



Wilmington Montessori School



WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

Grandfriends Day 2011

Grandfriends are special people in our children's lives—aunts and uncles, family friends, grandmothers and grandfathers, and even great-grandparents. Next Tuesday, November 22, we invite these friends into WMS to join us in our classrooms and attend a presentation in the Great Room.

This occasion, a favorite among our students, offers grandfriends a glimpse into daily school life at Wilmington Montessori. It also provides opportunities to meet the student's classmates and teachers, and for the children to comfortably demonstrate their discoveries and achievements to their grandfriends.

Schedule:

8:15-9:15 a.m.—Registration in the lobby

8:30-10 a.m.—Elementary classrooms open to grandfriends for visits

9-10 a.m.—Preschool, toddler and infant classrooms open to grandfriends for visits

10-11 a.m.—Reception in the Great Room including refreshments with Head of School Linda Zankowsky and a musical presentation by our 7-9 students

RSVP to events@wmsde.org or 302-475-0555.



Mark Your Calendar

November

- 22 **Grandfriends Day**, 8:30—11 a.m.
RSVP to events@wmsde.org.
- 23 **Thanksgiving Vacation**
No classes. Preregistered childcare only.
Contact cass_winner@wmsde.org to sign-up.
- 24-25 **Thanksgiving Vacation**
School closed—no classes or childcare.
- 28 **Homeschool Enrichment Program Open House**
10 a.m., Library—Tell a friend!
5% discount for anyone who registers for the program at the Open House. For more information, visit www.wmsde.org/homeschool.

December

- 2 **Kids Art—Part of Art on the Town**, 5:30-8 p.m.,
Film Bros. Movie Co-op (See page 4 for details.)
- 5 **Montessori Monday**, 9:30 a.m., Lobby
Tell a friend!
- 9 **The Journey**, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Lobby
- 16 **5-Day Preschool Concert**, 9:30 a.m., Gym
- 20 **5-9 Holiday Concert**, 9:30 a.m., Gym
- 21-23 **Winter Break**
No classes. Preregistered childcare only.
Contact cass_winner@wmsde.org to sign-up.
- 26-30 **Winter Break**
School closed—no classes or childcare.



Dance Party

On Friday, November 11, WMS students, their families and even a few alumni filled the gym for the school's annual Dance Party. Each year, the fifth-grade class works tirelessly to sell tickets to the party, which includes food, fun, raffles and, of course, lots of dancing!



The fifth-graders raised over \$2,000 through this event, which will go directly toward next year's sixth-grade GCAP trip in New York City. Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets and made this event so much fun for everyone involved!



Join us on **The Journey** this December

What is The Journey?

The purpose of The Journey is to provide parents with an understanding of WHY and HOW Montessori works by enabling them to see the classroom, first as an observer, then as a participant with the materials and lessons. During this experience, you will discover, much as a child does, the beauty of Montessori.

When and where is The Journey?

The Journey will be held on:

**Friday, December 9
8:30 a.m.—noon**

We will meet in the lobby, then travel throughout WMS.



Who should participate in The Journey?

When parents understand why and how Montessori works, you are better able to support teachers' efforts, provide consistency at home, and enable your children to get the most out of their Montessori education. WMS strongly encourages ALL parents, especially those new to the school, to experience The Journey.

How do I register for The Journey?

Call or e-mail Theresa Conaty to reserve your spot. You can reach Theresa at 302-475-0555 or theresa_conaty@wmsde.org. Registration is free and you receive **five co-op** hours per family.

Childcare is available by pre-registering with Cass Winner at cass_winner@wmsde.org or 302-475-0555.



BUILDING COMMUNITY REFERRAL PROGRAM



Help WMS Grow!

New families come to learn about WMS every day. One of the questions we always ask is "How did you hear about us?" Most people answer, "From a friend."

We're thrilled that our current families recommend WMS to their friends and help our community to grow. As a way to give back to those who help build the community in this way, we've brought back the "Building Community" referral program that launched last year. Families who meet the requirements outlined at www.wmsde.org/buildingcommunity will receive a **\$750 tuition credit or 30 hours of co-op**.

Spread the word and invite friends to an upcoming Montessori Monday on December 5 or January 9, or consider hosting a Montessori event at your home. We encourage you to explain the benefits that you see in and around Wilmington Montessori classrooms and to share your own personal WMS story with others.

For more information, contact [Theresa Conaty@wmsde.org](mailto:Theresa_Conaty@wmsde.org). To learn more about upcoming admission events, visit www.wmsde.org/admissionsevents.

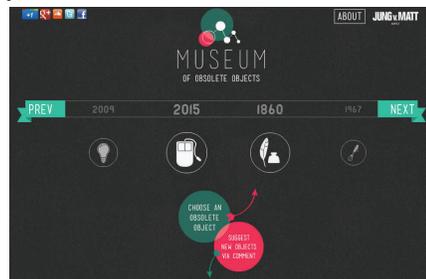
This Week in Linda's Blog:

The Museum of Obsolete Objects

Did you know that our Head of School Linda Zankowsky has her own blog? It's accessible from the WMS homepage, or can be visited directly at wmslinda.blogspot.com.

The blog's latest post is on the topic of interactive online learning tools and the opportunities they bring for rich dialogue with our children. One such tool is the [Museum of Obsolete Objects](http://www.museumofobsoleteobjects.com), a shrine for fallen appliances, tools and gadgets that have been replaced with new and "better" objects.

Check out Linda's blog post for some ideas on how to use this site as a conversation-starter with your child, and be sure to comment with your favorite websites to share with your children!



Kelly's Musical Wish List

Winter Concerts

WMS's two winter concerts are right around the corner, and our music teacher Kelly Rhodunda has a few requests that will help make the **5-Day Preschool Concert (December 16)** and **5-9 Concert (December 20)** memorable:

- An adult Santa costume
- A large menorah and kinara
- A pinata
- 48 battery operated votive candles
- A dozen "lunch size" brown paper bags

If you are willing to donate or loan any of these items to WMS, please contact kelly_rhodunda@wmsde.org.

Want to help in another way? Check out the Main Co-op Board located across from the library or visit www.wmsde.org/co-op to find out how you can assist with our winter concerts.

Talent Show—Spring 2012

Looking ahead to the **Talent Show (March 8)**, we are in search of a bass drum that could be loaned to us for rehearsals and the show—or, even better, we would love to have a full drum set donated to the school.

To find out how you can be a part of this gift or support other WMS programs through giving, contact Jenn Burns, Director of Advancement, at jennifer_burns@wmsde.org.

Support the 2011-12 Annual Fund

What does the Annual Fund Support?

Reading. Writing. Math. Geography. Music. Art. Language. Technology. Science. Curriculum Development. Character Development. Professional Development. Facilities. Families. Extended Day. Parent Education. Teachers. Staff. CHILDREN.

Make your gift today! Each gift, no matter how large or small, makes a difference—and there is no better investment in the future than to invest in children.

WMS is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization and contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

To make your 2011-12 Annual Fund gift, visit www.wmsde.org/howtogive to donate online or pick up an Annual Fund envelope at the front desk.



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www.twitter.com/wmsde



www.facebook.com/WilmingtonMontessoriDE

Join us for a special art exhibit as part of **Wilmington's Art on the Town!**

Kids Art!

co-hosted by



Friday, December 2, 2011 • 5:30–8:00pm
held at **Film Bros. Movie Co-Op**
205 N. Market Street • Wilmington, DE 19801

Come out and support 14 Wilmington Montessori School students whose work will be on display at this FREE family event.

9-12s

- Ryan Wolynetz
- Benjamin Snyder
- Rachel Ausprung
- Dylan Garvin
- Elizabeth Furman
- Lauren Jones

Rm 19

- Kathryn Farabaugh
- Angelina Szkotak

Rm 15

- Paityn Farrow
- Josephine Wellons

Rm 15

- Shannon Surbrook-Bowers
- Renee Amado

Rm 20

- Arynn Shweiki
- Karun Kang

Our Mission

Wilmington Montessori School is a collaborative learning community rooted in Montessori principles, inspiring the joyful discovery of self and a passion for learning and independent thinking. We empower children to be knowledgeable and responsible contributors to the global community.