

# As seen in the 2013 Summer edition of *There's a lot to do in Windsor*

## From Role Player to Role Model

Jessica Ribeiro  
Windsor Montessori School



Many of us dreamed of being a teacher when we grew up. Jessica Ribeiro, a teacher at the Windsor Montessori School is living that dream.

When a childhood friend of Jessica's walked through the doors of the Windsor Montessori School to enroll her daughter in Jessica's class, memories of them "playing make believe school and teacher" came rushing back to the forefront of Jessica's mind. Now, it's for real and Jessica is relishing the journey.

For a young professional who loves spending her spare time hiking, gardening or anything outdoors with her husband Marcel and Levi, their dog, Jessica's work history is quite robust. She began at the Windsor Montessori School in 1996 as a student aide on a part-time basis while attending high school and MCC. Following a brief stint in Savannah, GA from 2000 – 2006, Jessica returned to the Windsor Montessori School as a Montessori Teaching Assistant and recently became an Acting Head Montessori Teacher.

This past summer, Jessica attended the Northeast Montessori Institute in Wenham, MA to begin intense course work to become an American Montessori Society Certified Teacher.

When asked what makes the Montessori educational approach so special, Jessica quoted its founder Maria Montessori who said, "The hands are the tool of the mind." More importantly, Jessica went on to elaborate on the value of her training this summer as well as her continued course work by explaining "it's how and why you do the things you do in the classroom – creating an environment that fosters inventiveness, creativity and the nurturing of inquisitive learners."

"I wish school started today," she stated with the eagerness of a child in a candy store. I can't wait to share everything I've learned with my students."

Lucky kids.

*The Windsor Montessori School is located at the Milo Peck Child Development Center at 114 Palisado Avenue. Montessori School classes are available for children 18 months through five years old. 860-285-1400.*