

Madisson Baron-Galbavi

Good evening, my name is Madisson Baron-Galbavi and I have attended Meadow Montessori since preschool. During my academic journey I have had the opportunity for many experiences that have created the person I am today.

Traveling is one of the big ways that changed how I look at my everyday lifestyle. By traveling to different areas of the country, and even out of the country, traveling has allowed me to be grateful for the wonderful school and lifestyle I have today. It is very easy to read about places or look at pictures, but having the opportunity to go and experience it yourself creates a whole different outlook and feeling about it.

Belize was one of the major trips that changed the way I look at the world and the way that we live so luxuriously, for example we often take water and electricity for granted, it is just something that is there for us, but in Belize the people at the school we visited had to pump their water into a bucket just to wash their hands. And the electricity (if they even had any) was run by a generator. Where we live today we can easily flick a light switch and expect to see light and when we turn on the faucet we expect nothing less than clean drinking water running from it. When I saw how grateful the children were to have us there helping them and how they appreciated everything, it made me rethink how much I have and how I don't always appreciate it. I often think back and remember the smiling faces of those kids and it makes me remember to appreciate every little thing that I have. Through this experience especially, I am truly confident that I am not insignificant and even small things can be done to give back to my community or help someone in need. What may seem like a small act of kindness to me has the potential to change someone else's life...and I can be a part of that.

Confidence is important in one's daily life and Meadow Montessori has helped me with that a lot because of the kinds of project work we do. For example: History and science fairs where we have to research and then present our findings to the group. Also, our annual opera, where we sing and sometimes have speaking parts in front of an audience. Another example is the conferences in 7th through 9th grade. We, the students are responsible for creating and then reaching our own quarterly goals. We have to have the confidence to push ourselves to success.

Over the years I have learned to be organized everywhere...except my messy bedroom! Being organized has helped me stay on task, manage my time well, and keep up with the challenging curriculum I am given. I have also used these skills outside of school to gain focus and accomplishments in my extra-curricular activities, such as gymnastics.

I have an interest in the arts and our school offers a great opportunity to do many projects with teachers who care, and we also learn the value of playing a musical instrument. By having a large range of classes, this definitely shows me the opportunities that life has to offer and it also helped me to become a more open minded young adult that can contribute to this world, my world that I get to be a part of creating.

I have learned so much over these past years, it's unbelievable to look back. I am glad the teachers at Meadow Montessori care so much about my educational experiences and

they are invested in teaching us to be well rounded young adult people on this earth. It is now my turn to thank all of you for encouraging me to become the intelligent human being that I am, and know that I will forever contribute to the world with a positive impact to the best of my ability. I have been inspired by each of you. Thank you :)