Shelley Howard
Nursing Student, Aurora, CO
Austin Montessori, 1993-2001

As of this writing, Austin Montessori alum Shelley Howard is about to earn her BS in Nursing at the University of Colorado—Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, CO. Her goal after graduating is to work with women as a Labor and Delivery nurse.

Shelley attended the elementary and adolescent programs at AMS (grades 1-8), after which she attended the Waldorf High School in Austin. From there she moved on to Kenyon College in Ohio, where earned her B.S. in Biology.

After graduating from Kenyon, Shelley’s aspiration was to become a farmer. “It seemed like the perfect mix of working with my hands and being connected to the stuff of life,” she says. So she “WWOOFed” (worked on organic farms in exchange for food and lodging) in Ireland, Spain, and the Netherlands, and traveled extensively throughout Europe, Asia, and Africa. Her interests gradually shifted towards health care, and she returned to Austin to work for Planned Parenthood as a medical assistant. That experience ignited her interest in nursing, which eventually led her to Colorado and the nursing program there.

Shelley attributes her love for working with her hands, working with and for other people, and strong work ethic to her Montessori background. She adds, “I think I have found a great intersection of hands-on work, intellectual stimulation, serving others compassionately, and a path for lifelong learning in the field of nursing!”

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