

# Southeast Alaska Friends of Montessori

PO Box 21142, Juneau, Alaska 99802

## Catherine Fritz SEAFOM Scholarship For Montessori Education 2017-2018

### I. Overview.

This scholarship began in 2001 through the fundraising efforts of Southeast Alaska Friends of Montessori (SEAFOM). **Contributions** to the fund are welcomed and are tax deductible to the extent of the law. This fund was created in honor of Catherine Fritz, a longtime patron and friend of the Montessori community in Juneau, Alaska.

SEAFOM is a non-profit organization committed to the development and implementation of Montessori education throughout Southeast Alaska. Incorporated in 1994, our mission is:

**“To support schools and individuals throughout Southeast Alaska by promoting, developing, implementing, and maintaining Montessori education, as created by Dr. Maria Montessori.”**

**The purpose of this scholarship** is to provide financial assistance to families who have demonstrated a commitment to Montessori education and may not be able to afford the full cost of tuition, especially during their child's kindergarten year. This is not intended to fully fund a child's entire tuition for the school year, but, rather to complement other financial efforts that the family is making to pursue Montessori education.

Allowing children to complete what is typically their third year at the Primary (pre-school) level is of great benefit to the child and also strengthens both the Primary classrooms and the Montessori elementary classrooms, which in turn, builds a strong Montessori Community.

### II. Scholarship Guidelines.

The SEAFOM Board of Directors provides scholarship funds to the Families of Montessori Kindergarteners. An annually designated SEAFOM Scholarship Committee will administer these guidelines and review applications. All contact with this committee may be done so through the mailing address above.

Montessori Education is a continuum from infancy to adolescence. Families applying for this scholarship shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to their child's Montessori education. This scholarship is for children attending the Juneau Montessori School (JMS), for their Kindergarten year. **Preference will be given to families with siblings currently enrolled in JMS or the Montessori Borealis elementary and/or adolescent programs in Juneau's public schools, families who plan to continue their child's education in Montessori beyond the Primary years, and/or families who are actively participating members in SEAFOM.**

The amount of funds awarded will be determined by the applicant's demonstrated financial need and may vary between individual applicants. Individual awards shall not exceed the cost of tuition for school day attendance (scholarships do not cover before/after care or summer camp costs) minus the Kindergarten funding provided through the Juneau School District's HomeBridge program and any other financial assistance that is received (childcare assistance or JMS scholarships). Awards are based on the total scholarship funds provided by SEAFOM (which varies from year to year), the total number of eligible applicants, and the Scholarship Committee's determination of financial need. Decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final.

**Applicants who are awarded scholarships have until August 1st, 2017 to notify the SEAFOM Scholarship Committee of their acceptance of the scholarship.** At the discretion of the SEAFOM Board, scholarship funds that are

not accepted by individuals may be offered to applicants on the “alternate” list, to other applicants who accepted scholarship funds and continue to demonstrate financial need, or returned to SEAFOM for other expenditures.

Information submitted to the Scholarship Committee shall remain confidential within the SEAFOM Scholarship Committee. The Scholarship Committee may require additional information from an applicant. These guidelines and criteria for scholarship awards are subject to annual review and modification.

### **III. Scholarship Application Criteria:**

- a. Scholarship awards are based on financial need. Applicants must provide a copy of their **2016 Income Tax Return**, as well as a **current wage verification statement from all employers within the household**. Other income or additional financial assistance (including financial gifts) not stated on your tax return must be included. If you have not completed a tax return by the scholarship application deadline, provide a letter of explanation that also summarizes your total and adjusted income.
- b. Applicants must complete the **attached application** form.
- c. Applicants shall complete the Juneau School District’s Free/Reduced Lunch Form to assist you in the process of the lottery system for first grade. *It is not required that you add this to the SEAFOM scholarship application packet. Please submit to the Juneau School District when you apply for the first grade lottery.*
- d. Applicants must commit to enrolling their child in the JMS program for the entire remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year.
- e. Scholarship applicants must commit to applying for enrollment in the Montessori Borealis public school program for first grade and beyond, *although this does not guarantee access to the program due to the school district lottery system.*
- f. Each family receiving a scholarship is expected to maintain current SEAFOM membership and volunteer a minimum of 10 hours per academic year to SEAFOM activities or projects. The annual membership fee is \$5.00 (June 1-May 31).
- g. The applicant must notify the SEAFOM Scholarship Committee of any change in financial status within 30 days of such change that may affect their eligibility for this scholarship. (Change in marital status, employment, new sources of income or funding, etc.).

### **IV. Timeline**

**May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017** - Distribute applications to families for the 2017-2018 school year.

**June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017** - Completed applications due back to the SEAFOM committee.

**July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017** - Families notified of scholarship award.

**August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017** - Families to confirm acceptance of scholarship.

# Catherine Fritz SEAFOM Scholarship Application Form 2017-2018 Academic Year

Please complete this form for scholarship consideration. The **application and other required information must be submitted by 5:00pm Thursday, June 1st, 2017**. Submit materials to the Catherine Fritz SEAFOM Scholarship Committee by mail to the SEAFOM address at the beginning of this four-page application.

Applicant (Child): \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardians: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, Phone Numbers, email: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Years in Montessori: \_\_\_\_\_ Montessori School Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Siblings at JMS: \_\_\_\_\_

Siblings at Montessori Borealis: \_\_\_\_\_

SEAFOM Member (Y/N): \_\_\_\_\_ (If No, please submit \$5.00 for the annual membership fee with your application)

SEAFOM projects/issues that family has been involved in: \_\_\_\_\_

Total household size \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Scholarship requested \_\_\_\_\_ / school year

Do you participate in Childcare Assistance? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, amount \_\_\_\_\_

Do you receive JMS financial aid? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, amount \_\_\_\_\_

Will your child receive funding from the Juneau School District HomeBridge program? \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Work Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list current, monthly, household income: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list current monthly expenses (rent, auto payments, loans, etc): \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Need:

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Why did you choose Montessori preschool and kindergarten education for your child? \_\_\_\_\_

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Would you consider continuing his/her Montessori education in the elementary and adolescent programs available in Juneau's public schools? (Yes/No). Please explain reasoning. \_\_\_\_\_

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Any other information or other financial strains that you feel the Scholarship Committee should consider:

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I/We have provided complete and truthful information herein. I/We have read, and agreed to the criteria outlined, and if awarded a scholarship will fulfill the stated expectations.

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

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Date

**Scholarship Committee Use Only:**

Scholarship Awarded \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Awarded \_\_\_\_\_