



Building Together

A Guide to Giving and Getting Involved



WELCOME

Dear Monarch Families,

Since its founding by parents in 1982, Mountaintop Montessori has thrived thanks to the unwavering commitment of our community to the education of our children.

We envision children who live with enduring curiosity, joy, and responsibility. A community where each member is cherished and challenged. A world enriched by these young leaders, creators, problem-solvers, and peace-makers. We believe this vision is achievable when guides, staff, parents, grandparents, alumni, and friends collaborate towards this common goal.

I invite you to consider the ways in which you will play a part in our community this year. Big or small, your participation enriches the environment in which our children grow and thrive.

This guide will help you to explore the many ways you can get involved this year.

Sincerely,



Sarah Reedy
Director of Community Engagement





GET INVOLVED

Parent engagement is key to a vibrant school community. There is a place for everyone!

General Support

- Classroom Ambassadors
- Cultural Presentations
- Middle School Internship Hosts

Parent Association

- Family & Parent Social Events
- Fundraising Events
- Staff Appreciation

Board of Trustees Committees

- Finance
- Development
- Building & Grounds
- Head Support & Evaluation

Follow ParentSquare for news and updates or reach out to sreedy@mountaintopmontessori.org to get more information.



Volunteering with the Parent Association is a great way to connect with other parents and contribute to building a vibrant school community. Whether you can offer a few hours or a few days, every volunteer is an asset.

Abigail Akre, Chair of Fundraising Events, PA



Serving on the school's board of trustees is not just about shaping policies and making decisions; it's about being actively involved in the strategic direction of our children's education. It's also a chance to lead by example and show our children the importance of giving back and working together for a common goal.

Julie McClure, Chair, Board of Trustees

THE ANNUAL FUND

Mountaintop's Annual Fund is a yearly fundraising campaign that supports the operational budget of our school and provides families a flexible, tax-exempt way to support high-quality and enriching student experiences.

Every gift to the Annual Fund, no matter the size, makes a difference. Unlike tuition, which covers a significant portion of our expenses, the Annual Fund bridges the gap between tuition revenue and the actual cost of providing an exceptional Montessori education to a diverse population of families.

We encourage all parents as well as alumni families, grandparents, employees, employers of Mountaintop families and other friends of the school to participate in whatever capacity they can. High participation rates not only provide crucial financial support, but also demonstrate our community's collective commitment to our school's mission and values.

Questions about or ideas for the Annual Fund and school fundraising should be sent to sreedy@mountaintopmontessori.org.

Past Annual Fund Projects

Scholarships & Financial Aid - Lead
Guide Certification & Professional
Development - Playground
Equipment & Improvements -
Generous Annual Classroom Supply
Budgets - Upgraded Gym Lighting -
Yurt Ecology "Classroom" - 3D Printer
- New Computers in Tech Lab -
Expanding Staff to include a School
Counselor



WAYS TO GIVE

Annual Gift

Make a single gift in a meaningful amount that fits within your family's budget.

Monthly Gifts

Set up recurring giving to spread your donation across the year.

Company Match

Many employers offer matching programs that can double the impact of your gift.

Credit/Debit Card - Donate securely by visiting our online giving platform

Check - Please make checks out to "Mountaintop Montessori" and deliver to the main office or mail to 440 Pinnacle Place, Charlottesville, VA 22911





GALA & AUCTION

Mountaintop hosts its gala fundraiser each spring. This lively, adults only event includes both a silent and live auction offering items and experiences specific to our school community, plus games, music, drinks, and dancing.

Parents are encouraged to participate by soliciting or donating auction items, planning the themed event, or by simply attending and enjoying a night out with friends.



PADDLE RAISE

The gala also includes a paddle raise, which gives families the opportunity to make an impact on a specific school need.

Previous paddle raises have funded Professional Development for guides and staff, the installation of picnic tables across campus, and the construction of Christy's Performance and Learning Space.



MOUNTAINTOP MEMORIES

Parents, staff, and local businesses are encouraged to host small, ticketed events to build community and raise funds for school. Past events have included wine tastings, a family camp out, and an escape room for kids. The Parent Association welcomes any ideas you might have for hosting a Memory and event details will be announced throughout the year.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Families may be invited to contribute to additional causes and events throughout the year. Participation is always both appreciated and optional. These might include:

- Treats for staff on Guide Work days and during Staff Appreciation Week
- Student led charitable drives or fundraising sales
- Gifts for staff, both winter and end of year. Some families enjoy giving personalized gifts to staff members, but others prefer the ease of contributing to a pool that is divided out across the staff. Your Classroom Ambassador and the Parent Association will reach out through ParentSquare with details about optional pooled gifting in December and May.





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2024-25

