

Santa Monica Early Childhood Lab School

A unique partnership:

Santa Monica College | City of Santa Monica | Growing Place

with support from The RAND Corporation

Brief Look at the History

- 1989 – Early childhood advocates began conversations with City leaders to recognize early childhood as a community priority. Thank you Betsy Hiteshew and Irene Zivi!
- 1991 – City of Santa Monica issues first Child Care Master Plan.
- 1993 – Santa Monica Civic Center Specific Plan calls for childcare facilities to be incorporated into the Civic Center.
- 2002-04 – City Council approves a land use plan and completes an EIR that incorporates a childcare center into the Civic Center; discussions for partnership with SMC begin.
- 2004 – Voters pass Measure S, SMC’s \$135 million bond measure, including \$7 million in funding for construction of a child care center.
- 2005-2012 – City Council and SMC negotiate, plan, and approve terms for development of the child care center.
- 2016 – Lease between City of SM and SMC finalized; SMC’s Measure V passes, providing additional construction funds.
- 2017 – Growing Place selected as Operator.
- 2018 – Groundbreaking and commencement of construction.
- 2021 – Construction complete.
- **September 15, 2021, Growing Place begins operations**

In Santa Monica's Civic Center 1802 4th Street

At full capacity, Growing Place will provide early care and education to up to 106 children.

- 2 infant classrooms
- 2 toddler classrooms
- 4 preschool classrooms
- 2 specially designed outdoor play areas

Now accepting applications for fall 2022.

www.growingplace.org



Why an Early Childhood Lab School?

- Train early childhood educators through SMC's comprehensive, award-winning, NAEYC-approved Early Childhood Education curriculum
- Ensure the region has highly skilled early childhood educators for all types of programs
- Elevate the importance of high-quality early childhood care and education through advocacy and a model partnership and project
- Provide high-quality early childhood care and education for up to 106 infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- Be accessible to those who live, work, and/or study in Santa Monica
- Ensure a diverse group of families is served and prioritize enrollment for Santa Monica families, especially low-income Santa Monica families
- Safely provide child care during the pandemic



SANTA MONICA EARLY CHILDHOOD LAB SCHOOL
SANTA MONICA COLLEGE | CITY OF SANTA MONICA | GROWING PLACE

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Santa Monica











Let's take a
closer look.....

- <https://www.growingplace.org/lab-school>
- Views of site and classrooms
- Brief video

Questions?

Thank you,

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Pauline McPeake, Executive
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