



STERLING MONTESSORI

EST. 1997

August 2022

At Sterling, students are exposed to Specials that round out their academic exploration and appreciation. We invite you to learn about the programs offered this 2022-23 school year and meet our teachers. We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

ART

Art class is for all ages to discover the joy in being creative. Students will be exposed to a variety of artistic mediums, including painting, drawing, printmaking, collage, weaving, stitching, clay, technology, design, and recycled artwork.

Art includes exploration and choice, while also introducing various art history and art-making concepts and techniques. Art class is focused on the process of art-making and nurturing that natural tendency towards creativity.

Art classes are interdisciplinary and aim to connect to other subjects which students are focusing on in their classroom. Students will practice creativity as a process that can translate to other aspects of life. We will engage with the entire process - from planning, creating, reflecting, to sharing ideas.

Madeline Denton



Hello Sterling Community! My name is Madeline Denton. I am so excited for the new school year in art class. I started at Sterling in March this past school year and I am so thankful to continue with you all in the upcoming school year as your art teacher.

I graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a BFA in Art Education and I previously taught art for WCPSS. I make art in my free time - I especially enjoy embroidering and painting pet portraits. I love to be active outdoors, whether it's hiking in the mountains, playing ultimate frisbee, or spending time in nature.

It is my passion to encourage students to engage the world in a gentle and curious way- to foster creativity within themselves and one another. I want students in the art classroom to know that they are cared for, listened to, and valued deeply.

Pam Narayana



My name is Pam Narayana. This year marks the eleventh year of being an assistant at Sterling. I found my passion for arts and crafts while caring for my four children and four grandchildren. I am looking forward to returning to the art room and getting to know each Sterling student better and share in their joy of creating art.

MUSIC

The music program includes weekly exciting general music classes for K-6 students here at Sterling. These classes involve developing skills in singing, listening, and playing instruments. The performing arts program starts in Upper Elementary and includes 5 performing arts groups: 4th grade chorus, Upper Elementary chorus, (grades 5-6), Sterling Stars Show Choir (7-8th grade), Upper Elementary Band (4th -6th grades), and our Middle School Band (6th-8th). You can reach me by email at swright@sterlingmontessori.org or by phone at 919-462-8889 ext. 316.

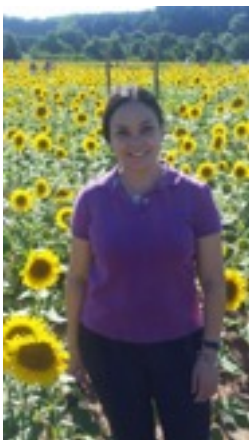
Sue Ann Wright



Welcome to the new year! I am the Lead Music Teacher here at Sterling Montessori. I am excited to start a new school year with the Sterling students! This will be my 16th year at Sterling, and I am looking forward to a fantastic year. In addition to teaching, I love playing recorder music of the

Renaissance time. I am currently serving as President of the Triangle Recorder Society. Other things I enjoy are travelling to see my family, going to the beach, jet skiing, boating, and visiting coastal cities. When I am home, I enjoy reading, cooking, and home improvement projects.

Liseth Ansidey



¡Hola! I am originally from Venezuela. I love chocolate, dogs and traveling, and I am deeply interested in other cultures, their people, food, musical expressions, history and even their paper money (I am a collector!). And the Montessori cultural/musical curriculum combines those both of my passions: respectful education and cultural awareness.

For the last two years, I worked in a Lower Elementary classroom here at Sterling. Following a personal passion, this year I will have the honor to work under Ms. Sue Ann's guidance as the Music teacher assistant. I am looking forward to meet all of you!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Each year, we want our students to find success in Physical Education (PE) class. Our goal is to build every student's self-confidence so that he or she feels comfortable in a wide variety of activities and games. We use different types of activities to help improve motor skills, agility, stamina, cooperation, and eye-hand coordination. Sportsmanship and fair play are very important in our class and we emphasize respecting others, respecting the rules of the game, and being a good teammate. We challenge and push our students and our expectations is that all students participate.

David Helwig



Greeting. I have had the pleasure of teaching Phys.Ed. at Sterling since January of 2006. Most of my days are spent in the Sport Court or on the field and you may also see me at morning and afternoon carpool. I teach all our students, grades K-8, and working with all grade levels is probably the best part of my job because I get to know all the kids on campus it keeps me connected with each classroom as well. When I'm not in school I enjoy spending time outside doing whatever the day has planned for me; golf or fishing, digging in the dirt around the house or doing a little woodworking, or, any day on the water is good. My wife and I live in Durham and have two sons, both of whom went to Sterling. We also have a couple of big dogs roaming around our house.

Daniel Stevenson



Daniel Stevenson is an outdoor educator who enjoys fostering individual growth and community connections through sports and recreation. He attended Appalachian State University and has facilitated learning through a variety of activities, including sailing, rock climbing, and low and high ropes challenge courses. He is excited to apply his experience as the PE Teacher Assistant at Sterling and to help build community through physical education. In his free time, Daniel enjoys getting outside and playing music.

SPANISH

Sterling Spanish offers a continuous program using the Viva el Español program from grades 1-8. Ms. Olga teaches grades 1st-3rd and Ms. Sonia teaches grades 4th-8th. The overall objectives of the program are to develop, reinforce, and refine communicative competence in listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture through interactive, hands-on learning.

Sonia DiFranco



My name is Sonia Di Franco, and I teach Spanish. I joined the Sterling Montessori family in August of 2012, where I have the joy of sharing my language with our student community. I became a teacher for the purpose of opening the doors to the world for my students in a stress free and enjoyable classroom environment. I enjoy gardening, cooking, and spending time with my pets.

Olga Nye



Hello, my name is Olga Nye. I have been working at Sterling Montessori for the past 17 years. I grew up in Colombia, South America. I have two adult sons. Reading, gardening, cycling, traveling, and hiking are some of my personal hobbies.
