

Hannah Ray
Head of School and Early Childhood Lead Guide

I was welcomed into the world in Austin, Texas and raised in Bastrop, Texas. My parents had six girls and I was the fourth born. I attended public school during my primary years, was homeschooled during my middle school years, and went to a private high school. I began working for Calvary Episcopal School in 2010. I served in After Care for a few months then was asked to be the After Care Coordinator for the 2010-2011 school year where I worked happily for two years while attending school at Austin Community College. During the 2011-2012 school year, I became engaged. My husband, Connor Ray, and I got married in 2012 at McKinney Roughs Nature Park in Cedar Creek, Texas. At our wedding, my youngest sister gave a speech and stated the many things I taught her over the years. I taught her how to ride a bike, read, swim, etc. That is when it resonated with me that I was a natural-born educator. I knew I taught her all those things at a young age, but didn't realize the impact it had on her life.

After the wedding, Connor and I were both sad to leave our families and forever home in Bastrop but knew life had many adventures awaiting. We moved to Belton, Texas where I worked as a Pre-K4 assistant at Tarver Elementary School. I also took night classes at Temple College to help me get one step closer to my teaching degree. We moved to Waco, Texas in 2013. I began working for the YMCA as an After School Care Site Director at Dean Highland Elementary School in September of 2013. I worked for the Y until December 2015. In January of 2014, I began School at Tarleton State University where I obtained my Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education through Grade 6 with an ESL certification in December of 2015. I completed my clinical teaching at Cedar Ridge Elementary and Lake Air Montessori Magnet School in Waco, Texas.

After graduation, we returned to Bastrop. I began teaching at Calvary Episcopal School where I taught 3rd grade for three and a half years. Throughout my career as a teacher, I always had the dream of returning to school to pursue a Montessori education credential. After having our daughter Charlotte in 2017, I wanted to make this dream a reality. With the support of friends and family, prayer, and ambition I began my journey at Houston Montessori Center in June of 2019. The Montessori Method has become more than just an educational philosophy for me. It has become a way of life. I am so excited to serve the community of Bastrop through quality education where children can learn at their own pace through the exploration of the natural world around them.