make up” day for students who were not photographed in the fall or whose parents requested retakes. These photos are used in our yearbook and are also available for purchase by parents.
Conferences for Parents/Guardians and Parent/Guardian Tea Time 	Fall conferences are required for all students. Spring conferences are arranged by request of the teacher or parent/guardian . Teachers will reach out directly to the parents/guardians of their students with available time slots for conference appointments. If you cannot be available during the proposed times, please reach out to your child’s teacher to make alternative arrangements. Parents who schedule their conferences during the designated conference days are invited to join our Head of School for a Tea Time before or after their conference, to share their ideas and feedback about the Academy, or just to chat.
Family Night at Book Fair 	Montessori Academy hosts a Family Night for each of our fall and spring Book Fairs. The Academy invites our families to bring their students for an evening “first pick” Book Fair shopping, as well as enjoy read-alouds and cookies and milk, provided by the Montessori Academy Parents’ Organization. Volunteers are needed to host read-alouds for the children.
Book Fair 	Our students love books! The Book Fair is open for a full week twice a year. Families can shop at Family Night, send their child with money or load an e-wallet to complete their own shopping during the school day. Online ordering through a school-specific Scholastic Book Fairs link is also available for an even wider variety of titles. Volunteers are needed to help with sales throughout the week.
Montessori Academy Gala and Auction 	This classy event for friends of Montessori Academy features a dinner, live music, and live and silent auctions. This formal celebration of the Academy is our primary fundraiser of the year, through ticket sales, auction purchases, and donations. Volunteers are needed to help with the planning committee and the implementation of the event.
Thanksgiving Feast 	This event for students takes place during the school day. The meal is cooked for the students by the students, with each class contributing dishes. Volunteers are needed to provide and cook the turkeys, and to serve and help with clean up of the event.
Upper Elementary Winter Brunch	This event is a potluck-style celebration for Upper Elementary students (grades 4-6). Volunteers are needed to help the students prepare for and clean up after the event. Volunteers are welcome to join their child’s class to enjoy the meal.

 	
Winter Celebration Concert 	This music concert features performances by children of all ages, from Toddler Community through Middle School. The concert happens in the morning during the last day before winter break. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend and invite other important adults from their children's lives.
Family Pancake Breakfast    	The Pancake Breakfast is a Saturday morning event hosted by the Lower Elementary community (grades 1-3). Families and friends of Montessori Academy are invited to join us for a morning meal that our students help to prepare and serve. This fundraiser supports Montessori Academy's field trip fund. Volunteers are needed to help students prepare, cook, and serve the meal, and to help clean up after the event. Lower Elementary families are encouraged to donate ingredients for this event in order to maximize the fundraising potential for the Field Trip Fund.
VIP Brunch   	The VIP Brunch is for children in Toddler Community and Children's House and a special guest. The students prepare for the event by helping to cook food to share with their VIP guests. Each child invites a "VIP", which may be a parent/guardian, grandparent, aunt/uncle, or any important adult in the child's life. The "VIP" should expect to spend about an hour at the school, sharing a snack with their child and connecting with other families. The VIP Brunch is hosted by the Montessori Academy Parents' Organization, in collaboration with teachers. Volunteers are needed to help prepare for the event, serve, and clean up. Volunteers can also be "VIPs" and are welcome to join their child as a VIP during the event after helping to set up.
Curriculum Open House and Science Fair 	The Curriculum Open House allows Montessori families the opportunity to follow one focus of our school's curriculum as it progresses through each level, Toddler Community through Middle School. Visitors enjoy hands-on opportunities to explore Montessori learning materials and learn about how students learn and practice their skills at the Academy. The Science Fair is presented simultaneously with the winter curriculum night. All students and classes are invited to prepare and share a Science Fair project. If your child is young, a family project is encouraged. Participation is mandatory for students in fourth grade and up.
"The Big Give" - School Registry Fundraiser Hosted online at www.myregistry.com "Search for someone": Montessori Academy of Chambersburg 	The Big Give is one of our supporters' favorite fundraisers of the year. For The Big Give, the Academy prepares a registry of items that donors can select to purchase, as well as specific cash funds that donors can choose to contribute towards. Our supporters love the opportunity to pick and choose items and funds that they think their Montessori children will enjoy and benefit from, or which align with their hopes and priorities for the Academy.

Spaghetti Dinner and a Show Hosted by Drama Club and Student Council 	This evening “Dinner and a Show” event is hosted by the Drama Club and Student Council. Students prepare a drama presentation and a spaghetti dinner for their guests, which include families and friends from throughout the Montessori Academy community. RSVP’s are highly recommended for this event and families should expect to pay per person to attend the dinner. Dinner and a Show is a fundraiser benefiting the Student Council. Volunteers are needed to help students prepare for and run the event.
Terra Nova Tests, Grades 3-8	The Terra Nova assessments are a standardized test administered each April to students in grade 3-8. The assessments cover a range of topics in math and language skills and are spread out in sessions of 30 minutes to an hour and a half, over a period of about three days. The Terra Novas provide valuable information for families about their child’s academic progress in relation to national norms for each grade level. Montessori Academy also utilizes assessment results for cohorts of students as one of many indicators of quality of academic instruction and programming. Formal assessment reports are also helpful to our students during the admissions process of selective area high schools as they prepare to graduate from Montessori Academy.
MAPO Yard Sale 	The Montessori Academy Parents’ Organization (MAPO) hosts an annual yard sale in April. Montessori families are asked to gather and donate their yard sale items during the specific timeframe leading up to the yard sale. Volunteers are needed to help sort, price, and set up for the yard sale, as well as during the Saturday event to help run the yard sale. Proceeds from the yardsale support Academy events that are sponsored by MAPO.
6th Grade Expert Project Presentations 	Sixth grade students engage in long term research as their capstone experience in the Upper Elementary level. In April each year, the students publish their research in a written report and share their findings with the school community through a presentation. Our sixth graders present to their peers during the school day and additional family and friends of Montessori Academy are invited to an evening presentation and celebration.
Teacher Appreciation Week* Hosted by MAPO 	The Montessori Academy Parents’ Organization hosts the annual teacher appreciation week with support from our parent community. Parents are asked to support a range of appreciation plans throughout the week including: sending some flowers on a specified day to be contributed towards arrangements for the teachers, contributing one or more gift cards towards a gift card bundle for each teacher, and volunteer to work with Administration to help supervise students during their lunch/recess period on Friday so that the teachers can attend a MAPO-sponsored luncheon.
Race for Education	Race for Education is a student-centered fundraiser in which students gather financial support from sponsors in order to strive towards a fundraising goal needed in order to implement plans that students are involved in developing. On the day of the event, students run laps in a self-competitive “race”, in which volunteers help the students track how many laps they have completed and students race towards their personal goals. Examples of

	focuses for past Race for Education fundraising include: playground equipment, environmental education initiatives, the “learning pagoda” outdoor classroom space, and the soccer field.
Spring Show 	Spring Show is a combination of musical and artistic presentation by students in grades 1-8. Families and friends are invited to join us for this evening event showcasing the learning and creativity of our students in their artistic and musical programming at Montessori Academy.
Family Day* • Student Field Day* • Academy Family Picnic* • Montessori Student Talent Show 	Family Day is our favorite way to wrap up another great school year! The day starts with a Field Day for all students, with different, age-appropriate activities provided for each group of students. Volunteers are both welcome and needed in order to help make the multitude of activities and stations at Field Day a success! Following a morning of Field Day activities, families are invited to join the Academy community for a family picnic. The Montessori Academy Parents’ Organization provides the main dishes, while families from each class contribute various sides and desserts potluck style. Volunteers for the Academy picnic help to prepare, maintain, and clean up the potluck picnic buffet line. After the family picnic, we invite families to join us for a Montessori Academy Talent Show in the afternoon! It is a busy and exhilarating day of family fun to celebrate the school year!
Kindergarten Graduation 	At Kindergarten Graduation, we honor each individual Kindergarten student in a celebration of their accomplishments as they prepare to move up into the next level of their learning journey! Kindergarten graduation is a 45-minute program. After Kindergarten graduation, Kindergarten students and families are invited to attend the 8th Grade Graduation and Moving On Ceremony, in which our Kindergarten students will symbolically “move on” to join their friends, new and old, in the Lower Elementary community!
8th Grade Graduation and Moving On Ceremony 	All Montessori Academy students attend this event during the day on the last day of school and Montessori Academy of Chambersburg also encourages all Montessori families and friends to join us to honor our 8th Grade graduates! We will honor each individual eighth grade graduate and enjoy speeches from our Head of School, Board of Directors, Student Council President, and a special guest Alumni of Montessori Academy. This program also includes a “Moving On Ceremony” that honors all students who are preparing to transition to new classes for the upcoming school year: Kindergartens who will be moving on the Lower Elementary, Third Grade students preparing to move on the Upper Elementary, and Sixth Grade students who will be entering the Middle School class. The Graduation and Moving On Ceremony is a 1 hour program that ends shortly before the scheduled noon dismissal on the last day of school. After the ceremony, the families of 8th grade graduates are invited to a private reception.
Family Trout Release Event	Each year, Montessori Academy students are excited to participate in the Trout in the Classroom Program. The students receive trout eggs from the hatchery each January. They care for the trout throughout the second semester, observing the eggs, watching the trout hatch and develop from alevin to fry, and caring for the fish



and their tank habitat. At the end of the school year, families are invited to join us for a Family Trout Release event. At the Trout Release Event, participants will not only release our fingerling trout into approved local trout waters, but they also enjoy a macroinvertebrate stream study and other fish and fishing related activities.