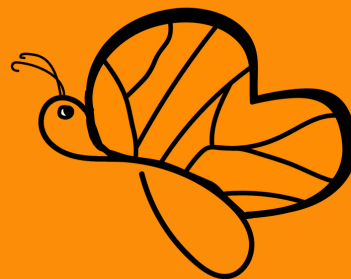
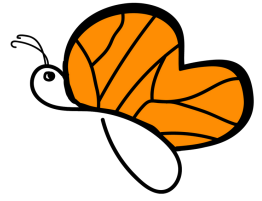


MONARCH MONTESSORI SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2022- AUGUST 2023



**Monarch
Montessori
School**



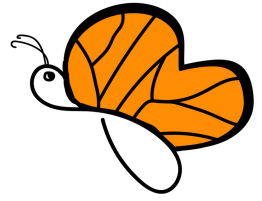
STATEMENT FROM THE DIRECTOR

I find it hard to believe that Monarch just concluded its third school year, but if I stop to think about all of our accomplishments, it seems equally incredible that we fit them into such a short timeframe. This year, we congratulated See Her on graduating from the Midwest Montessori Training Center. Along with Pa Chia Her and Theresa Kallmes, I know our educators created a nurturing, enriching, and welcoming experience for every child who crossed our classroom's threshold this year!

Thank you also to our board of volunteers, who provide thoughtful stewardship of this small nonprofit. Most, if not all, of their work occurs behind the scenes, so I hope to take this opportunity to share my gratitude for their wisdom and generosity.

This summer, we completed work on a beautiful playset from Bears Playgrounds. The children absolutely love this addition, and I cannot help but dream up other improvements I would like to make to our outdoor space...in due time.

Finally, in collaboration with our sister organization Kaleidoscope Learning, we launched the Family Resource Center, which seeks to bridge the gap between home and school. Though Monarch fully handed over operations of the FRC to Kaleidoscope in the spring so that each organization can focus fully on their specific missions, we share staff, space, and a commitment to the families on the East Side. I cherish the opportunity to connect with parents and caregivers, and the FRC stands as a testament to both the inspiration and follow through of Monarch staff and volunteers.



STATEMENT FROM THE DIRECTOR

(continued)

After our third year, I feel proud that we:

- Renovated our outdoor playspace.
- Collaboratively launched the Family Resource Center, providing more opportunities for parent and community involvement.
- Hosted a Spring Musical Concert, highlighting the many home languages spoken by the children.
- Again received a 4 Star Rating from Parent Aware, the highest possible rating.
- Took our first field trip!
- Continued to provide tuition assistance to eligible families.
- Retained a high percentage of families year-to-year.
- Sponsored See Her to become a trained Montessori guide.

In the coming years, I hope that we:

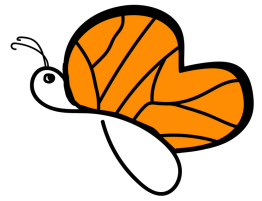
- Maintain more consistent enrollment throughout the year.
- Grow our fundraising efforts to curb tuition costs.
- Expand our tuition assistance program.
- Install mulch surfacing for the entire outdoor playspace.
- Add elements to the outdoor playspace including a slide, expanded mud kitchen, and more permanent balancing apparatuses.
- Connect with other early childhood and East Side organizations.

Whether you are new to Monarch or have been with us since day one, thank you for being a part of our community, and we look forward to the coming year!

Julia Kallmes

Monarch Montessori School Director





MISSION

To create a nurturing school community grounded in Montessori pedagogy, accessible to families of all incomes, that places the needs of the children first.





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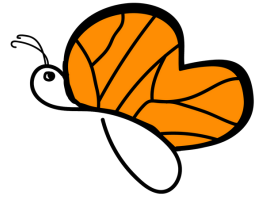
CHILDREN SERVED

Between September 2022 - August 2023

30%

TUITION ASSISTANCE

Percentage of Families that Received
Tuition Assistance Between
September 2022 - August 2023



FINANCIALS

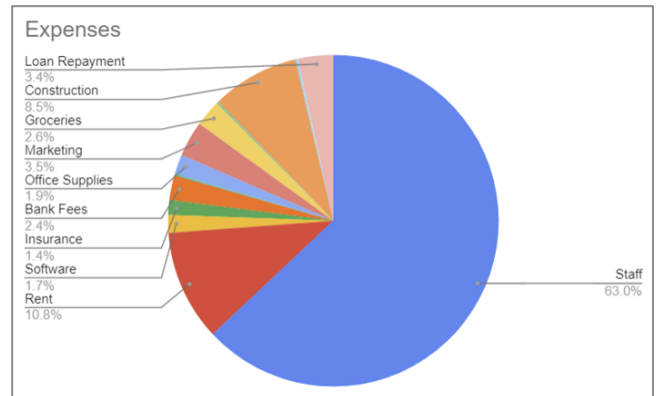
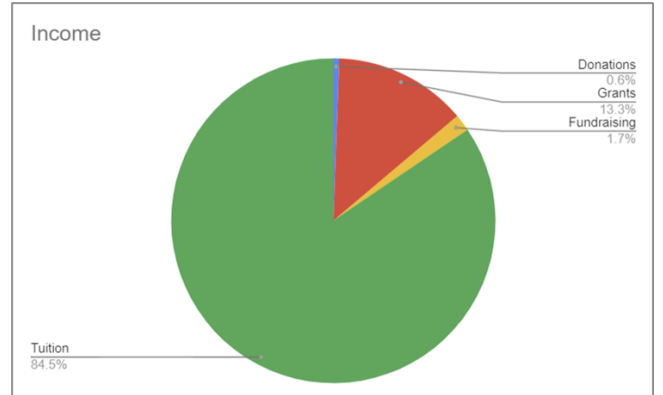
MONARCH MONTESSORI SCHOOL

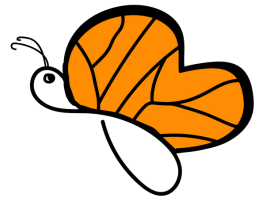
Income	
Donations	\$1,358.32
Grants	\$30,236.42
Fundraising	\$3,836.79
Tuition	\$192,692.51
Total Income	\$228,124.04

Expense	
Staff	\$138,962.72
Rent	\$23,857.40
Software	\$3,848.10
Insurance	\$3,154.43
Bank Fees	\$5,327.39
Building Expense	\$497.20
Office Supplies	\$4,088.61
Marketing	\$7,611.20
Groceries	\$5,710.25
Licensing	\$475.00
Construction	\$18,819.08
Staff Education	\$276.49
Transportation and Field Trips	\$326.42
Loan Repayment	\$7,601.52

Total Expense	\$220,555.81
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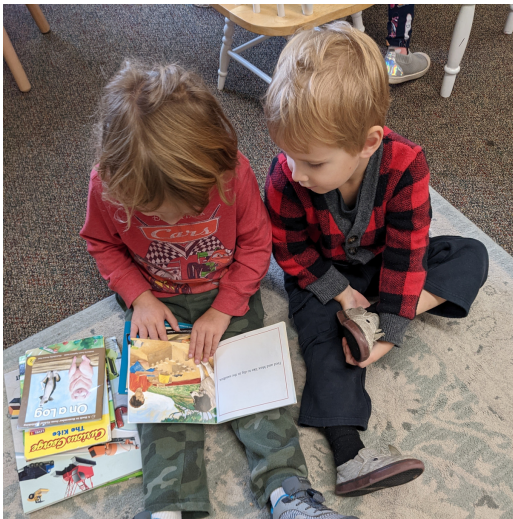
Net Income	\$7,568.23
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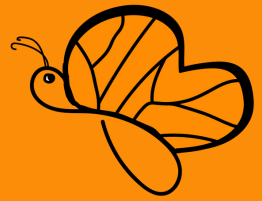




PARENT AWARE

Monarch Montessori School received a four-star rating from Parent Aware again in 2023, which indicates that we implement early childhood best practices. Monarch accepts Think Small Early Learning Scholarships.





STAFF



JULIA KALLMES

Director & Lead Guide



SEE HER

Co-Teacher



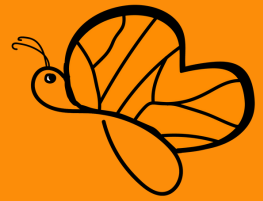
THERESA KALLMES

Family Resource Center Coordinator
and Aftercare Teacher



PA CHIA HER

Family Resource Center Coordinator
and Afternoon Co-Teacher



BOARD MEMBERS



ELIZABETH ELCOMBE

President



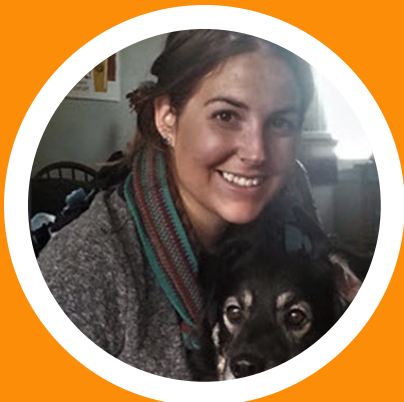
CHRISTOPHER DIRKES

Treasurer



JULIE BENTON

Board Member



KIRSTEN BENTON

Board Member



EMILY CONROY

Parent Board Member



KEVIN HELD

Board Member



JENNIE LYNCH

Board Member, Past President



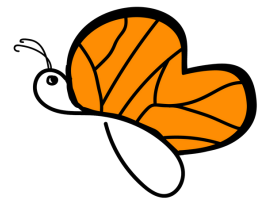
ERIK PETERSON

Board Member



ELSABET ROTH

Board Member



PARTNERS

Gustavus Adolphus
LUTHERAN CHURCH

GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Provides Monarch with the location and space for our school, as well as special events including our Spring Musical Concert and Pumpkin craft night.

www.gachurch.org



FIRST CHILDREN'S FINANCE

Provides loans and business-development assistance to high-quality childcare businesses, including Monarch Montessori. We are especially grateful for their support this past year in providing a grant that allowed us to create our new outdoor playspace.

www.firstchildrensfinance.org



THINK SMALL

Advances quality care and education of children in their crucial early years. Monarch Montessori accepts Think Small Pathway I Early Learning Scholarships from qualifying families.

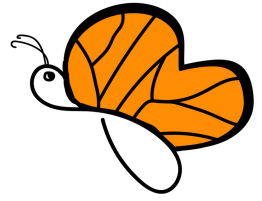
www.thinksmall.org



PARENT AWARE

Offers free tools and resources to help families find the quality childcare and early education programs their children need to succeed in school and life. From 2021-23, Monarch Montessori earned the highest possible star rating (4 stars) from Parent Aware! This means that Monarch implements early childhood best practices.

www.parentaware.org



PARTNERS



FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

In partnership with Kaleidoscope Learning, Monarch created the Family Resource Center, a unique, supportive community for families with children ages birth through six. Through the FRC, families have access to Open Play Hours in our beautiful space, event such as Musical Storytime and Fine Motor Fridays, Symposiums where experts share insights on relevant topics such as screen time and social-emotional development, and an extensive Materials Library filled with toys, educational materials, gross motor activities, puzzles, books, and more!

The Family Resource Center supports families beyond the Monarch classroom, enabling us to broaden and deepen our impact. In April, Monarch handed over operations of the FRC to Kaleidoscope Learning, our sister organization. While Kaleidoscope and Monarch continue to share space and staff, the transition enables us to focus on our symbiotic but distinct missions.

<https://www.kscopelearning.org>

MERRICK COMMUNITY SERVICES

Thank you to our neighbors, Merrick Community Services, whose staff helps our children in ways large and small, including contributing goodies to our seasonal celebrations and volunteering as an appreciative audience for our parades.

Merrick Community Services supports individuals and families to navigate life transitions, find health and stability, and promote independence.

www.merrickcs.org





HIGHLIGHTS



GERTEN'S PLANT FUNDRAISERS

In partnership with Gertens, Monarch raised money for scholarships and supplies to support our students by offering both Spring and Holiday plant fundraisers. Monarch received 30% of all plant sales and 15% of all plant card sales. Thank you to all who helped and participated!



PLAYGROUND

Our beautiful new playground was completed this summer. This project would not have been possible without the generosity of our donors and a grant from First Children's Finance.



HIGHLIGHTS

FIELD TRIP

Our first field trip to the Children’s Museum was a day filled with fun and activity! We are grateful to the many parent chaperones who made the experience possible and to the Children’s Museum for discounted tickets.



MUSICAL

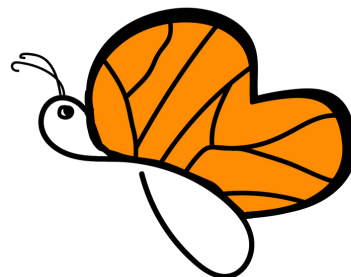
We held our first annual musical concert this spring! The performance included songs representing many of the home languages spoken by families at Monarch. Thank you to Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church for the use of the stage, and thanks also to our huge audience!



MONARCH MONTESSORI SCHOOL

1669 Arcade Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55106

www.monarchmn.org



**Monarch
Montessori
School**