

# BEAUVOIR

THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The Associate Teacher Program



Dear Prospective Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Associate Teacher Program at Beauvoir, the National Cathedral Elementary School. We hope that the following information about our school, our philosophy, and our faculty will be helpful to you as a first step in learning about this unique employment opportunity.

For close to two decades, Beauvoir's Associate Teachers have become instant members of a talented and collegial group of educators who understand the complexities of the learning process and know not only what to teach but how to teach young children. Associate Teachers take an active part in the life of the School and are integral in helping Beauvoir carry out its mission to instill a spirit of inquiry and a joy of learning in our students. Additionally, Associate Teachers learn about Beauvoir's distinctive traditions while at the same time contributing to the steady demand for innovation that drives an excellence in teaching.

Under the nurturing guidance of the Administration and their Directing Teachers, Associate Teachers refine their instructional techniques and strategies, strengthen their ability to motivate students, and regularly reflect on their teaching practice.

We look forward to getting to know you and sharing Beauvoir's "beautiful view" of learning.

Again, thank you for your interest in Beauvoir's Associate Teacher Program.

Sincerely yours,



Paula J. Carreiro  
Head of School



## About Beauvoir

Beauvoir's commitment to excellence in early childhood education has been long standing. Initially founded in 1933 as a co-educational primary school preparing its young students for continued education at the National Cathedral School for Girls and the Saint Albans School for Boys, Beauvoir was established as an independent school in 1939. Out of the rejection of the rigid traditional schooling methods of the nineteenth century, grew many of the Beauvoir traditions that students still enjoy today:

- Hands-on, active experience with their subjects
- Movement in the classroom
- Encouragement of classroom discussion
- Recognition of different learning styles, with work balanced individually and in groups
- Emphasis on developing community values and individual character
- Art studios, science laboratories, gardens, gymnasiums, and performing spaces as places of learning
- Continuing emphasis on joy as the basis of many educational innovations

Beauvoir has been characterized as “that remarkable combination of a traditional school and a pilot school...not unused to setting trends.” During the 1940s, the School created a nationally recognized program, “Toward World Mindedness,” to establish a unifying world view helping young children see the similarities among people rather than only their differences. In 1953, Beauvoir became the first school on the Cathedral Close to racially integrate. In the 1970s, the School established the faculty professional development program, adding teachers in mathematics, music, science, art, and learning resources. During that time, Beauvoir began welcoming educators from all over the world to observe how the School integrated new educational practices into its curriculum. In recent years, the School has placed emphasis on incorporating the latest research on brain development to cultivate and refine teaching methods and to establish its program as a national model for character development in young children.

“Beauvoir’s unique balance of tradition and innovation provides Associate Teachers with a wonderful environment for learning the art and science of teaching.” —Former Associate Teacher

## The Associate Teacher Program

Each academic year, Beauvoir employs as many as sixteen well-qualified college graduates to serve as Associate Teachers. Typically joining the faculty for a one to two year appointment, the Associate Teacher is introduced to a program of guided work in the classroom, instructional immersion, professional development, and exposure to the theories and methods of early childhood education. The Associate Teacher gains a deeper sense of the many responsibilities and joys of the teaching profession. Associate Teachers take an active part in the life of the School and are integral in helping Beauvoir carry out its mission to instill a spirit of inquiry and a joy of learning in our students. Associate Teachers receive a salary and are appointed to full-time faculty positions in Kindergarten through Third Grade.

The Associate Teacher Program seeks to play an important role in the preparation and guidance of new teachers as they clarify their goals for future employment or further education. Beauvoir is a community where collegiality and collaboration are encouraged and celebrated.

Primarily, Associate Teachers spend the academic year working closely with a Directing Teacher through observation, teaching, and planning. The relationship



“The Associate Teacher Program will forever enhance my work with young children. The confidence and experience that I gained in my two years at Beauvoir proved invaluable.” —Former Associate Teacher



between the Directing Teacher and the Associate Teacher is unique in the opportunity it provides for daily guidance and feedback. Additionally, Associate Teachers regularly attend meetings of their grade level, division, and the faculty as a whole; they also meet with any curriculum committees to which they are appointed. Throughout the year, Associate Teachers participate in seminars and workshops on learning differences, classroom management, child development, and various areas of the curriculum.

While working as instructors in the early childhood classroom, Associate Teachers learn not only from faculty mentors and opportunities for professional development, but also from self-assessment and evaluation. While engaging in this nurturing learning process, the Associate Teacher is expected, nevertheless, to exercise professional judgment and responsibility in keeping with the expectations of the School's faculty.

In its faculty, Beauvoir encourages and celebrates excellence in teaching, and a spirit of collegiality and cooperation, in conjunction with an unwavering commitment to sustaining a vibrant community of learners. Participants in Beauvoir's Associate Teacher Program are valued members of this community.

"Beauvoir's program provided me with a wonderful start to a career in education. I have a better understanding of how young children learn." —Former Associate Teacher

## Applying to Teach at Beauvoir

All applicants for the Associate Teacher Program are required to submit (1) a resume and (2) a cover letter that tells us more about you and your interest in Beauvoir. If you have a personal statement or copies of reference letters, we welcome these, as well.

### Application Requirements

The School accepts candidates for Associate Teacher positions with the following minimal qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education or other relevant fields; state certification is not required.
- A strong commitment to educating a diverse student body within a caring and creative environment.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Dedication to professional growth and continued learning.

### Application Instructions

To receive priority consideration for current faculty openings at Beauvoir, candidates are strongly encouraged to submit a resume and supporting materials online through the career opportunities on our website ([www.beauvoirschool.org](http://www.beauvoirschool.org)). Materials may also be mailed or faxed.

Interested candidates are encouraged to apply at their earliest convenience. Interviews are required and are typically held from January through April.

### Further Information

Inquiries should be directed to the attention of:

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