



# Bergamo Academy

*Authentic Montessori in Denver*

Contact: Meredith Malak  
Tel: 303-825-1333  
Email: meredithmalak@bergamoacademy.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 31, 2009

## HIGHEST MONTESSORI ACCREDITATION – FIRST IN DENVER THIS DECADE

In less than a year of operation, Bergamo Academy today has received the highest level of accreditation from Association Montessori Internationale (AMI), the institute founded by Dr. Maria Montessori in 1929. Denver had been without an AMI Recognized school for ten years, and now Bergamo Academy is the only AMI Recognized school in Denver, and one of only two AMI Recognized schools in Colorado.

“My husband and I started Bergamo Academy to bring AMI back to Denver,” said Meredith Malak, Head of School at Bergamo Academy. She said only AMI teachers work at Bergamo Academy, where AMI teachers during their training study the Montessori technique and philosophy in depth for either an entire school year exclusively (after graduating college) or in an intensive 16-week program over two or three summers.

“Big thanks to the wonderful, AMI trained staff and teachers, our four-year-old is reading, drawing, recognizing continents, conscious of global issues, doing math addition, and playing nicely with others and independently,” said Ginny Taylor, parent of a student at Bergamo Academy.

Today’s AMI Recognition follows the AMI Associated status that Bergamo Academy achieved in March, 2009. Bergamo Academy began its first year on September 2, 2008.

Initially trained as a medical doctor in the late nineteenth century, Maria Montessori devised her method over a fifty year career the first half of the twentieth century. The Montessori Method emphasizes learning through movement and use of the hands. Children work with “apparatuses” designed by Maria Montessori – they do not “play” with “toys”. By working independently in a social context, children develop internal self-motivation, problem solving abilities, and social graces.

Many schools have adopted the name “Montessori”, but the term is not trademarked. By the time the Montessori family attempted to trademark her name in the U.S., the Patent and Trademark

Office informed them that by that time the term had been in use by many people for many years and had already become a generic term.

Bergamo Academy's 1000 Speer Blvd. location near the art museum puts it just a few blocks from downtown Denver, and close to the 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. exit of I-25, making it convenient to city dwellers and suburban households alike.

Bergamo Academy is currently enrolling toddlers (walking 14 months to 36 months old) and children for the Primary program, which is for ages two and a half to six years old, for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic school year that began August 19, 2009.

###

If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Meredith Malak, please call 303-825-1333 or e-mail [info@bergamoacademy.com](mailto:info@bergamoacademy.com)

###

Bergamo Academy  
Location: 1000 Speer Blvd.  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 9009, Denver, CO 80209