



Philomath Montessori School



2013: Our graduates!

Adios!

For some life must mellow, but for me, as I get older, the year passes more quickly, the changes come faster, the children get cuter and the goodbyes are always harder. And this past year has only reinforced those impressions.

During **Maggie's** four years here, phenomenal is the only way to describe **Clara Bozievich** and **Bill Brock's** participation and contributions to our school – just in the last two years, they clocked over 400 hours! Clara headed up our auction fundraiser two years in a row. She knew how to draw even the most reticent parents into the fray and laid the groundwork for a new level of organization that we will be using for many years to come. Bill generously shared his talents as an artist and master woodworker by twice creating stunning pieces for our raffle as well as a



Maggie with her felted bowl

custom family portrait and other art pieces. One piece we treasure hangs on our school wall. Bill came in one day to recount his stories of his stay in a village in Zimbabwe bringing that print to life for the children. Bill also signed up to do many of our carpentry projects and repair jobs and was always ready to jump in when we needed him. He and Clara

setup our first ever wine tasting at Magenta's with an encore the following year creating rare events for our little community – adult-only gatherings! I could go on and on, but you get the picture – we will miss these two badly! Maggie's daily sweet hugs will hard to live without, too.

I remember with delight how **Ben** would often climb up on my lap during group time when he first entered. He was so darn cute, how could I say no! He grew out of it quickly, but a special connection lingers still, three and half years later which makes parting so bittersweet. We will dearly miss his parents, too – **Kerry and Doug Boysen**. Another superb organizer, Kerry ran our children's program at the auction twice and made that all-important connection for us with the amazing Kidspirit volunteers and staff. It's now hard to imagine the children's program without them! Kerry and Doug also volunteered in countless other ways from helping us with legal advice to working on our recruitment committee to painting walls.

If I ever came to school tired and out of sorts, it never lasted long. **Zaiya** was always there to greet me at the door or shortly after I arrived with open arms and a warm hello. Before lunch it was often "Hope you enjoy your lunch!" and then upon reentering after lunch, she cheerily asked me how was my lunch. Of course, this wasn't just for me, it was for everyone. She embodied sunshine. Now I'll have to move to Arizona. Her mom, **Andrea Myhre**, was an energetic contributor – especially in our outdoor area hauling wheelbarrow after wheelbarrow of heavy soil even in the rain or moving sod and plants out of beds, or rushing to the store in between work to bring lumber

or supplies for a work party. She was also a great solicitor with many community connections and when we needed her help with recruitment she stepped up with enthusiasm. We always enjoyed seeing Zaiya's dad, **Tomas Garza**, every Wednesday morning and at our events, too.

From **Cedric's** time with us, I learned how to face a crisis with calmness – from a 4-year-old. Even at four, when his blood sugar was critically low, he comfortably walked me through what needed to be done. He never panicked and I tried not to show my alarm. Eventually, I learned to be more like him. When he started staying for lunch, the other children were able to witness a child get poked with a needle daily...with a smile. It is remarkable to see anyone at any age take such matters in stride. We are grateful to his parents, **Christian Petrovich and Dawn Anzinger**, for helping at the auction overseeing a large group of rompers all evening in our children's program every year that Cedric's been with us and we will be greatly indebted to his dad, Christian. He has put in a lot of time, energy and expertise in our outdoor area – mowing, trimming, moving loads of wood chips and soil, laying down landscape cloth AND installing a very important long term piece: an underground irrigation system with timers. So no more weekly summer watering volunteers!

We are very grateful to all of you for giving us the opportunity to be a part of your children's lives and a part of yours. Thank you for your extraordinary generosity – you have made so much possible. We hope that we can maintain our connections as the years go by. Though they will also be transitioning to new schools, **Cian Tavano, Mica Lohr, Zach Grapoli and Lucas Junge** will keep us tethered to their families for at least a few more years with their siblings. We expect to see all of you around here every now and then.

A big shout out to **Doni, Leslie, Jessica, and Jennifer** for the amazing work they do and their obvious dedication to the

children and their families. They make coming to work joyful! Many thanks to **Maria and Bianca** for all they do daily to maintain our school – never missing a day and never a complaint about the inconvenient hours our many evening meetings mean for them.

With sadness and regret, we must say goodbye to **Marjie Corbin** as a regular staff member. We brought her on board fully expecting this to be a long term commitment, but the need for extended care evaporated. Marjie spoiled us while she was here. We could count on her to prepare many art projects and classroom materials, repair and refurbish classroom equipment, refresh the pictures in our geography and biome folders, record our lessons, and sub for us when we needed her. One of the bonuses of staying late after the children left was to overhear Marjie's and Connor's ongoing conversations. She would always listen with interest and then after a pause, respectfully offer her thoughts. A deep thank you to Marjie and our warmest wishes go with her.

Year Round Volunteers

A big thank you to our year-round volunteers: **Liesl Tavao** and **Meagan Johanson** were our Art Parents; **Amber Kenoyer**, our Library Parent AND our Classroom Gift Parent; **Amber Grapoli**, our Newsletter Designer; **Shawne Johnson**, our Outdoor Parent; **Lua Siegel**, our Volunteer Coordinator; **Joy Ueng**, our Marketing Parent and **Jasmin Woodside**, our School Chronicler.

Special volunteers

Special thanks to **Bekki Levien**, an alumni parent, who continues to design and maintain our website, handbook and brochures (I have lost track of how many years!), **Aurora Jensen** (Jessica's daughter and a former student) who comes in to help us with childcare for all our parent meetings and to **Anya Mae Panose**,



Alice ready to clean



Anya Mae working with Connor on a nature collage



Smiling Mica

another former student, who has been assisting Jennifer and Jessica during our Friday Art Class. Thank you very much for all your work and dedication!

Our Board of Directors

On behalf the staff and families of Philomath Montessori School I would like to thank our absolutely splendid and marvelous board of directors: **Ed Durrenberger, Joan Extrom, Pau Hochfeld, Lorri Hendon, Janel Lawrence, Ruby Moon, Sha Sifford, and Dodie Wilson.** They are the heart and soul of our school. And **Jessica Neebe**, who still attends all of our board meetings faithfully and proficiently recording our minutes. Thank you all very much!!


Such Generosity!

Over the past year, with contributions from almost everyone and regular contributions from the **Anzinger-Perovich family, the Bozievich-Brock family, the Bedford family, and the Siegal-Plaires**, we were able to raise over \$350 for our scholarship fund. And from the continual and magnanimous contributions from one of our alumni families – the **Bialeks**, and very generous farewell gifts from the **Bozievich-Brock family** and the **Boysen family**, our school received almost \$4,000! We are humbled by such kindness and goodwill. Thank you so much.

Our Super Volunteers THANK YOU!!

Since I began recognizing our families who went way beyond their required hours, there were usually two or three families every year. This year, however, we have a whopping 6 families

who put in more than 50 hours, two that are just under the mark and two that exceeded 100! So we would like to pay homage to these exceptional, wondrous families: **Clara Bozievich and Bill Brock, Trina and Lanny McGaughy, Shawne and Roger Johnson, Amber and Sean Grapoli, Jasmin and Rigel Woodside, Amber and Chris Kenoyer, Joy and Tim Ueng, and Janelle and Stony Lohr.** I know that I can speak for our staff, our board, our children, and the other families in saying with great gratitude: Thank you very much!

I hope to run into you over the summer. But if not, please enjoy lots of sunshine, good food and giggles. Thank you for this very rich and wonderful year – so much was accomplished! I can't imagine a lovelier community to be a part of. With much love and gratitude, Pauline 

Thank You

Outside


- Christian Petrovich installed our new irrigation system!

Gift Books

- The Big Dipper: Anika Johanson

Doations

- Tissue flower book and materials: The Johanson Family

Our sincere and humble thanks for the many things you do for us and give to us!! We are so fortunate. 



If you are thinking of clearing out a garage or room of stuff and think that maybe Jennifer could come up with a cool art project incorporating some of these supplies, please email Jennifer this summer at jensmith01@comcast.net and she will get back to you about either picking it up or passing it along somewhere else if she can't use it.



Ben finishing up his basket



Baskets from Friday artclass