



Hilltop Montessori School
WHERE LEARNING COMES NATURALLY

Hilltop Montessori School at a Glance

Head of School: Michele Wilensky, appointed in 2004, was formerly Elementary and Middle School Coordinator and a Montessori certified educator. She received a B.S. from the University of Alabama in early childhood and elementary education and a M.Ed. from St. Catherine University. She is also a certified 6-9 teacher with The American Montessori Society. 2019-2020 is her 15th year as Head of School and her 26th year in education.

The School: Founded in 1996, Hilltop Montessori School is located in North Shelby County in the Town of Mt Laurel, off Highway 280. The campus of more than 7 acres includes a native plant trail, sustainable garden areas that supplement student snacks, working bee hives and is adjacent to the Mt Laurel community park. The school is located in a LEED certified green school with an estimated campus value of over 7 million dollars. The campus houses an early childhood area, as well as students in grades 1-8. A community teaching kitchen modeled after Alice Waters Edible Schoolyard offers a unique healthy food & learning opportunity. The school also has a gym/community space, science lab, art studio, a multimedia library space and numerous outdoor garden areas.

Mission: Hilltop Montessori School's mission is to light the flame of learning to achieve a lifetime of success..

Enrollment: The programming is offered to over 230 students, ranging in age from 18 months to 8th grade.

Faculty: 23 full-time, 10 part-time and 4 private music instructors
Faculty degrees: 27 Bachelor degrees, 6 Master degrees, 18 teachers with Montessori certification; all assistant teachers have Montessori assistant training.

Tuition: 2019-2020

Toddler	\$6,135 - \$11,425
Preschool	\$7,365 - \$9,795
Kindergarten	\$10,330
Lower Elementary	\$11,015
Upper Elementary	\$11,335
Middle School	\$12,425

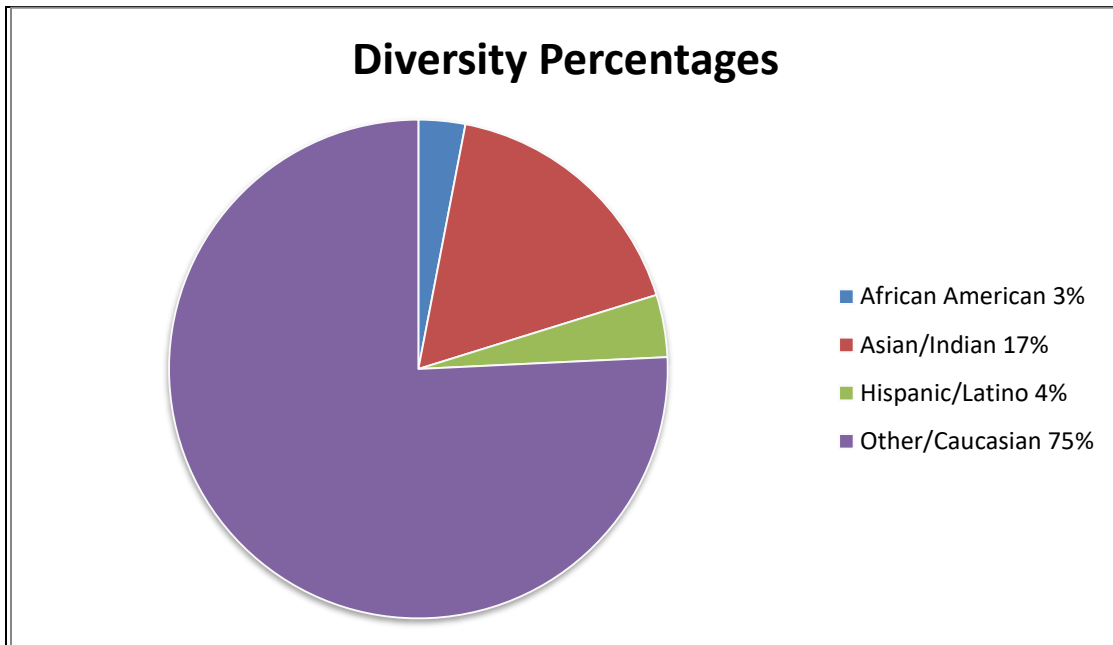
Transportation: Students commute via car/carpool. School bus transportation is not offered.

Affordability/Financial Aid: The school utilizes FACTS tuition management service and also offers some monetary aid for those truly in need. The deadline for financial aid applications is February 1 for current students and February 15 for incoming students and is strictly enforced. We also have a company we work with called Your Tuition Solution. They provide loan options at a low interest rate with payment plans available from 24-84 months. The APR ranges from 3.99% - 24.99% fixed based on your credit score.

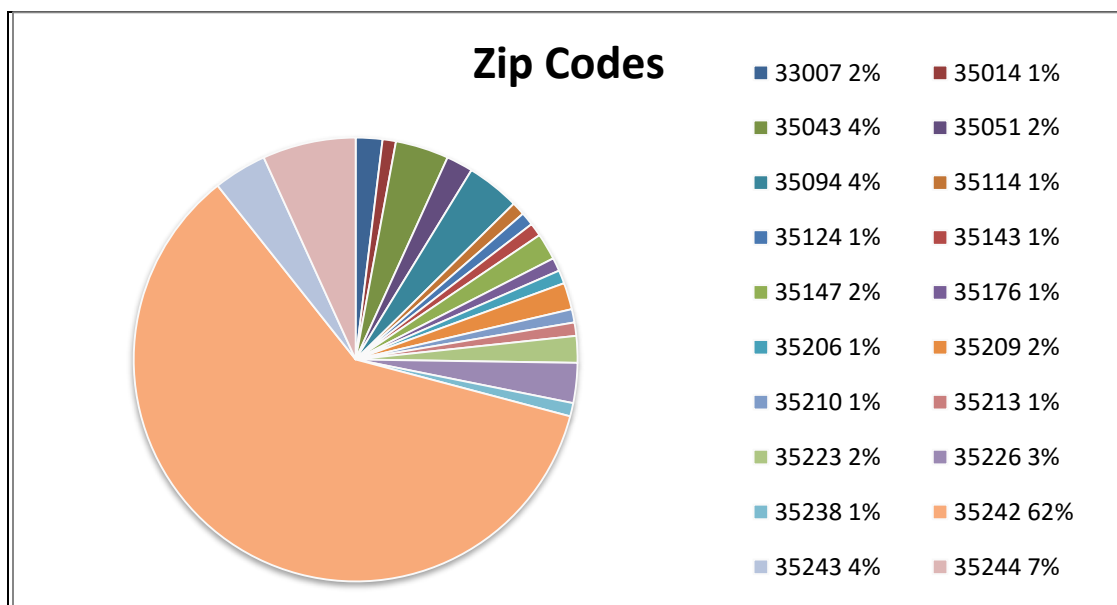
Philanthropy/Fundraising: Hilltop Montessori School is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation that relies on charitable giving to enhance the school environment. Annual Giving provides support for current programming needs by funding academic and extracurricular enhancements.

School Accreditations and Memberships: We are proud to be one of less than 200 schools in the world that is fully accredited with the American Montessori Society and the only school in Alabama accredited by- AdvancED/SACS, the Southern Association of Independent Schools, the American Montessori Society and the National Council for Private School Accreditation. Our building is a LEED certified building(Leadership in Energy Efficiency & Design) with the USGBC (U.S. Green Building Council) and our outdoor habitat is certified with the National Wildlife Federation.

Diversity of the school is as follow:



Demographics of the school is as follows:



Middle School and High School Matriculations for the school are:

- St. James Boarding School
- Indian Springs School
- The Altamont School
- Alabama School of Fine Arts
- Westminster School
- Briarwood Christian School
- Shades Valley Christian School
- St. Andrews-Sewanee Boarding School

Graduates have been accepted to the following universities and honor programs, among many others:

- Florida State University
- Auburn University
- Birmingham Southern College
- Eckerd College, Florida
- Hunter College in NYC
- Mount Holyoke College, Massachusetts
- Tulane University
- University of Mississippi Honors College
- Southern Methodist University
- University of Kentucky-PhD Program
- University of South Alabama
- University of Southern California
- The University of Alabama, Honors College
- The University of Alabama in Birmingham
- The University of North Carolina in Asheville
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Massachusetts
- Oberlin College
- Pomona College
- New York University

Academic Awards for some of our graduates during and after their Montessori education:

- * 1 Fulbright Scholar
- * 6 National Merit Scholars, all received Presidential Scholarships and 1 National Merit Commended Student
- * 1 student elected Mayor of Indian Springs School student government association
- * 1 Finalist in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, national competition
- * Finalist-National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium
- * National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society Members
- * 4 students placed 1st and 2nd place winners in the Alabama Law Day Essay Contest
- * National Spanish Exam, 2 gold awards, 5 silver awards
- * National Latin Exam, 1 gold award, level V
- * Classical Latin Exam, 1 silver award
- * Member-National Championship Team, National Academic Championship
- * Central AL Regional Science/Engineering Fair-One 1st place in Math & Computer Science, Junior Division; One 1st place in Medicine & Health Division, 3 Honorable Mentions
- * Alabama State Champion-National History Bee, individual award and team captain
- * Alabama Junior Classical League Latin Scholar's Bowl State Champion
- * Gold Medal in each-Classical Literacy Exam & National Roman Civilization Exam
- * JET Scholar
- * Winner John Wallace Johnston History Award
- * Winner Gage Prize for outstanding student in US History
- * Winner Randolph Macon College Book Award in Classics
- * Named John Frederick Oberlin Scholar/received merit scholarship/early admission to Oberlin College
- * 5 students-Mu Alpha Theta, Mathematics Honor Society
- * Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge (Birmingham)-Merit Certificate for Public Communications
- * Winner-Bausch and Lomb Junior Class Science Award-outstanding student in the junior class
- * Winner-Smith College Book Award
- * Corona Laurea for Excellent Achievement on National Mythology Exam
- * Scholastic Art and Writing Competition-6 silver key awards
- * 3 Students selected to compete at the State Geography Bee-National Geographic Society
- * First place winner in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Essay
- * Scripps Spelling Bee Winner who competed at local level
- * Young Hero Award by Alabama Public Television
- * C. Kyser Miree Ethical Leadership Program, gold distinction
- * University of Alabama- University Fellows semi-finalist
- * University of Alabama- Computer Based honors program
- * Florida Bright Future Scholarship recipient
- * University of Alabama-Vice President of Financial Affairs
- * Peace Corps-Montenegro
- * Phi Bet Kappa-Exceptional academic achievement in arts and science