

Program Options 2017-2018

PROGRAM	AGE RANGE	MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE	TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO	SCHEDULE OPTIONS
JUNIOR TODDER (BAMBINI)	4 months to 16 months	8 children	2 teachers / 4:1 ratio	3, 4 or 5 full days

The Junior Toddler program is designed around the belief that infants are born with tremendous potential, eager to learn, explore, and try new things. This program is specifically designed for our not yet walking students. The classroom, in light of the infant's need for routine and consistency, allows for freedom of movement while gently stimulating the naturally curious infant. A flexible schedule allows each child to eat, sleep, or play according to his or her own unique internal rhythm. The activities support and encourage language development, practical life skills, and eye/hand coordination, along with gross and fine motor abilities in a warm and loving environment. Each day consists of some outside time in the form of a walk in strollers or blanket time on the playground. The ratio of children to adults does not exceed 4:1, with each child assigned to one primary teacher. The teachers monitor each child's schedule and communicate the eating, sleeping, and activity patterns on a daily basis. This certified program has Montessori educated, bright and caring adults to assist the infants in developing strong, loving, trusting relationships and attachments that help prepare them socially and emotionally for adulthood.

PROGRAM	AGE RANGE	MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE	TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO	SCHEDULE OPTIONS
TODDLER HOUSE	1 year 4 months to 3 years	10 children	2 teachers / 5:1 ratio	2 days: Tu & Th (full days only) <i>Full days or 1/2 days (mornings)</i> 3 days: M-W-F or T-W-Th 4 days: M-T-Th-F 5 days: M-F

The Toddler classrooms offer an introduction to Montessori Education for the steadily walking Toddler. Upon arrival, the children begin by preparing themselves and their environment for the day's events. The children change in to inside shoes, help care for the class plants and pets, assist with filling water basins and wiping down the tables, and then wash their hands. Work time follows with the children choosing activities from the shelves in the areas of Practical Life, Sensorial, Math, Language, Science and Art. Small group cooking and art projects are offered as a choice during the morning work time. The toddlers participate as a group in snack, circle time, storybooks, and outside or gross motor play in our playroom. Working towards independence in self-care skills is a focus in the young toddler's life. Low sinks, toilets, drawers for their belongings, tables and chairs assist the children as they practice dressing, toileting, and feeding themselves. The full day includes a 1 ½ hour nap time. After rest, the children are offered a snack and second work period. The day ends with a recess period.

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CHILDREN'S HOUSE (PRESCHOOL)	Multi-age : 2yrs. 9 mths to 6 yrs.	14-21 children	7:1 ratio / 2 or 3 teachers	<i>Full days or 1/2 days (mornings)</i> 3 days: M-W-F or T-W-Th 4 days: M-T-Th-F 5 days: M-F

The Preschool Programs offer the traditional Montessori environment with its consistent five days per week schedule or an introduction to Montessori with a variety of part-time options. After a short arrival period of socializing and free choice in the classroom, the Preschoolers come together for a morning meeting. Songs, discussions about the seasons, weather, news of the day and new material presentations are included in this first circle time. Work time follows for approximately two hours. The children explore the various areas of the classroom, making independent work choices or working with friends. The Preschoolers are exposed to concepts in Practical Life, Sensorial, Math, Language, The Arts, Sciences, and Cultural Studies. The full day program is designed to meet the needs of the 3-5 year old children with a shortened nap period for those who still sleep followed by quiet work period for those who have grown out of their daily naps. The children may continue to work from the Montessori areas in the afternoon or participate in an enrichment activity in literacy, cooking, movement or an extension of the current study in the art, science or cultural area. Free play in the playground or work time in the Outdoor Classroom are a part of each day.

PROGRAM	AGE RANGE	MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE	TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO	SCHEDULE OPTIONS
THIRD YEAR EXPERIENCE (KINDERGARTEN)	4 years 9 mths to 6 years	14 children	2 teachers / 8:1 ratio	Must attend M-F mornings and may extend 3, 4, or 5 afternoons

The morning program for the Kindergarten and Third Year children includes an independent work period in one of the multiage environments during which time the children choose activities from the 11 classroom areas. The children may work independently or with peers and will receive individual and small group lessons. A daily literacy block allows the children to experience reading and writing activities in a creative and non-threatening way. The full day in the Kindergarten (Third Year Experience) begins with a quiet listening and reflective time with chapter book reading. The work period follows with a focus on math, reading and writing concepts explored through enrichment activities and continued work with the Montessori materials. The afternoon enrichments include science experiments, cultural lessons, as well as exploration of musical instruments and art studio materials.

New this year, Third Year students will be invited to complete a “capstone study”. This “special work” is designed around your child’s unique interests. Additional in-house specialists and community outreach, reserved only for the third year students, ensure this will be a meaningful, challenging, and memorable experience.

**All programs include lunch, outside play (weather permitting) and weekly mini-lessons in French (or Spanish), Sign Language, Movement, Music, and Peace Studies.*