

## ABOUT

Beyond the Box is an all-inclusive enrichment program for home-schoolers. It is a uniquely creative, practical, hands-on approach to learning all subjects in an elementary curriculum. It meets daily from 9:30-11:30 a.m. or 12:30-2:30 p.m. in the instructor's home. It allows parents to home-school part of the day and still have additional learning outside their own home.

## WHAT IS YOUR PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION?

We believe that children are whole and complete beings with unlimited potential. They should be given the opportunity to develop themselves intellectually, emotionally, physically, morally, artistically, socially, and spiritually, without comparison, judgment or criticism. Children should be able to study and understand their world and their potential to change it. We strive to instill in our students the ability to be self-learners. Through research skills, critical and creative thinking skills, problem solving, peaceful conflict resolution, and a knowledge of resources, children are equipped to learn anything of interest to them. Rather than competition, tests or grades, we believe that understanding children's individual learning styles – along with self-evaluation and heaps of encouragement, self-discipline, joy and spontaneity – sets them firmly on the path to becoming life-long learners.

Children also need to be given the skills to express their feelings and needs, and to be sensitive and respectful of the needs of others. It is our job to celebrate each child's individuality and help them to understand their place in the wider community. Most of all, it is to make the children in our care feel safe, secure and confident so that they are free to learn. Children thrive when they feel safe, accepted, respected and loved. The rest is simple.



## WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE TO ENROLL?

The first step is to fill out the enclosed application form and return it with a non-refundable fee of \$50. Next, you and your child will come for an interview. After that, your child can begin attending Beyond the Box as an addition to your home-schooling program.

## FEES

Beyond the Box costs \$250 a week, substantially less than private schooling. There are four payment options:

1. Weekly payments of \$250 due on the preceding Friday.
2. Ten monthly payments of \$1,000 due in advance on the 15th of every month, from August 15 to May 15.
3. Four quarterly payments of \$2,500 due on the 15th of August, November, February and May.
4. Full payment of \$10,000 due on August 15. (Bank check or direct deposit required.)

*Families with proven financial need will be given consideration for a reduced rate.*

# Beyond the Box

**Beginning September 4**



T: 508.498.1666 / E: [annette@beyondtheboxlearning.net](mailto:annette@beyondtheboxlearning.net)  
[beyondtheboxlearning.net](http://beyondtheboxlearning.net)

# Beyond the Box

A creative enrichment program for home-schooled children

**Learning begins at home.**



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### HOW DOES THIS PROGRAM ENHANCE THE HOME-SCHOOLING EXPERIENCE?

For some parents, the intensity of the parent/child relationship in a one-on-one home setting can lack the distance and objectivity needed to assess their children's skills and abilities. Furthermore, keeping a child at home may minimize opportunities for socialization and the development of friendships.



**Beyond the Box** provides a warm, intimate atmosphere in a home environment, outside the child's own home. With other children in the group, there is opportunity for friendships and a kind of family bonding to develop; children learn from one another, and take part in decision making, planning, and evaluating their own progress.

Having other children in the group provides the opportunity to develop friendships with other home-schoolers. A kind of family bonding takes place, and the children help and learn from one another. They also take part in decision making, planning, and evaluating their own progress. Parents are partners in this process, and their participation in field trips and other special events is welcomed.

### WHAT IS THE TEACHING METHOD?

Annette's background in Montessori taught her the value of hands-on learning. Every subject should be related to real life experiences. An inter-disciplinary approach as well as teaching from each of the seven intelligences reinforces educational subjects from many perspectives and stretches the children to develop different strengths. Children re-enact history through costumes, cooking, games, songs, and chores from historic and cultural periods.

**Social responsibility** is a constant theme. The children take an active interest in their community and world through activities such as penny drives for victims of hate crimes, or food and clothing collections for survivors of natural disasters. Love and care for the environment is fostered.

*"My daughter is clearly having a wonderful year. She loves it. This has probably been the most important time in her life, in terms of developing her attitude toward learning."*

- Sherry Gardner, parent



Children are taught Music, Art, and Literature through listening, observing, analyzing and discussing. They study the works of composers, artists, and writers by comparing periods and cultures, as well as through experimenting with techniques. **The arts are incorporated into all subjects.**

Beyond the Box is not a religious program, but an attitude of respect for all people is fostered. We welcome children of any race, color, creed, religion, national and ethnic origin.

### WHAT ARE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS?



**Annette Dougherty** is the founder and director of Beyond the Box. She graduated from Villanova University with a Bachelor of Arts and permanent Massachusetts elementary certification (1-6).

She was Montessori trained and certified for ages 2-5 through AERCO Montessori Training Center in Philadelphia, had elementary Montessori training (6-9 and 9-12 year-olds) through Whitby Montessori Training in Greenwich, Conn., and elementary training for ages 6-12 through the St. Nicholas Montessori Correspondence Course, London, England. She spent four summers at "Confratute", a conference/institute on teaching Gifted and Talented at University of Connecticut, and participated in a year-long study of children's writing through Harvard University. Annette received training and certification in Peaceful Conflict Resolution and Creative Problem Solving through Educators for Social Responsibility, studied Learning Styles with Anthony Gregorc, and Multiple Intelligences with Howard Gardner. She also did graduate work in Music Education at Temple University.

Her teaching experience includes fourteen years in elementary Montessori (ages 6-12), three years as a Gifted/Talented Coordinator for grades K-5 in public schools, two years teaching 7-9 year-olds in a private Whole Language School, and a year teaching fifth grade in a Multiple Intelligences Program. She also taught first grade in Durango, Mexico.

Outside the regular classroom, Annette has taught music in pre-school through eighth grade classes, and piano lessons to students aged five to adult. She has offered enrichment programs in art, music, literature and dramatic history in her home and in schools and museums. References and current criminal clearance may be seen upon request.