

MARIETTA JOHNSON SCHOOL OF ORGANIC EDUCATION



Founded in 1907, Marietta Johnson's experiment in education now holds the distinction of being the nation's oldest progressive school. While our location has changed from the center of town to the southern edge, our philosophy and commitment to developmentally appropriate, hands-on learning experiences remains the same. The natural inquisitiveness of children is nurtured through child-directed learning and our belief that the classroom is not limited to a few brick and mortar buildings but, instead, encompasses our whole campus, community, and world.

Woods, gullies and the Mobile Bay are all within walking distance and provide us opportunities for teaching that cannot be found in textbooks. Our coastal community abounds with wildlife and our estuaries provide safe spawning grounds for young sea life as well as young minds.

The world has changed in many ways since 1907 but the way children learn has remained the same. Today we face many challenges and technological advances that influence us every day. The career paths many of our students will take may not even exist now. More than ever before we must provide opportunities for children to explore, experiment, create and invent.



The Marietta Johnson School is a not-for-profit corporation that does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, gender or religion.



Art, music, drama, dance and play are an essential element in the development of a healthy mind, body and spirit and we offer a wide array of avenues by which children can discover their talents. Our classes are small and academic subjects are individualized according to each child's unique learning style.

New students for our Pre-K through 8th grade programs are welcome at any time during the school year. We also offer support services for home-schooled students in upper grades.

Call us for a tour at [251-928-9347](tel:251-928-9347) or email us at marietta.school@mchsi.com

Check out our website:

www.fairhopeorganicschool.com

"Where Learning is Living and Living is Learning"

MARIETTA JOHNSON MUSEUM



Located in the historic Bell Building, the oldest school building in Baldwin County, Alabama, the Marietta Johnson Museum houses a repository of documents, photographs, writings and other artifacts which reflect the life's work of Marietta Pierce Johnson and the early days of the School of Organic Education, which she founded in Fairhope in 1907. The Museum serves as a research base for educators of today who seek to utilize Mrs. Johnson's methods. Until 1987 the Organic School operated out of this historic building at 10 South School Street and owned the 10 acre campus which is now Faulkner State College.

A world renowned pioneer in the field of education, Marietta Johnson created her school as a demonstration of the principles of Progressive Education which include the full development of the child in body, mind and spirit. Mrs. Johnson (or Aunt Mettie, as she was called by her students) believed in creating an environment that fostered freedom of expression, tolerance and a natural love for learning. There were no grades or tests because Marietta Johnson felt that they caused insincere motivation in the students. Teachers encouraged each child to do his best according to his own individual capability. The teachers also provided the tools necessary for hands-on, experiential learning opportunities.



The Museum was responsible for the casting of the Marietta Johnson Memorial Sculpture located on the bluff overlooking Mobile Bay at the foot of Cliff Street in Fairhope. Teaching Without Failure, a collection of Mrs. Johnson's two books, Youth in a World of Men and Thirty Years With an Idea, was published by the Museum and can be purchased there or by email.

The Museum maintains a website: www.mariettajohnson.org. Admission is free and hours are 2:00 – 4:00 Monday through Friday or by appointment. For group tours or an appointment call 251-990-8601 or email us at: mariettajohnson@mindspring.com.