

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 8, 2015
NEWS RELEASE

Suzanne Miller
sm@magellan-intl.com
314.795.4225



The St. Louis Mosaic Project Recruits 10th Mosaic Ambassador School

St. Louis - The St. Louis Mosaic Project is excited to welcome The Montessori Training Center of St. Louis and its Montessori Lab School (MLS) at Grand Center as the tenth member of the Mosaic Ambassador Schools program! As an ambassador school, MLS will join a network of schools in the region that are devoted to fostering a globally minded, international, and inclusive community of likeminded institutions. The Mosaic Project, whose goal is to make St. Louis the fastest growing region for foreign-born talent by 2020, places great importance in creating a community that has the resources to retain immigrant families and Mosaic Ambassador Schools play an integral role in this endeavor.

The mission of MLS is to “create a broad community of multicultural and economically diverse families who share the mission to nurture the child’s natural desire to learn and grow in a quality Montessori environment leading to a harmonious and peaceful world.” By welcoming children from all nations and cultures, they believe that the more diverse the school is – socially, economically, and ethnically – the better they will be able to manifest this vision. This global and inclusive perspective aligns with the Mosaic Project’s goals, emphasizing the importance of creating a welcoming and diverse community.

MLS is an affiliate of the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI), an internationally recognized organization promoting the objectives and pedagogical principles established by Maria Montessori in 1929. As a training center affiliated with AMI, The Montessori Training Center of St. Louis trains teachers in AMI diploma courses that are recognized internationally for their quality and authenticity. MLS teachers have all received this intensive training in the Montessori pedagogy practiced in more than 110 countries worldwide, and thus the education provided by MLS is consistent with AMI Montessori schools around the world.

The location of MLS at Grand Center situates the institution at a central location for experiencing the growing multicultural St. Louis community. Located in the middle of a multicultural neighborhood, down the street from the Cortex Innovation Complex and adjacent to the arts district, MLS is at the center of ample resources and diverse cultures. Given its advantageous location, MLS is in a key position to help

foster a welcoming and diverse community devoted to effecting positive change, thus contributing to the global Montessori movement.

MLS has already crafted a list of action items to fulfill as a new ambassador school. Such actions include: joining the UNESCO Associate School Network; recruiting 2-3 ambassadors from the MLS community; recruiting a native speaking French or Spanish speaker for an assistant teaching position, translating a portion of the school website into Spanish; hanging a Mosaic banner prominently in or outside the school; recruiting “buddy families” for foreign newcomers to serve as a point of contact and to assist in getting oriented to the new city; and communicating to the school community about the participation in multicultural community activities in St. Louis.

About the St. Louis Mosaic Project

St. Louis aims to be a cultural mosaic because this community believes that immigrants invigorate our region, drive innovation and take us back to our roots. The St. Louis Mosaic Project’s goal is to transform St. Louis into the fastest growing metropolitan area for immigration by 2020 and promote regional prosperity through immigration and innovation. The St. Louis Mosaic Project was launched in 2012 in response to an economic impact report, outlining St. Louis to be lagging in immigrant growth as well as highlighting the economic benefits of increasing its foreign-born population. The Mosaic Project is a regional initiative that is professionally managed by St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, World Trade Center St. Louis and a 22-member committee. For more information contact Betsy Cohen at ecohen@worldtradecenter-stl.com or visit www.stlmosaicproject.org.