



# OKSANA KOVAL

CHILDREN'S HOUSE DIRECTRESS

Oksana Koval grew up in a family of educators. Her mother, who holds a Ph.D. in education, encouraged her to pursue a career in education, instilling in her Montessori principles of independent thinking from an early age.

In 1996, Oksana graduated from a Pedagogical College in the Ukraine and received a Junior Specialist Teaching Diploma in Primary Education and Foreign Language. As a result, she tutored many children and worked as a substitute teacher in several public schools in California.

Oksana has been involved in non-profit work since 2002. She helped research educational programs and translated many educational seminars as part of ICEA (International Cultural and Educational Association).

In 2005, she graduated with honors from San Francisco State University with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Journalism. Oksana loves to use her research and technology skills to create educational videos for children to learn about a variety of physical and cultural subjects.

While in California, Oksana discovered yoga and experienced many benefits of it. She became certified as a Yoga-for-Kids Instructor. Teaching yoga to young children has become one of her passions. Oksana loves to guide children through this creative process, as they learn to move their body in a controlled manner and learn about nature and animals at the same time. Learn more at [www.oksanayoga.com](http://www.oksanayoga.com). She founded yoga for kids programs in two Montessori schools, one in IL and one in California.

In 2010, Oksana began her Montessori Early Childhood Teacher training and simultaneously began working in a Montessori classroom. The more she learned about the Montessori Method and materials, the more she fell in love with it.

Oksana joined AGBMS in December and completed the Montessori Teacher Training in the summer of 2013. She is currently the directress in the Iris Room, which has grown from a small classroom to a full size Montessori classroom. Oksana is also the Editor of the school's newspaper. She loves documenting children's work in the form of pictures and videos and share them with parents.

She loves working with 3-6 year old children and enjoys creating a variety of materials. Her favorite areas of the classroom include geography, cultural diversity, cooking, cleaning, drawing, art, singing, dancing, and yoga. Oksana is trilingual – Russian and Ukrainian are her native tongues.