

MEPI *Hands For Peace* Conference

montessori

montessori educational programs international

MEPI

MEPI

PO BOX 24085

Overland Park, KS 66283

Workshops and
Professional Development
in a Montessori setting.

Space is Limited, Register Early!



We invite you to join us.

MEPI *Hands for Peace*

Kansas City Conference

October 23rd and 24th 2009

Conference Location:



707 W. 47th Street
Kansas City, MO 64112

Schedule

Friday, October 23, 2009

7:30– 9:00am	Check in and On-site Registration		
9:00—9:45	Opening Ceremony		
10:00—11:30	Session A	Presenter	Level
	1. Auditory Processing Disorders in Children	Dr. Jack Katz	All
	2. Sensorial Extensions	Jen Fuller	EC
	3. Importance of Silence	K. Ahrendt & K. Garcia	EC
	4. The Magic of Whole Foods	Alicia Poole	All
	5. Art in the Classroom	Shannon Flowers	All
11:30—1:30pm	Lunch Break —Enjoy lunch on the Plaza and don't forget to check out the Exhibitors in the Rainbow Room!		
1:30—3:00	Session B	Presenter	Level
	6. Peacemakers or Police Officers	Nancy Lindeman	EL
	7. Golden Beads Review	Svetlana Smirnova-Johnston	EC
	8. Joy of Learning for our Youngest Montessorians	Shawn Donaldson	IT
	9. Food is Elementary	H. Gibbons & E. Libla	All
	10. Yoga for the Classroom	Ramie M. Haas	All
3:00—3:30	Break and Visit the Exhibitors		
3:30—5:00	Session C	Presenter	Level
	11. Elementary Round Table.....	EL Staff	EL
	12. Celebrating Our True Colors.....	Lisa Bergrud	All
	13. No Child Left Inside	Cathy Brennan	All
	14. The Fun of Using Constructive Triangles.....	Tracy Smith	EC
	15. Sensory Integration	Marcy Riedel	All
5:10—5:30	Door Prizes in Exhibitor Room		



Social Reception and Dinner at Plaza III (Please complete section on registration form!)

- 6:00 Cash Bar and MEPI Reception
- 6:30 Dinner

Saturday, October 24, 2009

8:00– 9:00am	Check-in and On-site Registration / Coffee		
9:00—9:15	Welcome / Announcements		
9:15—10:45	Keynote by Jonathan Wolff		
11:00—12:30pm	Session D	Presenter	Level
	1. Infant / Toddler Round Table	IT Staff	IT
	2. Manners Matter	Mary Amor	All
	3. Unit Studies for the Early Childhood Teacher	Julie Keller	EC
	4. Cosmic Perspectives: Montessori Child and Curriculum ...	Beti Wyn Holcombe	All
	5. A Fresh Look at Classroom Management.....	Jonathan Wolff	All
12:30—2:30	Lunch Break —Check out the Exhibitors in the Rainbow Room! The silent auction and the exhibitor booths will close at 4:30.		
2:30—4:00	Session E	Presenter	Level
	6. Inner Work for Children	Kitty Degler	All
	7. Montessori and Positive Values, Virtues, & Character	Randall Holcombe	All
	8. Experiences, Not Experiments.....	Susan Drewelow	EC
	9. Gaining & Maintaining Positive Relations with Parents	Jonathan Wolff	All
	10. Golden Beads Review	Svetlana Smirnova-Johnston	EC
4:00—4:30	Last chance for Exhibitor Purchases & Silent Auction ends —pick up purchases after Closing Ceremony		
4:30—5:00	Closing Ceremony & Door Prizes		

Workshops and Presenters

Friday, October 23rd, 2009

Session A

- 1. Auditory Processing Disorders in Children**—This presentation will define APD, describe the behavioral characteristics of those with APD, and discuss test procedures, therapies and classroom tools.
Dr. Jack Katz—Dr. Katz has worked with children with APD for over 50 years and has edited several books on the topic and recently completed a book on APD therapies. He has lectured widely on this topic.
- 2. Sensorial Extensions**—Sensorial shelf used for dusting? Let's get that sensorial material out and see what it can do! This class promises exciting new ideas to utilize the materials you already have and add some spice to the sensorial area and the classroom.
Jen Fuller—Jen is finishing up her EC Montessori certification while also serving on the Board of Directors of MEPI. She is owner/director of Goldmark Montessori School in KS and enjoys having her husband and 3 children involved in her Montessori endeavors.
- 3. Importance of Silence**—Noise, noise, noise - we all need some silence! For children to become a master of silence, they need exposure to lessons in self-control. Join us as we explore activities leading to an appreciation of silence.
Kristy Ahrendt—Kristy has been involved in Montessori for six years as a parent, in administration and as a student of Montessori education and philosophy. She is currently an intern at Clay-Platte Montessori, working in a primary classroom.
Kristin Garcia—Kristin completed her EC Montessori certification and is currently working at Clay-Platte Montessori School with the primary program. She has a BS in Lifespan Development and Family Studies from Kansas State University.
- 4. The Magic of Whole Foods**—Understand the importance of whole foods. Learn how to add more whole foods to your diet while crowding out the foods that don't nourish you. What are Super Foods? How can we engage children? Join us in an inspiring whole foods discussion.
Alicia Poole—a Holistic Health Counselor, she engages people on a journey to discover optimum health through individually tailored nutritional guidance. Alicia received her training at the Institute for Integrative Nutrition in NYC and is the mother of two boys.
- 5. Art in the Classroom**—In Montessori, we study different artists and give lessons on different art skills, but we leave out all the pieces that make art masterful. In this workshop we will discover a curriculum designed to teach the different elements of art: line, shape, dimension and more.
Shannon Flowers—is a certified EC Montessori Teacher. She is an educator with the AMS Kansas City Center for Montessori Teacher Education. She is the director of Sunshine Acres Montessori School in Lawrence, KS and co-owner of Young Artist's Ink.

Session B

- 6. Peacemakers or Police Officers**—We will explore classroom management options that will encourage elementary children to self-monitor their behavior. The focus of this workshop will encourage students to be peacemakers and to focus on their own behavior and not their peers.
Nancy Lindeman—Nancy has been an educator for 30 years. She is currently an educational director for IGS. For the last two years she has returned to the 6-9 classroom while writing a charter for Maria Montessori Academy, opening in North Ogden, Utah in August of 2010.
- 7. Golden Beads Review**—Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. This hands on workshop will have you falling in love with the golden beads all over again!
Svetlana Sminova-Johnston—Svetlana received a degree in Math Education in Russia. She has been a member of Clay-Platte Montessori since 2005 and completed her MEPI 3-6 certification in 2007.
- 8. Joy of Learning for our youngest Montessorians**—A discussion and examples of how the prepared environment along with independence building "work" can begin a joyful Montessori Journey for the toddler.
Shawn Donaldson—Shawn has taught at Clay-Platte Montessori since 1980 and now heads the Toddler Program for 2-3 year olds. Her extensive research has given her insight into the many areas of children's lives.
- 9. Food Is Elementary**—This workshop is a sensory based, hands on approach to learning about food, community, and culture. It promotes life-long healthy eating habits.
Heather Gibbons & Emily Libla—Heather and Emily are coordinators for Food Is Elementary in KC. Together they support efforts to implement the "Food Is Elementary" curriculum.
- 10. Yoga for the Classroom**—Learn some great activities for the classroom!
Ramie M. Haas—Ramie went to an Ashram and lived with the Yogis and learned meditation & yoga in the true Spirit. She now does Life Coaching using tools such as Hypnotherapy, NLP, the Blood Type Diet, HYP-Yoga, and many more!

Session C

- 11. Elementary Round Table**—An open discussion of Elementary opportunities!
- 12. Celebrating Our True Colors**—We each have a distinct personality, special traits that make us unique and color the way we see the world. This is a fun way to look at our differences/similarities and learn how we can successfully work and play together.
Lisa Berglund—Lisa has a bachelor's in Public Relations, a master's in Non-Profit Management and over 15 years experience as a facilitator. Lisa is currently Community Relations Director at Clay-Platte Montessori School.
- 13. No Child Left Inside**—How to build an Outdoor Environment. This workshop will take you step-by-step through the process of dreaming, planning and implementing a nature based outdoor playground, finding workers and funding sources to implement the plan.
Cathy Brennan—Cathy will begin her 10th year as director of Discovery School Montessori Preschool in Topeka, KS with 18 years of teaching experience in the preschool curriculum.
- 14. The Fun of Using Constructive Triangles**—Ever wonder what else you can do with those constructive triangles? This workshop will have you making new friends with constructive triangles in various forms!
Tracy Smith—Tracy Smith has over 20 years of experience in the primary classroom, receiving her Montessori certificate in 1984. She is currently lead director of a primary classroom at Clay-Platte Montessori School.
- 15. Sensory Integration**—A child's occupation is play and school performance. A child with sensory integration dysfunction cannot integrate all the information they receive from their environment. This presentation will help you identify sensory issues and properly accommodate the child.
Marcy Riedel—Marcy graduated from the University of Kansas with her Master's in Occupational Therapy in May of 2005. She currently works at The Children's SPOT at Saint Luke's Hospital. She is married and has one son, Reece.

Saturday, October 24th, 2009

Keynote—Four Aspects of "Following the Child" - Keeping a Montessori Program in Balance and Attuned to the Needs of Students

Jonathan Wolff

Dr. Montessori advised us to "follow the child," and to "gather and appreciate all those tiny and delicate manifestations of the opening life in the child's soul." But what does this actually mean in the context of today's prepared environment and our Montessori programs? How do we foster Dr. Montessori's dreams of an equitable and peaceful planet while delivering developmentally attuned programs? How do we address the needs and aspirations of the individual learned while preparing students for success in subsequent scholastic settings and in society?

Jonathan Wolff—Jonathan is a consultant, trainer, speaker and author who infuses his work in leadership development with 30 years experience as an educator and administrator. He is the Founder and Director of Learning for Life and Montessori Leadership.

Session D

- 1. Infant / Toddler Round Table**—Come join us in an open discussion of Infant / Toddler opportunities!
- 2. Manners Matter**—Each day we guide our students through many skills; are we also demonstrating good manners? Grace and courtesy are everyone's responsibility. Come learn and share ideas for emphasizing good manners.
Mary Amor—Mary has a BS in Elementary education, training through MEPI and certification from The American School of Protocol.
- 3. Unit Studies for the Early Childhood Teacher**—Learn how to prepare yourself, classroom and students for an in depth unit study in a primary classroom. A little planning goes a long way!
Julie Keller—Julie Keller received her AMS primary certificate in 1996. She worked at Peninsula Montessori School in California from 1997 - 2006. Currently, she is the educational director of the preparatory and primary programs at Clay-Platte Montessori School.
- 4. Cosmic Perspectives: Montessori Child and Curriculum**—What do we observe as children transition from pre-primary to middle school? Which habits result in normalization and sound scholarship? Join a discussion of the "cosmic" child in Dr. Montessori's "Great Story of Life".
Beti Wyn Holcombe—Beti Wyn teaches middle school at Clay Platte Montessori School. She conducts a MACIE accredited Montessori elementary training program in Kansas City, South Carolina and Utah.
- 5. A Fresh Look at Classroom Management**—In respecting, protecting and re-directing children's energies in the Montessori prepared environment it is vital that we understand how the mind and brain work. Learn to facilitate classroom management in light of current research in Positive Psychology, Emotional and Social Intelligence and Multiple Intelligence.
Jonathan Wolff—For bio, please refer to Keynote.

Session E

- 6. Inner Work for Children**—Learn and experience breathing and energy techniques, guided meditation, and open imagery meditation that you can use with your children. For calming in the classroom, exploring their inner worlds, or helping them fall asleep at night.
Kitty Degler—Kitty is in her 8th year teaching in the Montessori elementary program at Clay-Platte Montessori. She has used these techniques with children and adults at school, church and home.
- 7. How Montessori Nurtures Positive Values, Virtues, & Character Strengths**—The Montessori method encourages life-enhancing character values (reason, purpose, respect), core virtues (rationality, productivity, courage, justice, temperance), and many specific character strengths. Discover how Montessori education promotes the flow of positive psychology and inspires happiness.
Randall Holcombe—Randall has been a life long student of Philosophy and Montessori. He has a BA in Philosophy and associates in Science and Art.
- 8. Experiences, Not Experiments**—This workshop is designed to focus on the scientific process in the classroom. Ideas of scientific exploration will be demonstrated. Learn how to make science fun!
Susan Drewelow—Susan was the lead pre-K teacher at Countryside United Methodist Preschool for 13 years. She currently is the Administrator and Preschool Director for Susanna Wesley Preschool and school-Age Programs.
- 9. Gaining and Maintaining Positive Relations with Parents**—Can we apply the Montessori principles of observation: "teach teaching not correcting", the Three Period Lesson, and peer coaching to our relations and communications with parents? You bet! Discover ways teachers can quickly and comfortably gain parent trust and support.
Jonathan Wolff—For bio, please refer to Keynote.
- 10. Golden Beads Review**—*Svetlana Sminova-Johnston* (This workshop is also given on Friday. Refer to Session B, #7 for more information)

Special Labyrinth Activity Workshop

This workshop will run during the ENTIRE conference! Beth Langley will host this special workshop on labyrinths. Participation during breaks and other free time is invited and all are welcome. Enjoy the opportunity to create classroom materials and labyrinth-inspired art and try a few activities. Materials will be provided by Beth Langley. Construction of a temporary labyrinth on site is being planned. Labyrinth activities will be at the registration and information desk. You don't want to miss this!

Hands for Peace - Registration - October 23rd and 24th

Participant Information - please print all information

Name: _____ Street address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ Email: _____
 School you are affiliated with: _____
 Emergency contact name and phone: _____

* Session Selections *

Friday Workshops - please circle first and second choices

Session A—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5
Session B—1st - 6 7 8 9 10 2nd - 6 7 8 9 10
Session C—1st—11 12 13 14 15 2nd - 11 12 13 14 15

Saturday Workshops - please circle first and second choices

Session D—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5
Session E—1st - 6 7 8 9 10 2nd - 6 7 8 9 10



Volunteers are needed!

___ Registration Table Friday ___ Saturday ___
 ___ MEPI Sales Table Friday ___ Saturday ___
 ___ Clean-up Friday ___ Saturday ___
 ___ Water/coffee, etc. Friday ___ Saturday ___

Conference Location

Global Montessori is located inside
 Unity Temple on the Plaza
 707 W. 47th Street
 Kansas City, MO 64112

Lodging Accommodations

Sheraton Suites
 Country Club Plaza
 (866) 716-8134
 770 West 47th Street
 Kansas City, MO 64112

Conference Information - please print all information

MEPI Members—circle your choice (s)

	<u>Advance</u>	<u>After Oct 19th</u>
Full Conference—Friday and Saturday	\$150.00	\$225.00
Friday or Saturday only	\$90.00	\$150.00
MEPI membership	\$37.00	\$37.00
Total Conference Fee	\$____.00	\$____.00

Non-Members—circle your choice (s)

Full Conference—Friday and Saturday	\$200.00	\$275.00
Friday or Saturday only	\$140.00	\$200.00
Total Conference Fee	\$____.00	\$____.00

MEPI Interns—in good standing

Full Conference Fee	\$120.00	\$140.00
Friday or Saturday only	\$90.00	\$150.00
Total Conference Fee	\$____.00	\$____.00

Complementary
 Friday Night Dinner at:

Plaza III
 the steakhouse

4749 Pennsylvania
 Kansas City, MO 64112
 816.753.0000

Please check one:

- Marinated Double Breast of Chicken
 Center Cut Filet Mignon
 Grilled Atlantic Salmon with Basil Butter
 Not attending dinner

Checks/money orders made payable to: **MEPI** or Pay by credit card via **PayPal** at our website: mepiforum.org

Mail completed registration form and check (if applicable) to: **MEPI**

PO Box 24085
Overland Park, KS 66283

** All participants will receive a complimentary MEPI tote bag **