



**Castle Island**  
Bilingual Montessori

# EXCELLENCE IN CHILD-LED EDUCATION SINCE 2012

DOWNTOWN ALBANY

ENGLISH/SPANISH  
IMMERSION

PreK – Grade 6 (age 12)



## MISSION

Providing a world-class and accessible education fully immersed in English and Spanish in a fully implemented Montessori environment for children of the Capital Region of New York

## HIGHER ED PARTNERSHIPS

- Siena College Bonner Service Leaders
- College of St Rose Early Childhood-Elementary Student Teaching
- UAlbany Internships
  - Educational & Public Counseling
  - Psychology & Human Development

*As our students grow,  
our school is growing too!*

Our world-class and accessible school seeks:  
Community Partners &  
Board Trustees



## WORLD CLASS

### INNOVATION

Refinement and mastery with 21st Century Skills

### INTERCULTURAL

Human Diversity creating strong school community

### INCLUSIVE

All children and their families are welcome!

## ACCESSIBLE

- **LOCATION:** Downtown Albany
- **AFFORDABILITY:** Income-based Tuition
- **SOCIALLY INCLUSIVE:**  
Everyone is welcome here

## EARLY CHILDHOOD (AGE 3) - ELEMENTARY (GRADE 6)

- English/Spanish Immersion across the Curriculum
- Highly Qualified Montessori & NYS Certified Staff
- Multi-Age Classrooms, each guided by two teachers
- Child-Led, individualized instruction with Hands-On Materials - students work at their own pace
- Integrated Peace Education - building Character, Leadership & Community



School Founder & Director Diane M Nickerson MS Ed



518-533-9838



602 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207

## OUR LEADERSHIP

Founded in 2012 by Diane M. Nickerson, School Director along with five co-founders, community members interested in starting an innovative independent school with an inclusive, innovative and intercultural approach to learning for children in the Capital Region. The Board of Trustees governs our nonprofit school, and values strategic input provided by our parent group, the Board of Advisors.

## OUR VISION

Castle Island enrolls 55 students with a vision of enrollment growth to capacity of 125 children: Early Childhood (age 3) through Adolescence (8th Grade). We believe that every child deserves access to world-class education, opening them up to life with daily opportunities to learn at their own pace, following their own interests, and to participate as contributing members in an authentic community to emerge into their own individual fantastic best selves, achieving academical rigor while also realizing global citizenship.

## OUR MILESTONES

June 5, 2012	Founding Trustees signed a charter to incorporate with NYSED Board of Regents
July 1, 2012	Initial Membership with the American Montessori Society
September 17, 2012	First Day of School: 6 children, housed inside The Boys & Girls Club, Albany
January 31, 2014	Received status as 501(c)3 Federally Tax-Exempt Nonprofit
September 7, 2015	Relocated to Albany's Pine Hills Neighborhood at St. Andrew's Church
July 1, 2016	Launched Spanish Immersion Summer Camps & Parent/Toddler Program
July 1, 2018	Relocated to Capital District LATINOS expanding to 3 classrooms, art studio, bilingual library & courtyard garden space
July 1, 2019	American Montessori Society candidacy for accreditation
March 1, 2022	Relocated to New Facility designed with intension to house our Montessori program

## OUR NAME

Castle Island is named for a settlement of French traders of beaver pelts on the Hudson River - a community that grew to become what is now Albany, New York.

Castle Island Bilingual Montessori is an independent school and does not discriminate in our enrollment or employment policies & practices on the basis of physical or mental ability, race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin.