



Montessori Materials for the Classroom and at Home

A Montessori Europe Summit

Saturday 29 January 2022

14.00 - 17.00 (CET)

Introduction

In this third Montessori Europe Summit, we are responding to our members' request for information about more practically based activities for the classroom. We have all been challenged during the past two years by the requirements of on-line learning, when we had to think of adapting or creating new materials, activities, or projects, in our efforts to stay connected with our students and their families. This summit gives participants an opportunity to engage with successful activities, ideas and projects, shared by our presenters. We know they will enhance your classrooms and homes and children's learning experiences.

The ideas shared are designed to encourage teachers to think beyond the standard Montessori materials and activities and feel enabled to design new activities which reflect their pupil's interest. To ensure that we meet the needs of our community, our presenters will be contributing in the areas of their specific expertise from babies and toddlers to casa children, elementary classroom, activities for adolescent and Montessori students. We hope we have created something for everyone!!!

We are delighted to welcome Simone Davies, Anna Blackman, Heidi van Staden, Tony Evans and Jarek Jendza and thank them for contributing to this important event in the Montessori Europe calendar. You can read more about their work in this programme.

In addition, we have created a new forum on our website, accessible to Montessori Europe members where we will share some of the activities presented during the summit and give you an opportunity to share your ideas and activities too. If you are not a member yet, do join to be able to participate and benefit from this important new feature on our website – a tool to enhance our communication and connection with our members.

We invite you to join in the wealth of expertise shared in this summit. Do stay connected with us through our social media, regular newsletters and webinars presented by our working groups, sponsors and partners. Use our website as the point of contact and treasure trove of information. Have you explored our Sunday inspirations? I am sure you will find something of interest to you or your colleagues.

We thank you for your continued support of our work and hope you will be enthused and inspired by the Summit.



Barbara Isaacs

President, Montessori Europe



Programme

- 14.00 - 14.10** **Introduction**
Barbara Isaacs
President, Montessori Europe
- 14.10 - 14.45** **0 - 3 year olds**
Simone Davies
The Montessori Notebook, the Netherlands
- 14.45 - 15.15** **3 - 6 year olds**
Anna Blackman
Childminder, Mimosa Montessori, UK
- 15.15 - 15.45** **6 - 12 year olds**
Heidi van Staden
Montessori Academy and College, South Africa
- 15.45 - 16.15** **12 - 18 year olds**
Tony Evans
Director of Schools, DVMS/Strata/SiTE, Canada
- 16.15 - 16.45** **Trainee Teachers**
Jaroslaw Jendza
Assistant Professor, University of Gdansk, Poland
- 16.45 - 17.00** **Conclusion**

Speakers



Simone Davies

Simone is the author of “The Montessori Toddler” and co-author of “The Montessori Baby”, comprehensive guides to raising toddlers and infants in a Montessori way. The books are based on her 15+ years experience working as an AMI Montessori teacher in Sydney and in Amsterdam. She also has a popular blog, instagram and podcast “The Montessori Notebook”.

She is also mother to two young adults. Simone currently runs parent-child Montessori classes in Amsterdam at her school Jacaranda Tree Montessori and is working on another book with Junnifa Uzodike, “The Montessori Child” for children from 3-12 years.

Anna is a Montessori Early Years Educator and Creative Practitioner with over 15 years experience of working in schools and the creative and cultural sector. Studying Textile Art at Winchester School of Art sparked a personal interest in creative learning and after training with MCI Anna established Mimosa Montessori, a home-based setting in Winchester, UK for children age 16m+. The prepared environment at Mimosa offers children a rich mix of creative experiences to support and encourage curiosity, experimentation and self-expression.



Anna Blackman



Heidi van Staden

Heidi is the co-founder, co-owner and principal of the Montessori Academy and College in Pretoria. She is also a founding member and director of Montessori Centre South Africa which offers Montessori training throughout the Southern and Central African regions.

Heidi is especially interested in the Montessori 6-12 and adolescent programmes and is fortunate enough to be able to work in the classrooms and train educators in these areas.

Heidi considers the welfare of our children’s education, and therefore the training of excellent quality Montessori teachers in our schools, to be her great work, and firmly believes that the future of mankind lies within the child. For her this is the Secret of Childhood and she strives to impart this fundamental Montessori principle in her training programmes and her school. In the past few years, the importance of continued professional development has been an area of interest and engagement and she hopes that this Summit will be an opportunity for her to encourage all Montessorians to stay connected through our common goal – the child, builder of man.

Speakers



Tony Evans

"Establishing lasting peace is the work of education; **all politics can do is keep us out of war.**" This is the Montessori quote that drives Tony's work. That fundamental idea that we can change the world through high-fidelity Montessori education, for him the definition of peace includes the individual, the family, the community and society at large.

A few years after training under the Grazzini's in Bergamo, Tony started Dundas Valley Montessori School. Since those early days with only 8 students, DVMS has grown to 275 students on 3 campuses, with students from 18 months to 18 years. He established Canada's first authentic Erdkinder and developed a high school built on the idea of a village as a curriculum.

He has been on the board of the CCMA for almost 20 years and served as Chair and Vice-Chair for much of that time. He has been Canada's foremost lobbyist for Montessori, and was successful in creating 13:1 ratios for authentic Montessori programs in Ontario.

He will be representing Canada at the 2022 World Masters Ultimate Club Championships, once had a record deal with Warner Brothers, and perhaps most importantly, was a Montessori child.

Jarek is an assistant professor in the Institute of Education at the Social Sciences Faculty (Gdańsk University, Poland). He specialises in alternative, engaging and non-traditional approaches to education, Montessori in particular. Awarded the Distinguished PhD Dissertation Award dr. Jendza has published a number of scientific articles on Montessori pedagogy focusing mostly on the issue of the teachers' education.



Jaroslaw Jendza

He holds a Masters degree in early education and teaching English as a foreign language. In his professional career he has worked as a kindergarten and primary school teacher as well as a head-master of a Montessori school. He has been involved in various Montessori teacher training programmes and supported Montessori educational institutions as an external consultant. Dr Jendza believes that education can create a better world for all the human beings, especially the education that promotes self-confidence, self-reliance and active participation based on mutual respect and peaceful relations.

Membership

Montessori Europe



Inspired by Maria Montessori's legacy, Montessori Europe connects Montessorians in Europe and beyond, to consider how education can be reimagined to help guide our children to cope with the complexities and uncertainties of the modern world in the 21st Century.

Our members join us from all over Europe and beyond, bringing a wealth of experience, extending beyond country boundaries.

We would love for you to be part of our growing and thriving network.

**Find out more about membership at:
bit.ly/MEMembers**



What's On? Montessori Europe



The OMEP Early Childhood Education for Sustainable Citizenship (ESC) Award

An OMEP UK/Montessori Europe Collaboration

With Professor John Siraj-Blatchford

Wednesday 2 February 2022

19.00 (CET)

Register at: bit.ly/ME-OMEP



Montessori Europe Annual Congress

Amsterdam, 7 - 9 October 2022