Welcome to Julia Goldstein Early Childhood Education Center, providing services for children from birth up to Kindergarten along with their families through tuition-based options as well as early childhood special education and Parents As Teachers. Julia Goldstein ECEC currently serves 120 students through school programs and more than 550 children through PAT screenings and/or home visits and is accredited by the Missouri Accreditation of Programs for Children and Youth. It provides before and aftercare programs through Monsanto YMCA.

A Reggio Emilia Approach
Teachers are actively trained in the Reggio-Emilia approach, an internationally-recognized early childhood education philosophy that puts the child at the center of discovery and self-expression. Teachers create classroom learning environments conducive to inquiry learning. Teachers are challenged to deepen their level of instructional practices to spark students as independent learners and thinkers by appreciating children’s natural inclinations of exploration and wonder.

School Mission
Julia Goldstein ECEC’s mission is to partner with families of children prenatal to kindergarten as they gain knowledge through developmentally appropriate practices that encourage curiosity, creativity, and responsibility while providing a strong foundation for successful life-long learning.

Addressing Needs of All Students
Students have access to support services from the school nurse, guidance counselor and social worker. Academics are enhanced with hands-on learning activities for all students. Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) offers instruction and lessons designed specifically for students with disabilities as indicated in the Individualized Education Plan. Personalized support for English language learners is also provided.

Well-Being and Joy
Students learn better when they feel loved, safe, included and challenged. All District teachers are expected to teach with the head and heart with the understanding positive relationships are the foundation of learning. Teachers and staff are trained to be trauma-informed and culturally responsive. Schools participate in restorative practices to build community and relationships and repair harm when a wrong has been done.

School Motto for Positive Behavior
We make Strong Choices each day to:
- Be Safe;
- Be Kind;
- Be Responsible

Join us on our journey of Learning Reimagined, a path to Humanize, Personalize and Problematize student education through modern, rigorous and relevant learning experiences.
**History**

Julia Goldstein ECEC officially opened on March 18, 1996. The 27,000 square-foot building includes 12 classrooms, a community room (a meeting space for students, families and/or staff), a multipurpose room, a fully-equipped kitchen and a developmentally-appropriate preschool playground. In 2014, the District opened an “atelier,” an arts studio, at Julia Goldstein. This enrichment room is used to explore the many ways that children communicate such as painting, drawing, building, or moving with long-term units designed by the teachers and students.

**Screenings: 314-290-4391**

Developmental screenings are offered in general development, language, hearing, vision and physical development. Children ages six through 36 months are screened through Parents as Teachers. Screening for three- to five-year-olds is scheduled at the center.

**Tuition Program: 314-290-4391**

We offer tuition-based classes. The tuition fee is based on family size and income. There is a $20 non-refundable registration fee. Half-day attendance is 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. or 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday only with a cost between $32 - $64 weekly. Full-day attendance is from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and the tuition rates range from $80 - $160 weekly.

**Parents As Teachers (PAT): 314-290-4276**

This parent education program offers personal visits and activities for families expecting a child or families with children birth to five years old. Research-based neuroscience information is offered to enable parents to maximize their child’s learning potential. Resource materials and developmental health, hearing and vision screenings are also provided. Group meetings are held in conjunction with the Early Childhood classes to encourage parent/child interaction.

**Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE): 314-290-4391**

The School District of University City provides special education services for children with developmental delays who are ages three up to kindergarten entry. Referrals from community agencies, screening, and Parents As Teachers help in identifying students for intervention. Diagnostic testing, evaluation, writing of Individual Education Plans (IEP) and delivery of most services are available at our center. Often, necessary special services are provided within the classroom setting, which allows the child to receive the benefit of inclusion with appropriate support to develop to potential. The IEP services determine half-day or full-day attendance.

**The Monsanto YMCA Before and After Care: 314-367-4646**

Before care (7:00 to 8:30 a.m.) and/or aftercare (3:30 to 6:00 p.m.) is provided on-site for families with students enrolled in our classrooms. To enroll your child, contact Sharon Holbrooks at [314]367-4646 ext. 36. Fees apply.
Parents As Teachers is a national program that offers free parent education program through personal visits and activities for all families that are expecting a child to those with children up to the age of five years old. Research-based neuroscience information enables parents to maximize their child’s learning potential.

**PAT families receive**

- Personal Visits: Parent educators share age-appropriate, child development and parenting information, help parents learn to observe children and address parenting concerns.
- Parent Group Meetings: Parents learn and support each other, observe their children with other children, practice parenting children and share information about parenting issues and child development.
- Screenings: Children’s overall development including health, hearing and vision are assessed.
- Resource Network: Families are linked to local community services and resources.

**PAT in University City**

- Provides an initial visit and screenings to all families. Additional visits are based upon qualifications such as income, children in the home with special needs, children with very low birth weight, military status and other special circumstances.
- Offers home or center visit options with experienced parent educators.
- Involves families in preschool activities in conjunction with Early Childhood classes to encourage parent/child interaction.
- Gives post-screening support to children and families.
- Prepares students and families for preschool and elementary school experience.
- Encourages early literacy by providing books to participating families.
- Independent evaluations show PAT benefits children throughout their school years.

If interested, call 314-290-4276 or email ccauley@ucityschools.org.