



School Events & Happenings

MSHS GRADUATION



May 20: Manitou Springs High School Graduation, 1 p.m. at Richardson Field, 401 El Monte Place.

Artist of the Week



Artist: Jaycie Kaltenbacher, Manitou Springs High School
Title: Succulents **Medium:** watercolor

¡Hola! — Meet Manitou's new Spanish teachers

Beginning in the fall, all schools in Manitou Springs School District will have Spanish instruction! Along with the new Spanish curriculum come some new faces to our teaching staff.

SARAH ULIZIO – Ute Pass Elementary

Ms. Ulizio served as the co-director of the High Trails Outdoor Education Center at Sanborn Western Camps from August 2013 through November 2016. She has extensive experience working with children, speaks Spanish and has studied abroad in Spain, Ghana, Turkey and Brazil.



ALEJANDRA LILLEMOM – Manitou Springs Elementary

Alejandra is a native Spanish speaker born in Panama, a former lawyer, who has taught in a DODS school in Germany, in a D2 high school and most recently at D49's Horizon Middle School. She is passionate about teaching Spanish to elementary students and brings rich culture to our school!

MADI STUART – Manitou Springs Middle School

Madi is thrilled to be a Mustang again! She is a Manitou native and an MSMS

alum. After earning degrees in Spanish literature and education from Colorado College, Madi taught middle school Spanish in Denver public schools for two years. She then taught and studied in magical Guanajuato, Mexico, for eight months. She was drawn to Guanajuato, in part, because the friendly, artsy community and gorgeous mountain setting reminded her of her hometown of Manitou. This year, she is teaching Spanish at a middle school in Colorado Springs. Madi looks forward to working with the fantastic D14 educators and students, and to bringing her passions for language acquisition and Spanish-speaking cultures to Manitou Springs Middle School.

AMY RODEARMEL – Manitou Springs High School

Amy attended the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley and is endorsed in English as a Second Language and Bilingual/Bicultural. She studied abroad in Torremolinos and Madrid, Spain, studying literature and conversation. Amy served as an English language tutor in Highland Middle School in Ault, Colo., and as an English tutor at UNC Center for Human Enrichment.

Alumni Corner with Jake Wood, MSHS Class of 2011

What are you currently doing?

After I graduated from Middlebury College in May of 2015, I started an internship at a digital agency in San Francisco, AKQA, which specializes in digital marketing services and products. After the three-month program, I was hired as an associate; cut to today, and I am a regular software engineer.

There are a number of things that I work on, but the majority of my time and energy goes toward building websites (as they are the most ubiquitous form of digital media). As a developer, I take the designs, notes, copy and assets produced by other teams and translate them into browser-friendly code.

There are also peripheral opportunities for me to be creative, such as internal agency briefs. These consist of open-ended artistic and technological challenges for which anyone in the company can pitch solutions. The agency will then put its full weight behind making the best ideas a reality, (e.g. Google "AKQA Christmas card").

What advice do you have for current students at MSSD14?

So I work in the enormous, constantly changing tech industry. What's new is redefined daily and none of it is rocket science. If you want to be a programmer, you can.

You don't need a college degree. You don't need to be good at math. You don't need to have started coding when you were 12 in your parents' basement. I am here to tell you that it is totally a thing that you can do if you want.



Whether or not you're considering the life of a code monkey, my general purpose life advice is this: being good at what you do is awesome, but it won't matter if you're someone people don't want to work with. So yeah, try to be a good person, it turns out to be important.

What did you personally learn that has "stuck with you" while at MSSD14?

I appreciate that Manitou was a place I could be all the different versions of myself. I belonged. I had classmates, and teachers, and teammates willing to go to bat for me. This helped me build self-assurance and self-worth during a critical time in my life, enabling me to aim higher.

Please add anything you think is interesting.

Every single night for an entire year, my girlfriend and I took a photo of us brushing our teeth and posted it to Instagram (@thedailytooth).

For a few months during this time we also maintained a choose-your-own-adventure in @thedailytooth's captions where viewers voted on what the protagonist did next.

When picking a niche, we go all in.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL — MAY 24TH

