

# COMMUNITY NEWS/EDUCATION

## Montessori Children's House ends year with promotion of students

BY DON DECKER,  
YAN News

During a promotion ceremony in the gym for 12 students, some of the "graduating" students had an opportunity to introduce certain parts of the ceremony. Noelani Victor led the participants in the 'Pledge of Allegiance'.

With choral music titled, "Hello to all the children of the world", Milayna Freeman and Damion Estrada introduced the song. This was really a time for the students to really shine.

This ceremony was all about gaining confidence and establishing rapport with the audience and students such as Zamaya Lowry, Kai James, Talani James, Gizelle Caballero, Taylor Ogle, Kaydence Bradley, Dave Kinsey, Sonjae Prentiss and Tyrell Lewis pitched in to make the program a success.

Reba Franco, Yavapai language instructor from the culture center led the children in 'The Numbers Song' followed by an Apache song translated from 'itsy bitsy spider' and capped off by a Yavapai song, 'In beauty I walk, talk and sing'.

The program ended with two songs by the class of 2018: 'One Friend' and 'Yesterday's Dream' both appropriate songs for children in transition to first grade.



Montessori graduation honors parents with a rose by their children



School master Merika Bach with student Taylor Ogle.



Parents line up in front of their children as parents are presented with red roses.



Montessori students know how to celebrate!!

## Montessori School dedicates new playground equipment

BY DON DECKER,  
YAN News

With just under 2 weeks since the old equipment was taken down, the new equipment that was installed received a good workout by the Montessori students. It passed inspection by the students—they had a good time walking, crawling and sliding down on it!

Chairwoman Jane Winiecki helped the student with the dedication of the new playground equipment with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Funds from the Phoenix Indian School Trust Account and a supplement from the Nation paid for the new equipment.

Robert Mills, grant writer for the Nation said 'Beyond Your Ordinary' of St. Augustine, Florida who manufactured the equipment and sold it to the Nation, gave a discount. Plus, the freight charge was waived!

The Nation had purchased the Rimrock community playground equipment from the same company in prior years according to Mr. Mills.



Montessori students gather with community members, parents, council members and the work crew who set up the new equipment. photo by Margie Campos, YAN News



### Montessori School House graduates 2018

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Damion Estrada     | Taylor Ogle      |
| Milayna Freeman    | Talani James     |
| Noelani Victor     | Dave Kinsey III  |
| Tyrell Lewis       | Zamaya Lowry     |
| Kaydence Bradely   | Giselle Martinez |
| Gizelle Cabelleros | Sonjae Prentiss  |
| Kai James          |                  |