

Are you a Montessori leader with a thirst for social justice and an entrepreneurial drive?

Wildflower Schools: Founding Teacher Leaders

An Invitation to Grow Wildflower Schools in Massachusetts as a Founding Teacher Leader

Our Schools

Wildflower schools are very small -- typically one- to two-classrooms. They are committed to equity, and unite intentionally diverse communities of children, families and teachers in a shared pursuit of interconnectedness, justice and peace. Wildflower schools are Montessori schools with certified teachers who embrace the qualities of authentic Montessori education - mixed ages, the full complement of materials for each age group, and a child-led, individualized approach within a beautiful, peaceful environment. Our aim is to make the highest quality educational opportunities available to families with limited economic means, to strengthen families through parent education, to build community across racial and socioeconomic lines, and to shift public perception about the value of small schools, Montessori environments, and early childhood education. Embedded within this beautiful diversity of experiences and perspectives, there are nine principles that unite our schools.

What Will You Do?

As a Teacher Leader you will:

- Spend a year learning about Wildflower, developing plans, and bringing your school to life through our supported School Startup Journey
- Collaborate with 1-2 other teacher-leaders to develop a vision for an authentic Montessori school or work within an existing team that serves the diversity of the local community.
- With the financial and operational support of the local and national Wildflower teams, find and prepare a school site this generally involves identifying, leasing and renovating shop front space
- Design and create a prepared Montessori environment in alignment with your vision and local regulations
- Actively market your school to recruit and enroll a racially and socioeconomically diverse mix of children and families

What Will you Bring?

- A deep commitment to authentic Montessori Your expertise will position you to be a highly effective facilitator of children's learning and to extend the values of Montessori to include the adults within your school community.
- Entrepreneurial leadership Your default mode is "yes." You are flexible, open-minded, see opportunity in obstacles, and are energized by using creativity and resourcefulness to create solutions to problems.
- Commitment to serving diverse and multifaceted communities You are eager to expand access to Montessori for racially and socioeconomically diverse communities and are committed to supporting the development of intersectional communities.
- **Generosity of spirit** You live with kindness, practice gratitude and lead with love. You seek advice openly and are comfortable working in a non-hierarchical organization.
- Willingness to work hard You have the aptitude, stamina, time, and appetite to rise to the challenge of starting and leading your own school. You will not be alone, but you will be busy.
- **A desire to learn and grow** You are eager to stretch beyond your current experience, to develop new skills and expertise and to more fully explore your purpose and potential.

How Do We Help?

Wildflower provides tools and resources (often including access to financial support) to prospective teacher leaders to gauge their own alignment with Wildflower's values, norms and principles, and self-assess their readiness to start and run a Wildflower school – all with the support and advice from current teacher-leaders and partners. Wildflower teachers-leaders cultivate a strong appreciation for the skills that support the development of high quality schools and that allow the process to be joyful and empowering rather than overwhelming and uncomfortable. We are working toward this purpose by nurturing the development of new Wildflower micro-schools and providing essential tools, supports, and resources to schools in operation. For more information on Wildflower visit wildflowerschools.org.

We are currently opening schools in the Greater Boston area in Fall 2019 and are inviting Montessori trained Teacher Leaders to begin an exploration of the journey toward opening a Wildflower school, or partner with an existing teacher leader as co-founder, at the following levels: Infant/Toddler, Primary, Elementary, or Middle School. If you would like to learn more about opening a Wildflower school in Massachusetts, please click here to begin the conversation process, and send an email with your resume attached to recruitment@wildflowerschools.org. A member of our team will follow up with you within a week or so.

We are excited to meet you!