

ADMINISTRATION



SHANNON SMITH - DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, PARTNER
& FOUNDER

“Children bring truth, happiness and perspective in the purest of forms. They are simply the delight of the world”

A native of Charleston, Shannon has been working with children for over 20 years now. Shannon realized her calling when she moved to Atlanta to complete her Montessori teacher certification for 3 to 6 year olds. Upon graduation she had the opportunity to join a new school in Georgia that spanned toddler through upper elementary. She grew with the school to become Assistant Director. When she returned to Charleston she was inspired to open her own school based on her philosophy of Montessori. Since joining with the new Sundrops partners she has grown to expand her program to three campuses offering high-quality educational options throughout the Charleston area. Shannon is an avid skate boarder and spends her free time with her husband and two children.

DAVID DOUGLASS - DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
& PARTNER

“It’s for the kids.”

Born and raised in Reno, NV, Dave was introduced to the Montessori method in 1988 when his two children attended a Montessori school. After volunteering at their school he found the passion for this method of teaching. He received his certification for teaching children ages 6 to 12 and spent 4 years in the classroom. After moving to the Charleston area with his wife and four recently adopted children he found Sundrops, which renewed his passion for working with children. Dave and his other Sundrops partners saw the growing demand for quality Montessori programs in the area and work daily to fulfill that need.



AMANDA GRIER - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR &
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

“Tell me and I’ll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I’ll understand.” - Chinese Proverb

Amanda moved to Charleston in 2006 for a change of pace, to be closer to the beach and to skateboard more frequently with her good friend, Shannon Smith. After being introduced to the enlightening world of Montessori by Shannon, Amanda began to pursue a career in Montessori. She began as a substitute teacher at the Beach Campus and later moved to East Cooper Montessori Charter School, where she taught both lower and upper elementary for four years. In her spare time, Amanda hangs out with her husband and daughter Gigi, who attends Sundrops.

NINA OCAMB - DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS & BEACH
CAMPUS CLASSROOM SUPPORT

“Children are passionate learners. I love to see them able to freely express this.”

Nina was born in Pennsylvania and headed down south to attend college. After graduating with a Bachelor’s in Art History she moved to New York City for two years. The opportunity to go back to school arose and she moved to London with her family. After receiving her M.A. in East Asian Art History she decided to return to where she had always considered home, Charleston. She was introduced to Montessori through her young sister who now attends Sundrops.

Her other interests include cooking, horseback riding and traveling whenever possible.

