



The Wildflower Foundation seeks entrepreneurial Montessori leaders to found Wildflower Schools as teacher-leaders in the Philadelphia area. As head of a Wildflower school, you and a partner (co-head of school) will lead all aspects of a one-room school that serves 20-30 children- from coordinating startup to teaching in the classroom and managing day-to-day operations- drawing on tools and resources from The Wildflower Foundation and the support of a network of like-minded colleagues.

Who We Are

At The Wildflower Foundation, we are working to create beautiful, peaceful learning environments that support children, teachers, and families as they follow life's unfolding journey. Our aim is to make the highest quality educational opportunities available to all families, to strengthen families through parent education, to build community across racial and socioeconomic lines, and to shift public perception about the value of small schools, Montessori environments, and early childhood education. We work towards this purpose by nurturing the development of new Wildflower micro-schools and providing essential tools, supports, and resources to schools in operation.

Our Schools

Each Wildflower school is inherently unique, led by teachers who bring their training and life experience along with a deep commitment to meeting the specific needs of their children and families. Embedded within this beautiful diversity are nine principles that unite our schools:

- **Montessori** - Providing a peaceful, mixed-age, child-directed environment
- **Teacher-led** - Teacher-leaders are partners and social entrepreneur responsible for all aspects of their school and its success
- **Shopfront** - Committed to remaining small, integrated in the community, and responsive to the needs of children
- **Innovation** - Advancing new ideas and the on-going scientific study and improvement of our practice
- **Home** - Blurring the boundaries of homeschooling and institutional schooling; parents are valued partners of the teacher-leaders
- **Beauty**- Giving children opportunities to observe and interact with adults doing day-to-day creative work
- **Equity**- Reflecting a spirit of generosity to all stakeholders, children, parents, those in need, and the local community
- **Nature** - Emphasizing the non-separation between nature and humans through a unique living-classroom design and extensive time in nature
- **Network** - Advancing an ecosystem of independent Wildflower schools that mutually support one another

What you will do

- Learn about Wildflower, develop plans, and bring your school to life through our supported School Startup Journey.

- With the financial and operational support of the local and national Wildflower teams, find and prepare a school site - this generally involves identifying, leasing and renovating shop front space.
- Design and create a prepared Montessori environment in alignment with your vision and the local regulations
- Actively market your school to recruit and enroll a racially and socioeconomically diverse mix of children and families.
- Collaborate with 1-2 other teacher-leaders to develop a vision for an authentic Montessori school to serve the diversity of the local community.

What You Bring

- **A deep commitment to authentic Montessori** - Your expertise will position you to be a highly effective facilitator of children's learning and to extend the values of Montessori to include the adults within your school community.
- **Entrepreneurial leadership** - Your default mode is "yes." You are flexible, open-minded, see opportunity in obstacles, and are energized by using creativity and resourcefulness to create solutions to problems.
- **Generosity of spirit** - You live with kindness, work gently with others, practice gratitude, and lead with love. You seek advice openly and are comfortable working in a non-hierarchical organization.
- **Willingness to work hard** - You have the aptitude, stamina, time, and appetite to raise yourself to the challenge of starting and leading your own school. You will not be alone, but you will be busy.
- **A desire to learn and grow** - You are eager to stretch beyond your current experience, to develop new skills and expertise, and to more deeply explore your purpose and potential.
- **Commitment to serving diverse and multifaceted communities** - You are eager to increase access to Montessori to families of limited economic means and are deeply committed to supporting the development of community across racial lines.

Learn More

If you would like more information about opening a Wildflower School in the Philadelphia area, please email Sunny Greenberg at sunny.greenberg@wildflowerschools.org.

The Wildflower Foundation does not discriminate, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, creed, religion, sex or gender, disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, status with regard to public assistance, or in any other way based on personal identity markers that do not relate to the capacity of an individual person to carry out the responsibilities of a role.