

Teach Each Child According to Their Way -Talmud

Welcome to the 2007-2008 school year at the MJC&S Early Childhood Center for the Arts! I am excited to introduce our innovative new program combining the arts, ethics, and Judaica. We are honored that you've chosen to join us for our inaugural year.

My name is Michal Marks and I am thrilled to join the Early Childhood family. A bit about me – I'm originally from Denver, attended college there and in Israel, and my husband and I now live in Malibu. I earned a Master's Degree in Education as well as separate degrees in Jewish Studies and Hebrew from the University of Judaism. It has been my privilege to spend the last three years as Director of the incredible Religious School program at MJC&S.

I believe that each child is unique and that there is a spark that inhabits every human soul. It is our job as educators to ignite that spark. At the Center for the Arts, our children will enter these important years in a loving environment that is not only safe and nurturing, but also full of life, color, movement and a passion for exploring the universe. I believe that Early Childhood education should be neither limited nor limiting. We celebrate the different ways that children learn – visually, auditorily, kinesthetically, and tactilely. Honoring the uniqueness of each child is at the core of this innovative new program.

The Center is based on developmental, hands-on learning and is designed to enhance the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development of each and every child. Our program is based around Learning Centers. These Centers will address a wide variety of learning styles and interests including art, dance cooking, science, dramatic play, storytelling and music. Additionally, the Center for the Arts is in line with the current Kindergarten readiness assessment.

The MJC&S Early Childhood Center for the Arts is also a family affair. I believe that parental involvement is essential to the success of the program. After all, the most important teacher in your child's life is YOU. We welcome each family into the community and together we will form a bridge to your child's lifetime love of learning.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I can't wait to meet you and begin our adventure. Don't forget – It's not preschool, it's CHAI SCHOOL!!

B'shalom,
Michal Marks M.A.Ed.
Director of Education