



Mission Montessori Academy
...at St. George

Educating the Next Generation of Evolutionary Leader

Leadership

- **Executive Director: Ms. Tryon, B.A.**
- **Superintendent: Ms. Summers, B.S., M.Ed.**
- **Principal: Ms. Maike, M. Ed.**
- **Lead Teacher: Ms. Collins, B.A.**
- **Lead Teacher: Dr. Ecka, M.A., M.H.P.E, M.PH., DR.PH.**
- **Exceptional Student Services Director: Ms. Lenny, B.A.**
- **Exceptional Student Services Support: Mr. Favela, M.Ed.**
- **Global Studies Director: Ms. Sandler, M.Ed.**

Ms. Maike - Principal

Ms. Maike graduated from Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, MI with a Masters in Education with teacher certification. Her undergrad degree is in Fine Arts from Kendall College of Art & Design, Grand Rapids, MI. Ms. Maike worked for the Washington State Senate, Tacoma, WA Public Schools then went on to acquire her Secondary Montessori certification at Houston Montessori Center with Dr. Elisabeth Coe and went on to start a top performing Middle School Program for a Charter school in Spring Lake, MI. In 2014-15, Ms. Maike was a candidate for Teacher of the Year through the Arizona Charter School Association, received the award of #1 Highest Achieving Charter School in Arizona and School of the Year 2014-15. Ms. Maike managed a Replication Grant for new Charter schools in Arizona. This school is one of five top performing schools in this prestigious award program.

Mr. Favela - Exceptional Student Support Services

Eduardo Favela joined Mission Montessori Academy in the Spring of 2013 working with the Middle School students at St George. He also worked with the Upper Elementary levels during the 2014- 2015 school year, supporting our Exceptional Students and Special Education Support Team. Mr. Favela is originally from California and holds a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with a Bachelor's Degree and Credential in the Social Sciences from Cal State University Northridge. He is in the process of completing his Montessori Training with the Houston Montessori Center.

Ms. Collins - Lead Teacher

Ms. Collins graduated from Baylor University, Waco, Texas with a Bachelor of Arts in History & Anthropology in 2005 and spent the following summer studying Archaeology in Beijing, Xi'an and Chengdu, PRC through the International Scholar Laureate Program.

Ms. Collins received her Secondary Montessori training at Houston Montessori Center with Dr. Elisabeth Coe. She taught middle school at one of the largest public Montessori schools in Texas and was a recipient of the D.A.T.E grant award for improving instructional quality and raising student achievement on standardized tests.

She's married to Justin, a fellow middle school Montessori teacher. They have a little girl named Harriet, and are also proud owners of two red dachshunds, Brodie & Clementine.

Dr. Ecka - Lead Teacher

Dr. Ecka is passionate about global peace and stewardship of planet earth with an interdisciplinary background in Social & Behavioral Sciences, Health, and Education. He holds a Doctorate in Public Health [Health Policy and Administration]. Other academic backgrounds include Bachelors of Commerce, Masters in Sociology, Masters in Health Professions Education, and Masters in Public Health. In addition, he has a Professional Trainer's Certification in Psychological Counseling and Psychotherapy, Primary and Secondary Montessori Certification. Furthermore, he is one of the pioneering faculty, former Trainer, and current Mentor Chair of the Montessori Model UN. He has been in leadership roles in National and International Health and Educational institutions. He is blessed with two daughters.