



**COBB SCHOOL**  
MONTESSORI

**2023 Annual Report**



**Subha Sankaran**

**A Message from our  
Interim Head of School**

On the occasion of Cobb School Montessori's 50th year, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to our founder, Mary Lou Cobb, as well as the families, friends, parents, grandparents, alums, staff, and organizations that have shared our commitment to provide an outstanding and authentic Montessori program. Together we have worked to build and grow our beloved school that continues to nurture children to their highest potential. I am honored to lead the school in this milestone year and to work with all of you toward its mission.

# Cobb's Culture of Giving has enabled so many wonderful things at our school.

The many faces of giving include parents, grandparents, and friends volunteering their time to support school events, to bringing their professional experiences and hobbies to our classrooms, to donating money and goods to support our Annual Fund and operations. We are truly grateful for the community we have built, who has in turn built our school.

2022 - 2023

# A Special Thanks

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We would like to extend a special thank you to those who serve our school, our community, and our children every day. Without your support, Cobb School Montessori would not thrive.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Mary Anne Creto, Chair	Laura Radmore
Michelle Creed, Vice Chair	Brigitte Richter
Brian Sullivan, Treasurer	Yvette Standberry
Tom Miller, Secretary	Helen Thomas
Newell Grant	Jennifer Torres
Iain Howard-Sorrell	Emily van Gemeren
Jennifer Kulicki	Perry Wasserbauer
Steve McAlpine	

Dear Cobb School Families and Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I extend my sincere gratitude to the Cobb community for your generosity in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Thank you to all parents, trustees, faculty, staff, and friends who have shared through your time, your talents, and through donations to the school. Your generosity has made this a memorable year and enables us to carry out our mission each day. Thanks to Annual Fund donations and fundraising events, we exceeded our target, raising 156% of our goal.

As we celebrate Cobb School's 50th anniversary this year, we realize how our school has played an essential part in so many lives for so many decades. Enjoy this amazing milestone and cheers to another 50 years for Cobb School Montessori!

With gratitude,

Mary Anne Creto

Chair, Board of Trustees, 2019-2023

# Faculty & Staff

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## Administration

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Susan Angelides, *Head of School*

Andrea Boden, *Director of Communications*

Marcie Braden, *Director of Development*

Suzanne DeRosa, *Front Desk Coordinator*

Cara Johnson, *Director of Experiential Learning*

Joseph Lardener, *Business Manager*

## YCC Program

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Jamie Gilbert, *Lead Teacher*

Elise Grady, *Lead Teacher*

Judy Maloney, *Lead Teacher*

Gabby Bugden, *Assistant*

Mia Colopy, *Assistant*

Melissa Shaw, *Assistant*

Sara Shultz, *Assistant*

## Primary Program

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Carol Ebersol, *Lead Teacher*

Marisa Gallagher, *Lead Teacher*

Karen Gavel, *Lead Teacher*

Lia Angelides, *Assistant*

Darshani Olano, *Assistant*

Avery Tannenbaum, *Assistant*

## Elementary Program

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Jill Evans, *LE Lead Teacher*

Sarah Krippenstapel, *LE Lead Teacher*

Alex Rozenfeld, *UE Lead Teacher*

Subha Sankaran, *UE Lead Teacher*

Julia Beach, *LE Assistant*

Adriana Farrell, *UE Assistant*

Sasha Johnson, *LE Assistant*

Dana Kelly, *LE Assistant*

Michael Lazarus, *UE Assistant*

Maddie Ross, *UE Assistant*

## Specialists & Staff

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Robert Banta, *Facilities Coordinator*

Noel Conklin, *Learning Specialist*

Sarah DeRosa, *Admin Support*

Kristen Dombkoswki, *Nurse*

Lindsay Gallo, *Spanish*

Mike Grappone, *Facilities Manager*

Heather Merriman, *Support*

Cara Johnson, *Science*

Anne Lee, *Piano*

Chris Lyles, *Artist-in-Residence, PE*

Allison Millet, *Admin Support*

Carol Ross, *Learning Specialist*

## Nest

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Kathy Shiller, *Nest Director*

Sasha Johnson, *Nest Support*

Michael Lazrus, *Nest Support*

# Parent Association

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Thank you to our Parent Association whose hardwork enabled events throughout the year, including our Country Fair, Trunk-or-Treat, sandwich making for the homeless, Night Under the Stars, Winter Concert, Giving Tree, Arts Festival, Auction, blood drive, and International Potluck. Your dedication is an inspiration to our children and community.

Emily Harrington, *Chair*

Dorothy Howard, *Class rep*

Amanda Malkowski, *Class rep*

Joyce Martins Lund, *Class rep*

Amanda McKeon, *Class rep*

Heather Merriman, *Class rep*

Yvonne Millea, *Class rep*

Samantha Savran, *Class rep*

Juhi Agrawal

Meredith Bagley

Marcie Braden

Annalice Clark

Michelle Creed

Elisa Del Valle

Katherine DeTroy

Isabel Doupis

Sonia Ericson

Alexis Granger

Tricia Henderson

Anja Hesse

Crystal Jones

Meredith Kaplan

Kerry Kendall

Shayna Klomberg

Trista Krier

Garrett Krier

Jennifer Labinski

Mike Lawson

Chao Lin

Holly Maynard

Laura Posada

Sam Reavy

Alia Reynolds

Lucia Rome

Marisa Sullivan

Jennifer Torres

Louisa Walsh

Sasha Zatyрка



**I used to think  
change was  
scary. I still do.  
But Cobb has  
helped make  
me less afraid.**

- Julian O'Brien, 6th year graduation speech

## Why Giving Matters

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I am honored to pen this letter as the new Director of Development at Cobb School. As a parent whose children have been at the school for seven years, I have watched our community thrive and grow, yet I must admit, I often found myself questioning the constant monetary requests, wondering, "why not just increase tuition?" As I assumed this new role, my appreciation of fundraising has evolved significantly.

Non-profit schools like ours rely heavily on fundraising. It forms a crucial part of our revenue, helping us cover costs that tuition alone cannot. Currently, tuition accounts for about 85% of our operating costs, leaving a 15% gap that needs to be filled. This shortfall includes essential elements that enrich our students' experience — from maintaining our beautiful campus to supporting professional development for our dedicated faculty, from funding unique learning opportunities such as field trips to ensuring our classrooms are equipped with Montessori-approved learning materials.

So, why not simply raise tuition? The answer is inclusion. We strive to make our remarkable Montessori education accessible to as many families as possible. Dramatically increasing tuition could place a burden on many families, potentially changing the diverse and inclusive nature of our community that we cherish so much. Understanding this has led me to a newfound appreciation of our Culture of Giving. Each donation, no matter how small, contributes to the betterment of our school and directly impacts our students' educational experience. Your generosity ensures that we can continue to offer an enriching, engaging, and exceptional educational environment.

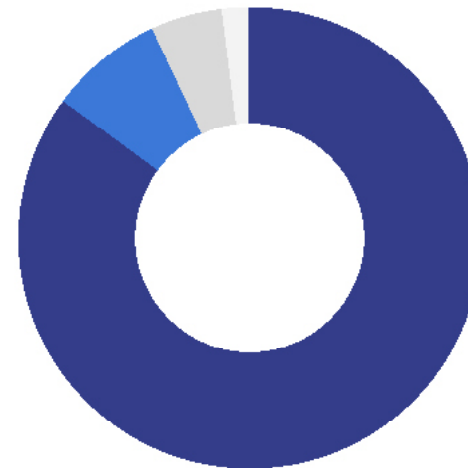
Each contribution is a testament to your belief in our mission and your commitment to the success of our students. Thank you for your continued support, and here's to the difference we can make together!



Marcie Braden  
Director of Development

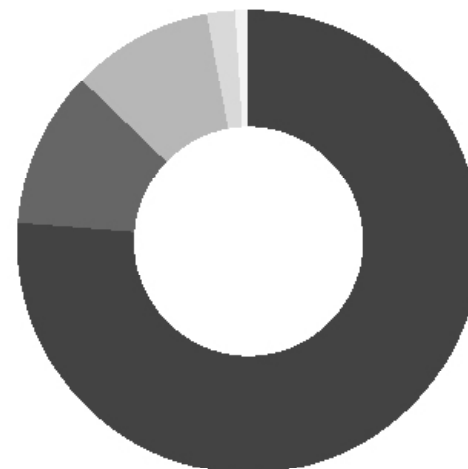


# Financial Statement



## Income

- Tuition (85%)
- Auxiliary Income (8%)
- Advancement Income (5%)
- Endowment & Other Funds (2%)



## Expenses

- Salaries & Benefits (77%)
- Property Expenses (11%)
- General Expenses (10%)
- Cash Reserves (2%)
- Administrative Expense (1%)



GIFTS TO COBB SCHOOL MONTESSORI 2022-23

## ANNUAL FUND GIVING

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The Annual Fund continues to play an indispensable role in sustaining the operations of our school. Like many independent institutions, Cobb leans on the financial support extended through tax-deductible donations to bridge the gap between tuition fees and the actual cost of providing a comprehensive Montessori education to every student.

Your generous contributions not only enrich every facet of the student experience but also supply our dedicated faculty and staff with the necessary resources to maintain our high standards of teaching and learning. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your exceptional support of the Cobb School Montessori throughout the past year.

The 2022-23 Annual Fund directly supported student programming like art, science, music, and physical education, teacher support like professional development and resources, as well as things like campus security, technology enhancements, and upkeep.



## Oak Tree Guild \$10,000+

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Andrew & Michelle Creed ♦  
Peter R. & Cynthia K Kellogg Foundation

## Acorn Guild \$5,000-\$9,999

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Brian & Marisa Sullivan ♦  
Carol H. Nelson Charitable Gift Fund  
Helen Thomas ♥  
Elizabeth van Gemeren ♥

## Benefactors \$2,500-\$4,999

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Janet & Timothy Ellsworth ★  
Newell & Helena Grant ●  
Jennifer & Leonard Kulicki ★  
Donna & Thomas Miller, Sr. ●  
Mary Anne Creto & William Rusch ♥

## 1974 Founders Society

\$1,974-\$2,499

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Annalice & George Clark, Jr.  
Emily van Gemeren '01 ●  
Perry Wasserbauer '03  
Anonymous (1)

## Sustainers

\$1,000-1,973

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Jennifer & Joseph Lardner ♦  
Erin & Richard Lepore  
Steve McAlpine  
Laura & Vincent Radmore ♦  
Brigitte & Peter Richter ●  
Iain & Linda Sorrell ♦  
Yvette Standberry ♦  
Jennifer Torres ●  
Anonymous (2)

## Patrons

\$500-999

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Juhi & Kamal Agrawal ●  
Chad & Denise Alfeld ♥  
Naomi Appel & Andrew Bartlett  
Del & Rachel Bicking  
Guillaume Briere-Giroux & Jennifer Lierer  
Andrea & Mark Deveno  
Miles & Sonia Ericson  
Bob & Linda Ewing  
Jiangyang & Julianne Gan-Pagano ●  
Betsy & Bill Horn  
Cari Sataline  
The Francis J. & Louisa J. Oneglia Foundation

With deep gratitude, we acknowledge donors whose steadfast support is reflected in their years of giving.

♥ = 25+ years | ★ = 20-24 years | ♦ = 10-19 years | ● = 5-9 years | \* = current staff

## Friends

up to \$499

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Christine Amodio  
Tyler Anderson  
Chris Angelides  
Lia Angelides  
Michael Angelides, Jr.  
Meredith Bagley & Alex Davenport  
Heather & Jonathan Banas  
Bob & Gail Banta ♦  
Julia Beach '08\*  
Melissa Bernardo & Michael Rodriguez  
Willa Biewald  
Anne & Rodman Black ♥  
Andrea Boden ●\*  
Candace & William Boden ●  
Patience Boden  
Joan & Michael Bonetti  
Cullen & Elizabeth Bonner  
Jo Braden  
Alan and Marie-Pier Brooks ♦  
Jenn & Mike Brown  
Christine & Mike Bryant ●  
Gabrielle & Will Bugden\*  
Sarah Bussey & Carol Saucier  
Cecil & Johanna Buttimer  
Bob Byron & Holly Maynard ●  
Mario Cardona

Laura & Stephen Chenard  
Mary Lou & Michael Cobb ♥  
Catherine Coco  
Mia Colopy\*  
Noel Conklin\*  
Lisa Corbett & Richard Pfeifer ●  
Liss Couch-Edwards & John Monagan  
Lawrence Court & Cynthia Leung  
Robin Cowell  
Dennis Cross  
John & Tracey Davis  
Elizabeth & Mason Delafield  
Elisa Del Valle  
Sarah DeRosa\*  
Suzanne DeRosa\*  
Alexis Derr & Kevin Granger  
Ezra & Katherine DeTroy  
Mathew & Shawn DeTroy  
Heather & Paul D'Orlando ●  
Adam Dotson & Lara Dotson-Renta  
Brad & Maryellen Doyle  
Juan Du & Mark Vignali  
Carol & Peter Ebersol ♦\*  
Jill & Justin Evans\*  
Adriana Farrell\*  
Karen & Matthew Filler ♦  
Edward & Yanyan Freitag  
Allison Frey & Jacob Studenroth ●  
Marisa & Tracy Gallagher ●\*

Lindsay Gallo\*  
Bob & Karen Gavell\*  
Brynna & Lee Geiselmann  
Denise & Jay Giacco ♦  
Jamie & Timothy Gilbert\*  
Alejandro Gonzalez & Laura Posada  
Elise & Sean Grady\*  
Newell Grant, Sr. ●  
Michael Grappone  
Marcello & Nicole Graziano\*  
Alexa & Eric Greenberg  
Abby & Ford Gurall  
Emily & Patrick Harrington  
Kimberly Hatch & Alexander Liptak  
Christine Hayden & Peter Keane  
Anja & Michael Hesse  
Jeremy Hill & Sarah Krippenstapel\*  
Calvin & Sally Hills  
Sean Hoffman  
Dorothy & Joseph Howard  
David & Stacy Jackson-Pringle\*  
Cara & Daniel Johnson\*  
Kyle Johnson & Elizabeth Makrauer  
Sasha Johnson\*  
Crystal Jones  
Jerry Joseph  
Erika & Michael Kantor  
Meredith Kaplan & Blake Seers  
Theo Keane

Claudia Keeley  
Kerry & Paul Kendall  
Fiona & Michael Kerr ♥  
Su Gym Kim & Youngran Jheun  
Ashley King  
Shayna & Zachary Klomberg  
Anand & Meera Krishnamurthy ●  
Jennifer & Maciej Labinski  
Michael Lazarus\*  
Samantha Lee  
Chao Lin & John Winter  
Anna & Michael Lockshier  
Linda Lockshier  
Geoffrey Lund & Joyce Martins Lund  
Garrett & Yoko Lunden  
Dylan & Jeff Lynn  
Karim & Kristin Mabrouk  
Natalie Mackiel  
Amanda Malkowski  
Judy & Patrick Maloney ●\*  
Lisa Maron & Brett Santeusanio  
Brian & Dana Mascalo  
Jack McArdle & Jacki Romano  
Amanda McKeon  
Heather & Shanon Merriman  
Amanda & Seth Michalek  
Ryan & Yvonne Millea  
Allison & Tim Millett\*  
Corinne & Jordan Mor

Hiroko & Noboru Murakami  
Anne Marie Murray  
Debra & Phil Murray  
Andrew Nelson & Vera Richardson  
Randall Northrop & Julie Relyea  
Reem Nouh & Mahmoud Omar  
Jane & Jim Nyce ●  
Joan & Morgan O'Brien ●  
Joe & Melissa O'Brien  
Darshani Olano\*  
Mary & Thomas Oneglia ●  
Steven Osuch & Ania Poltorak  
Katie Owens  
Savanna Patenaude  
Priya & Rupendra Peddacama  
Adam Perl  
Ravi Ramanathan & Subha Sankaran\*  
Alia & Daniel Reynolds  
Lucia & Mark Rome ●  
Carol & Marty Ross\*  
Maddie Ross\*  
Eugene Roue, Jr.  
Henry & Linda Rowland  
Alexandra & Daniel Rozenfeld\*  
Brian & Samantha Savran  
Kathy Schiller\*  
Jamie & Paul Schned  
David Schweitzer  
Ethan & Kelly Seagraves

Camille & Steve Shaffer  
Kate & Matthew Shapiro  
Jared & Melissa Shaw ♦\*  
Sara Shultz\*  
Alice Simoniello  
Alex & Laura Smith  
Mollie Smith  
Lisa Sorrell  
Beth & Christopher Strapp ♦  
Peter Stray  
Timothy Struthers  
Avery Tananbaum\*  
Beth Tananbaum  
Benjamin & Catharine Thompson ●  
Gail & Michael Watts  
Louisa & Nicholas Walsh ●  
Brandon & Cara Woods ●  
Mark & Sasha Zatyryka  
Anonymous (7)

### Giving Day Challenge

A special thank you to all the children who participated in the Giving Day envelope challenge. Each penny counted in our goal to unlock our Board of Trustees generous \$15,000 match!

# Cobb's Impact



“School was challenging for me because I am dyslexic, [but] Cobb allowed me space to take what I was learning and apply it in a more meaningful way. I now find the things that I used to find tedious, like reading, enjoyable. I want to thank Cobb School, my teachers, my friends and my family for creating an environment that finally made learning fun for me.”

- Dillon Deveno, 6th year graduation speech

“Dillon’s two years at Cobb were powerful and transformative. His own words and confident delivery of them at Cobb’s graduation last spring are a testament to his teachers’ dedication to helping him master skills that did not always come easy, fostering his intellectual gifts, celebrating his creativity and building his confidence. We are forever grateful to the Cobb community.”

- Andrea Deveno, Dillon’s mother



GIFTS TO COBB SCHOOL MONTESSORI 2022-23

## Endowed & Named Funds

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### CASTELLANI/THOMAS ENDOWMENT

Established in December 2009 by David Castellani and Helen Thomas because they believe that The Cobb School, Montessori is an example of an institution that is a model of excellence – providing children with an authentic Montessori education.

- Subha Sankaran & Ravi Ramanathan

### COBB SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID

Established in the spring of 1997, by a generous donation from former Director of Admissions and Chair of the BOT Denise Alfeld, her husband Chad, and the commitment of Board of Trustees

- Subha Sankaran & Ravi Ramanathan

### RAINERIO O. REYES ENDOWMENT

Established in the spring of 2002 by Rainerio J. and Barbara Padilla Reyes in honor of Rai's father, with the goal of enhancing the long-term "savings account" of the school with their gift.

- Subha Sankaran & Ravi Ramanathan

### MARY LOU COBB FACULTY ENDOWMENT

Established to honor founder Mary Lou Cobb's unwavering commitment to the Cobb School's faculty and staff, the Mary Lou Cobb Faculty Endowment Fund supports faculty and staff salaries and benefits, professional development opportunities, Montessori training, and the recruitment and retention of exceptional educators.

- Mary Lou & Michael Cobb
- Rodney & Maureen Scudder
- Subha Sankaran & Ravi Ramanathan

### REBECCA CROCKER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Founded in memory and celebration of Rebecca Crocker; daughter of Co Crocker and the late Nancy Crocker, who was a student at our school from 1982 until 1986. Becca died after a courageous battle with leukemia on August 30, 1997. It is the wish of Becca's family that this fund support our financial aid program.

- Courtenay Crocker
- Mary Lou & Michael Cobb
- Rodney & Maureen Scudder
- Subha Sankaran & Ravi Ramanathan

### RUTH JOSEPHSON ANIMAL FUND

Established in honor of Ruth Josephson, who worked on behalf of our school for over 30 years. Ruth always nurtured wildlife within and beyond our school grounds, and this fund supports our animal care and educational efforts.

- Mary Lou & Michael Cobb
- Subha Sankaran & Ravi Ramanathan

### WILLEM VAN GEMEREN FRIENDS FOREVER SCHOLARSHIP

Established in March 2010 by Betsy van Gemeren, this is an endowed financial aid fund to honor the memory of her son Willem, his caring nature, and his love for the Cobb School. It is Betsy's wish that other children benefit from the same educational experience that she and her late husband, Niels, provided for their children.

- Subha Sankaran & Ravi Ramanathan

### NIELS & WILLEM VAN GEMEREN MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT

This Memorial Endowment Fund honors and celebrates the lives of Niels van Gemeren, former trustee, and Willem van Gemeren, former student, and the positive, lasting impact they had on the Cobb School Montessori and our community. Established by an anonymous donor following Niels' and Willem's deaths in a plane crash on August 3, 2005, this fund supports cultural and enrichment activities benefiting all students.

- Mary Lou & Michael Cobb
- Subha Sankaran & Ravi Ramanathan

### WINTON-BLACK ENDOWMENT

Established in December 1999 with a generous gift from the former chair of the Board of Trustees and past parent, Anne Winton Black, her husband Rodman Black, Jr. and Anne's father, David Winton. This fund was established to ensure the long-term financial stability of the school, as an unrestricted fund to sustain the school's mission.

- Anne & Rodman Black, Jr.
- Subha Sankaran & Ravi Ramanathan



# 2023 Arts Festival & Auction

Our second annual Arts Festival was a celebration of the work our children do in their Montessori classrooms, and in the art studio every day and kicked off our Auction week. Thank you to all the families who helped make these events a success. When last minute rain forced us to move everything indoors, volunteers and staff pitched in to make our Arts Festival a memorable event!

We returned to our live auction tradition in 2023, raising almost \$100,000, significantly benefiting our annual fund, effectively bridging the divide between our operational expenses and tuition fees.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to our dedicated teachers and staff who, beyond their academic commitments, graciously offered unique experiences for both children and families to cherish. From blueberry picking and spa days to visits to the farmer's market and home cooked meals, the offerings this year were loving community contributions to Cobb School.

We're also immensely grateful to our community for their generous donations, which enhanced the value of our auction packages, curating unique family experiences. A special highlight of this year's event was the showcase of classroom art, collaborative masterpieces by our talented students. The week-long digital bidding was the perfect prelude to our "It's a Wrap" party at Metro Bis featuring a live auction. A huge round of applause to our sponsors, donors, and enthusiastic bidders - your unwavering support and belief in our mission transformed this event into a resounding success.

## Thank You Generous Sponsors!

Rhino-Back Roofing  
Law Offices of Pat Brown  
Glanville Real Estate  
The Ethel Walker School  
AIM Insurance Agency  
The Friends Learning Center  
Macca Plumbing & Heating  
McArdle Schools of Irish Dance  
Wethersfield Art Academy  
The Tutor





## Auction Supporters & Bidders

- |                          |                             |                       |                         |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Juhi Agrawal             | Brad Doyle                  | Jen Kulicki           | Laura Radmore           |
| Denise Alfeld            | Juan Du                     | Jennifer Labinski     | Vera Richardson         |
| Susan Angelides          | Amber Dubnov                | Mike Lawler           | Brigitte Richter        |
| Wasif Anwar              | Sonia Ericson               | Erin & Rich Lepore    | James Rollins           |
| Meredith Bagley          | Laurie Ernest Jones         | Jennifer Lierer       | Marc Rome               |
| Heather & Jonathan Banas | Christopher Eshleman        | Kara Lightman Anthony | Carol Ross              |
| Imonnira Baruah          | Jill Evans                  | Chao Lin              | Alex Rozenfeld          |
| Rachel Bicking           | Yanyan Freitag              | Michael Lockshier     | Erika Sandler           |
| Andrea Boden             | Allison Frey Studenroth     | Chris & Kayce Lyles   | Subha Sankaran          |
| Kay Bonetti              | Lindsay Gallo               | Aaron Lyles           | Samantha Savran         |
| Elizabeth Bonner         | Lee Geiselmann              | Kristin Mabrouk       | Kate Shapiro            |
| Jenn Brown               | Jamie Gilbert               | Amanda Malkowski      | Melissa Shaw            |
| Delena Brown             | Alejandro Gonzalez Restrepo | Mark Malkowski        | Iain Sorrell            |
| Christine Bryant         | Elise Grady                 | Judy Maloney          | Yvette Standberry       |
| Sarah Bussey             | Newel Grant, Jr.            | Joyce Martins Lund    | Nicole Stanziale        |
| Johanna Buttimer         | Alexa & Eric Greenberg      | Brian & Dana Mascalco | Melanie Stepka          |
| Stacy Chandna            | Sarah Greenwell             | Holly Maynard         | Beth Strapp             |
| Laura & Stephen Chenard  | Abby Gurall                 | Dan McArdle           | Jacob Studenroth        |
| Annalice Clark           | Emily Harrington            | Amanda McKeon         | Brian & Marisa Sullivan |
| Noel Conklin             | Kim Hatch                   | Heather Merriman      | Helen Thomas            |
| Alice Conklin            | Christine Hayden            | Amanda Michalek       | Catharine Thompson      |
| Michelle Creed           | David Heller                | Yvonne Millea         | Jennifer Torres         |
| Mary Anne Creto          | Anja Hesse                  | Thomas Miller         | Karen Tyson             |
| Corey Cusick             | Dorothy Howard              | Janet Montgomery      | Joy Vacca               |
| John Davis               | Cara Johnson                | Deb Murray            | Emily van Gemeren       |
| Elisa Del Valle          | Michael Kantor              | Sarah Nyberg          | Kara Virello            |
| Suzanne DeRosa           | Meredith Kaplan             | Melissa O'Brien       | Michael Vogel           |
| Darlene Deschaine        | Carol Kaplan                | April Olsen           | Louisa Walsh            |
| Katherine DeTroy         | Carly Keith                 | Michelle Ouchakof     | Yi Wang                 |
| Heather D'Orlando        | Kerry Kendall               | Rebecca Paul          | Michael Watts           |
| Adam Dotson              | Anand Krishnamurthy         | Stacy Pringle-Jackson | Sasha Zatyрка           |



## Generous Donors

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Abby Richardson  
Alexandra London-Thompson  
Amanda Malkowski  
Ana's Kitchen  
Anja Hesse  
Antony Zito  
Avon Prime Meats  
Baez Baked Goods  
Big Y  
Charlie's Wine Spirits  
CT Historical Society  
Dish N Dat  
E&D Pizza  
Emily Harrington  
Essex Steam Train  
Evergreen Studios  
FVAC  
Giv Coffee  
Green Papaya  
Hartford Flavor Company  
Hartford Stage  
Hartford Yard Goats  
Imagine Float  
Iris Photography  
Jacki Romano  
Jennifer & Maciej Labinski  
Jennifer Torres  
Kay Murray  
Kimberly Hatch Photography  
Lemon Llama  
Linda Rowland  
Lucia Rome  
Mani and Pedi Come to U  
Marisa & Brian Sullivan  
McArdle Schools of Irish Dance  
Mimmo  
Nevaeh's Cake Creations  
Popover Bistro  
Pure Love Bakery  
Rachel Eve Pottery  
Remember with Roberts  
Riverside Reptiles  
Roaring Brook Nature Center  
Sandra Boynton  
Ski Sundown  
Springfield Museums  
Talcott Mountain Music  
The Adventure Park  
The Art Room  
The Claypen  
The Wise Old Dog  
Tilted Bottles Wine & Beer  
To The Gills  
Troy Wunderle  
Try-It Tap Room  
Two Roads Brewery  
Tyler Anderson  
Valovcin Woodworks  
West Street Wines & Spirits



## Paddle Raise Donors

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Thank you to those donors who raised their paddle for our playground and physical education program. Thanks to your generous donations, we raised \$27,500 to go towards new equipment that will be enjoyed by children of all ages at the school.

Chad & Denise Alfled  
Meredith Bagley & Alex Davenport  
Delena & J Patten Brown  
Mike & Christine Bryant  
Annalice & George Clark, III  
Andrew & Michelle Creed  
Paul & Heather D'Orlando  
Ezra & Katherine DeTroy  
Adam Dotson  
Miles & Sonia Ericson  
Jill & Justin Evans  
Yanyan & Edward Freitag  
Lindsay Gallo  
Alejandro Gonzalez & Laura Posada  
Elise & Sean Grady  
Helena & Newell Grant, Jr.  
Alexa & Eric Greenberg  
Paul & Kerry Kendall

Erin & Richard Lepore  
Christopher & Kayce Lyles  
Mark Malkowski  
Brian & Dana Mascalo  
Daniel & Marcie Braden  
Donna & Thomas Miller, Sr.  
Joe & Melissa O'Brien  
Laura & Vincent Radmore  
Ravi Ramanathan & Subha Sankaran  
Alexandra & Daniel Rozenfeld  
Mary Anne Creto & William Rusch  
Brian & Samatha Savran  
Jared & Melissa Shaw  
Jacob & Allison Studenroth  
Brian & Marisa Sullivan  
Helen Thomas  
Jennifer Torres  
Karen Tyson



Sean Pahwa, Nikhil Ramanathan, Amelia Walsh, Dillon Deveno, Mason Dong, Cara Thompson, Philippa Hesse, Julian O'Brien, Naomi Ericson, Hudson Lyles, Jasper Stray-London

## 2023 Recognition

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June 8th was a day of celebration as we honored graduates and students completing their three year cycle. Our eleven sixth year students delivered moving speeches before being recognized for their accomplishments.

Alumni speaker Stephanie Makowski shared words of wisdom with our graduates, “Learn how to do things on your own, whether that be a class or new hobby. Your interests are not always going to align with your friends, but it is important to explore them anyways. Keep asking questions. Trust in the lessons and skills you have learned here. I am confident that they will serve you well, just as they have for me.”

Additionally, we recognized several individuals for their service to Cobb, including outgoing Chair of the Board of Trustees, Mary Anne Creto whose service spanned almost 40 years. Christopher Lyles, Artist-in-Residence and physical education teacher marked his 20th year. Assistant Dana Kelly celebrated her 15 year Cobb anniversary, as did lead guide, Carol Ebersol. Thank you to these amazing individuals - your dedication to our students and educational excellence is one of the cornerstones of Cobb School.



Dear Cobb School Families and Friends,

In 2023-24, our community celebrates a remarkable milestone as we mark 50 years since Mary Lou Cobb founded our cherished school! On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I invite you all to spend as much time on our beautiful campus as possible. We look forward to the many great events planned to recognize this special year. Keep an eye on the calendar and for emails with event details, so you can fully participate in the celebration.

This year also provides our community with the opportunity to show our continued support for the Cobb School, and help build an even brighter future for 50 more years of Montessori excellence.

We are seeking your support in a variety of ways this year, and I encourage you to contribute according to your means. Opportunities include,

- Giving to the Annual Fund to close the gap between operating costs and tuition
- Participating in the Giving Day Challenge (Feb 6/7) to help us raise \$50,000 in 50 hours for 50 years
- Contributing to the long-term stability of the school by donating to one of our endowed funds
- Having your business sponsor an event, including the Auction
- Donating items, experiences, services, or special days to our auction

With everyone's help we celebrate Cobb School Montessori's 50 Years Forward - a legacy renewed, a journey continued, and excellence reimaged.



With gratitude,  
Brian Sullivan  
Chair, Board of Trustees



#### **OUR ADDRESS**

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#### **Thank You**

Thank you to everyone who helped make 2022-23 a successful year at Cobb School Montessori. We apologize if we inadvertently omitted a recognition. Please contact [development@cobbschool.com](mailto:development@cobbschool.com) so that we may rectify any oversights.

**Dr. Maria Montessori once said, "The greatest gift we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence." Cobb School has given me both.**

- Philippa Hesse, 6th year graduation speech