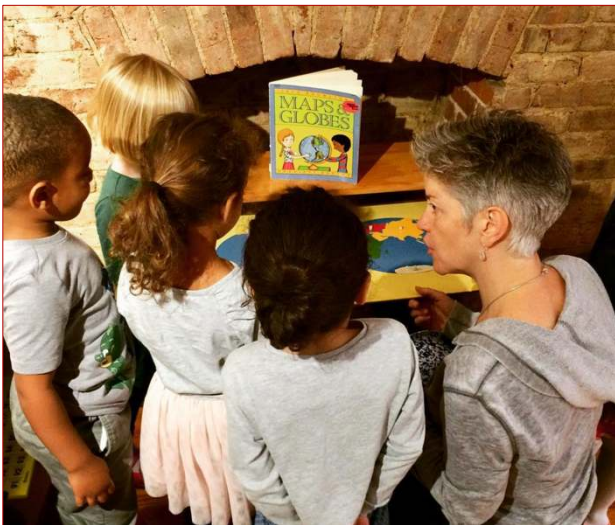




The O'Gorman Garden
A Montessori Program in Harlem

News From Our School - Fall 2018

The O'Gorman Garden's school year is off to an exciting start for students enrolled this fall! We have an engaging curriculum planned for our 2018-2019 year, across the subjects of **phonetics, math, art, science, and gardening.** Keep reading to learn about the highlights of the fall, and what's around the corner this winter and next spring...and in the meantime: many good wishes to all for the holiday season!



What Has Eight Legs & Visits During Science Class?

Our young scientists are hard at work! This semester, we studied different kinds of insects including caterpillars, butterflies, and spiders. To learn about them, we read books about their lives and habitats, and learned about their bodies and movements by studying them in the garden and classroom.



Students were intrigued by these fascinating creatures, and our science lessons continue to be a favorite part of each week. In the pictures shared, students watch a butterfly perched atop some parsley, and a student makes friends with a carefully curious spider.

Out and About in Autumn

Students, teachers, and parents alike enjoyed a perfect fall day at the Out-house Orchards in late October. We picked perfect pumpkins, found our way through a corn maze, took a hay ride on a tractor, and some of us even got a little snooze in on the school bus ride home.



What a joyous fall we're having!
We are visiting orchards and museums,
examining butterflies and spiders, learning
about continents, and more!

Barnard Meets Us at the Museums...Again!

This year, OGG is once again partnering with **Meet Me At The Museum**, a Barnard College student club that researches and prepares lectures for school groups. Last spring, our students delighted in guided visits to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Cooper Hewitt Museum, and we started our fall by heading back to the Met for the *Armenia!* exhibit currently on display. Later this year, students will also be visiting either El Museo del Barrio to learn more about the vibrant neighborhood of East Harlem, or to discover contemporary artists at the Museum of Modern Art.

OGG students are the youngest visitors that this Barnard club partners with, but our energy and potential for learning makes our class a compelling group to host! Our students are enthusiastic museum visitors, and we love how these lessons incorporate Visual Thinking Curriculum strategies (which we also use in our art programming). Below, our class learns about the beautiful textiles on display in the *Armenia!* Exhibit during an October trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



A Big Welcome to Keren!

We are excited to welcome Keren Murumba into the OGG community as a Co-Teacher! Although new to Montessori, Keren has many years of teaching experience in Uganda, Australia, and New York, earning Bachelor and Master's degrees in Education along the way.

A former high school teacher, who had just relocated to New York from Melbourne, Australia, she switched to teaching younger children when, in 1992, she met Ned O'Gorman, founder of the Children's Storefront School on the corner of 129th Street and Park Avenue. Keren was won over by Ned's vision and commitment to providing a quality, tuition-free education for the neighborhood children that was comparable to other private schools in the city. That same year she began teaching at the Storefront and remained there until the school closed in June of 2018. Keren says 129th Street is her second home and we are delighted to have her join us, still on 129th Street.



Yogis in Training!

Over the summer, our wonderful yoga teacher, Lalita Dunbar, furthered her goal of teaching successful childhood yoga practices, by attending an intensive workshop with a respected colleague in Yoga education, Tara Rachel Jones. The workshop included the Eight-Limbs* of yoga philosophy, but from a child's perspective, with lesson plan strategies on how to weave yoga postures with ethics, poems and stories in a way to ignite a child's imagination. Lalita feels Yoga, in alignment with Maria Montessori's goal of "reverence for the child", helps children navigate their world, orient themselves in moments of chaos, and realize their own extraordinary potential to live a healthy, fulfilling life. And now, OGG students will benefit from her ongoing commitment and passion for early yoga education!



The PTO Corner

The O'Gorman PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) had its first meeting on October 19th and it is gearing up for another year of fundraising and community building. As an initial event, families convened in November at 449 La in Harlem to enjoy live jazz hosted by the grandmother of a student. The PTO is now considering meeting up here regularly as the kids and parents enjoyed it equally!

Thank You For Your Friendship and Support

Our school relies on the generosity of individuals and private foundations. We thank all our supporters for providing children in Harlem with an exceptional beginning to their education. We invite you to come to our school and see our wonderful program in action. Visit ogormangarden.org and make a donation today!

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram – Visit ogormangarden.org to connect today.