

Dear Magical Journey Families,

We have exciting changes at Magical Journey and want to share the news with you. Due to continued growth at Magical Journey, we will be adding another level of support to our team. We would like to announce Bonnie Smith and Jessica Spada have purchased the business and will be taking over the duties of general management. They are here to support families, children, teachers and staff. They bring skills, knowledge and experience, which greatly enhance the learning environment. Our school has grown to a point where we need more support at the management level. For now, we will remain in the classroom, but will also provide insight and guidance as they transition to management of the school. We are confident that this will be a smooth process because Jessica and Bonnie believe in our overall philosophy of early childhood education.

Attached you will find the letter of introduction from Jessica and Bonnie. Please take the time to introduce yourself and welcome them to Magical Journey. For your convenience, Jessica and Bonnie will be at Magical Journey all day on Wednesday, January 10.

We are looking forward to 2018 and sincerely appreciate your continued support of Magical Journey. As a school community, we are deeply committed to providing your child with the best education possible.

Julie and Michelle



My name is Jessica Spada and I have been working with children, ages 6 weeks through 13, for over 20 years. Children have held a special place in my heart for as long as I can remember. And ever since receiving my Master's in Early Childhood Education, this has been my one and only career, by choice. Seeing the world through a child's eye and being able to share these monumental, life changing experiences with them and their families is priceless. Creating an environment and curriculum that embraces and develops key life and self-help skills, builds confidence, a sense of community and giving back is essential to developing a well-rounded individual. This can only be achieved by a smaller class size that gives individual attention for the students in our care. This is the educational opportunity we found at Magical Journey.

Beginning as an associate teacher, I worked my way up to preschool teacher, assistant director, and finally director. Between New York City and North Carolina, I spent a total of 5 years as an Early Childhood Director. I met Bonnie Smith in 2007, and in 2017 we partnered in search of a school that excelled in its dedication to early childhood. When we discovered the Magical Journey Learning Center, we were impressed by its excellence in education, as well as its smaller ratios and class size.



I'm Bonnie Smith, and I've worked as a teacher in early childhood, ages 2-5, for approximately 15 years prior to being hired as a UPK teacher in the Bronx. It was my desire to give back to society, and with a Master's in Teaching Reading, I felt I could reach disadvantaged children and instill in them an enjoyment of reading and education. After several years, I was promoted to the position of Director, and had my first opportunity to manage and impact the direction of education in an entire school. Three years later, I left the Bronx, to move to New York City, where I continued as an Early Childhood Director. I was privileged to work with Jessica from 2007-2012 where we managed an early childhood school together. Jessica moved on to direct schools in other areas as I continued to direct the same early childhood school until 2016.

Jessica and I teamed up again in 2017, when we moved to Arizona to find a school that aligned with our mutual philosophy of childhood education. We were thrilled to come across Magical Journey Learning Center, directed and taught by Julie and Michelle. Their love of children and education was evident in their classrooms. Their curriculum went beyond the basics, and included life-learning skills, such as "mindfulness" and community projects. The Kindergarten project of "My Journey in Life Counts" was one example of how they strive in their education to develop successful members of society.

We are looking forward to joining Julie and Michelle as they expand and develop their outstanding program at Magical Journey Learning Center. We hope to infuse already existing programs with additional ideas. We welcome fresh ideas from parents and teachers to make the curriculum enjoyable, and relevant to the needs of the children. We thank you, Julie, Michelle, staff and parents, for allowing us this opportunity.