



Montessori Europe Congress
Amsterdam
2022

Communication
The Heart of Education

Welcome



Barbara Isaacs
President
Montessori Europe

It is with great pleasure that I am introducing our programme for the 2022 Congress. As its title *Communication: the Heart of Education* indicates, we feel that in these turbulent times, the focus on communication is an important one, as it nurtures better understanding not only in education but also within communities and countries. We are so looking forward to meeting face to face with our Montessori friends and colleagues in Amsterdam in early October. Our last meeting in Dublin in 2019 seems so long ago!

As you look through the programme, you may notice some significant changes, whilst the format of the weekend remains the same. We are hoping to create an event which will facilitate connection, and engage participants in chats, conversations and discussions. For this reason, all the presentations and workshops will be offered in smaller groups of participants.

With the help of the Dutch Montessori Society, school visits will be offered on the Friday morning, and we are excited to be able to offer visits to Montessori's Study at the AMI headquarters. We are most grateful to both organisations for their generous support and help with arranging this element of the Congress.

The Friday afternoon will give everyone an opportunity to learn more about the developments within our working groups and members are invited to participate in the AGM, whilst non-members may attend as guests.

This year's key-note presentations will be pre-recorded – this arrangement allows us to bring you speakers from the US, Brazil and the UK. The afternoon workshops will be more practical, face to face and are also aimed at the opening up of dialogue. We hope the diverse topics will attract your attention and provoke some deep level thinking.

We invite you to join us for a reception at the end of the day on Saturday, before you venture and explore the culinary delights of Amsterdam. We are delighted to be able to officially launch the book: *Perspectives of Montessori*, published by Saxion University, at the reception.

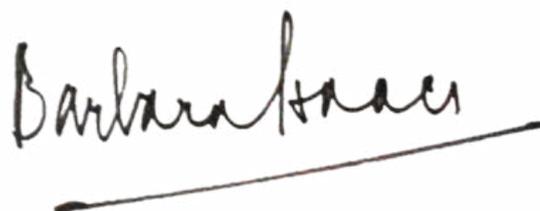
Welcome

There will be opportunities to bring questions and topics of interest, sparked by the Saturday events, to our Sunday morning *Practitioner Space*. This is a new feature of our programme, aimed at promoting more interaction between participants.

For the first time, Montessori Europe will also facilitate an *Adolescent Space* on the Sunday morning. The Board feels strongly that it is our responsibility to “give a voice to children and young people”. We know from the work of the Secondary Working Group, that the Montessori Adolescent community is eager to connect and engage in face to face conversations on topics such as sustainability and climate change. By organising the Adolescent Space, initially for the Dutch Adolescent community, we hope to open the door for further conversations, visits and communications for young people within Europe and also beyond. We are honoured and indebted to Riemer Brandsma, the Youth Sustainability Mayor for Wageningen, the Netherlands, for hosting and launching this Montessori Europe initiative.

You may ask why we have chosen Amsterdam for this year’s event? We feel it is time to reconnect with our roots, especially as we celebrate another Montessori anniversary. We are also keen to connect with the heart of Montessori practice as we host the congress at the Metis Lyceum, who so graciously share their school with Montessori Europe for this event. We are excited about the congress venue, however the Lyceum does not have the capacity of a large hotel, so do book early to avoid disappointment. We feel that Amsterdam and the Netherlands have much to offer for those of you who also wish to have an adventure beyond the congress.

We sincerely hope that you will join us at this year’s congress to learn, to meet friends, browse the sponsor exhibitions and meet with our partners, whose works contributes to the Montessori mission and enriches our work with children and young people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Barbara Isaac". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a thin, horizontal black line.

Friday 7 October

Morning

School Visits

Kindly organised by the Dutch Montessori Society

Visit Maria Montessori House

An opportunity to visit Maria Montessori's former study at Maria Montessori House - kindly hosted by Association Montessori Internationale

14.00

Registration opens at Metis Lyceum

15.00

Working Group Meetings

Research Group

Secondary Working Group

Sustainability Working Group

17.00

Annual General Meeting

For members of Montessori Europe (guests welcome)

"Every time there is success, every time that there is a triumph in the effort of the child the spiritual communication between the child and the teacher becomes stronger."

Montessori, M. Creative Development in the Child (2020:400)

Saturday 8 October

08.30

Registration

10.00

Welcome

Barbara Isaacs

10.15

Key-note presentations (pre-recorded) followed by facilitated group discussions

The morning will feature pre-recorded presentations by three prominent speakers. The presentations will be shared, following which there will be the opportunity to participate in a brief group discussion which will be continued on Sunday morning at the Practitioner Space for those interested in further reflection.

10.15

Prof. Chloe Marshall, UCL Institute of Education, UK

Working with Children with Language Challenges

11.00

Gabriel Salomão, Lar Montessori, Brazil

Listening to Diverse Voices in our Community

11.45

Break

12.15

Chip de Lorenzo, USA

Nurturing reverent language in the Classroom

13.00

Lunch

"Communication is the key to education,
understanding and peace."

– James Bryce

Saturday 8 October, cont.

14.30

Workshops - Cycle 1

Jarek Jendza, Asst. Prof., University of Gdansk, Poland

Language and Cognition

Annika Albrecht, Head of Didactics, Montessori Campus Berlin Köpenick, Germany

Autonomous learning of foreign language in the prepared environment

Jaap de Brouwer, Montessori Trainer and Researcher, Saxion, the Netherlands

Communication and Executive Function - Montessori perspective

Helen Lumgair, Author and Founder, The Educationalist, UK

The power of story telling

15.45

Break

16.00

Workshops - Cycle 2

Judith Cunningham, Founder, Montessori Model United Nations, Italy

Why a human rights curriculum is more important than ever

Kavita Doodnauth, Montessori Teacher, Montessori Skola Andilek, Czech Republic

The adults' role in fostering oral expression in the classroom

Prof. Harold Bekkering, Professor, Cognitive Psychology, Radboud University and Roelant Wijngaards, MC Agora Coach, the Netherlands

Brain research into second language learning

Dr. Mona Sakr, Senior Lecturer, Middlesex University, UK

Using digital technologies to communicate thoughts and ideas in early childhood

Reception

17.15

Drinks Reception

Launch of Perspectives on Montessori, published by Saxion University and edited by Jaap de Brouwer and Patrick Sins

Join us at the end of the day for a drink and some "borrelhappen" (snacks) to celebrate our reconnection and the launch of our Montessori Europe friends' book: *Perspectives on Montessori*.



Sunday 9 October

10.00 - 12.00

Adolescent Space

Students from the adolescent community are invited to join us at Metis Lyceum on Sunday 9 October at the Adolescent Space to to meet face to face, connect and explore ideas relating to climate change and sustainability.

Students can attend this part of the Congress free of charge although their accompanying teacher must be registered for the Congress. If you would like your students to join us at the Adolescent Space on Sunday, please indicate this during the registration process.

Practitioner Space

An opportunity to reflect and explore ideas and concepts presented during the key notes and workshops on Saturday

The Congress closes at 12 noon

"When you talk, you are only repeating what you already know. But if you listen, you may learn something new."

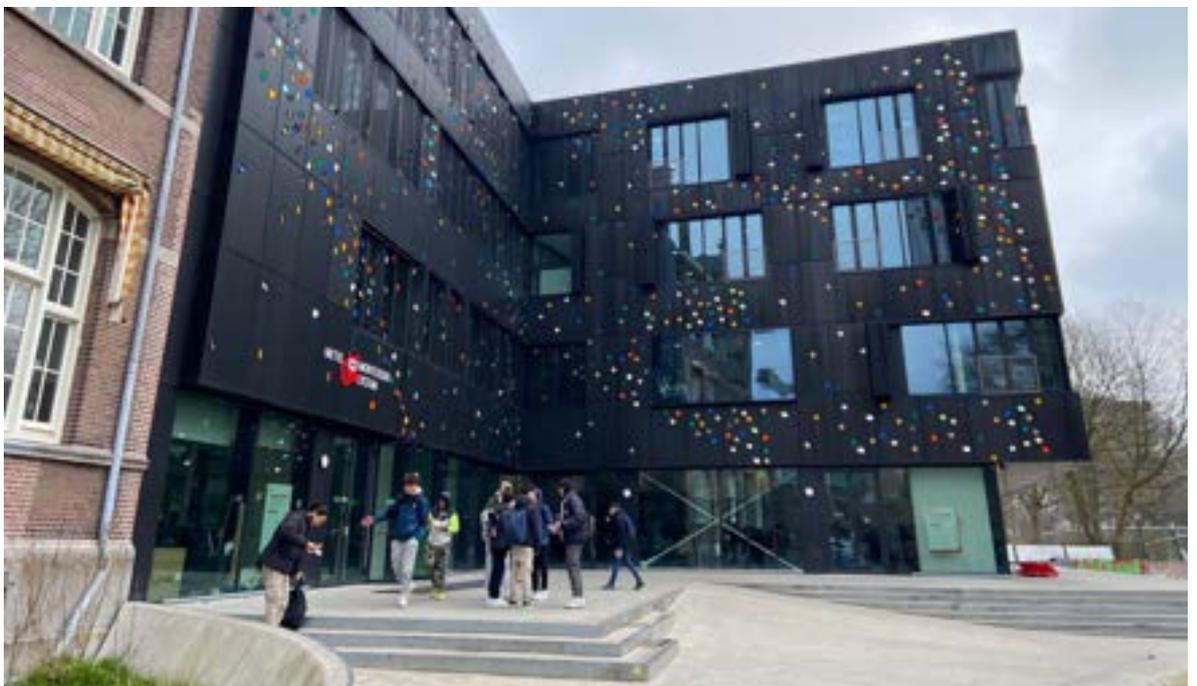
– Dalai Lama XIV

About our Venue



The MML/Metis Lyceum forms part of the Montessori Schools Community Amsterdam, and came into existence through a cooperation with the Cosmicus Foundation. The Cosmicus Foundation focuses on global citizenship in education and the emancipation of minorities; the Amsterdam Montessori Schools Community supports the development of independent and responsible children. The Metis Lyceum, therefore, focuses on the opportunities and strengths of every individual student, recognising them as Dutch as well as global citizens.

Its current location on the Mauritskade in Amsterdam is magnificent. The monumental building was completely renovated and modernised in 2013 and with the development of the new wing in 2018 offers a unique space to meet the requirements of Montessori education 2.0 in the 21st century.



Registration

We look forward to welcoming you to Amsterdam. There is a limited number of spaces of 120 people available for the Congress and so registrations will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

Registration Fees

Regular Fee €300

Eastern European, reduced fee €200

All ME Members have received a discount code by email, which must be entered during the registration process after selecting the 'regular fee' option. Available discounts for members are described in the [Terms and Conditions](#) which can be found on our website.

Please **register online** on our website:

bit.ly/ME-AMS

When registering, please indicate whether you are interested in the school visits and/or whether you would like to visit Maria Montessori's study. Please note that transport for these visits is not provided.

Please indicate which workshops you would like to attend.

And please also indicate whether you are interested in bringing your students to the Adolescent Space on Sunday 9 October.

Registration fees are non-refundable but your attendance ticket is transferable to another participant.

Where to stay

Hotels near the Congress venue include:

5*

Breitner Hotel

4*

Hotel Arena

The Manor

The Student Hotel

3*

Volkshotel

Hotel Allure

2*

Generator Amsterdam

1*

Amigo Budget

Please note that no rooms have been reserved at any of these hotels and that this list is by no means exhaustive with plenty of other wonderful hotels, B&Bs and youth hostels available in Amsterdam. We invite you to find your own preferred accommodation for your stay.

What to do

Amsterdam, the capital of the Netherlands, offers a rich variety of things to see and do. Some activities should be booked in advance so make sure you plan your stay as soon as you register for the Congress.

Anne Frank House

The Anne Frank House can only be visited with a ticket bought online for a specific time slot. Tickets for the following month become available every first Tuesday of the month. We advise you to book well in advance!

Rijksmuseum

Enjoy the Dutch Masters such as Rembrandt, Vermeer and van Gogh. Skip the queue by booking your tickets online.

Van Gogh Museum

Tickets are available online only. At the Van Gogh Museum there are no exhibition fees. All entrance tickets include admission to the permanent collection and the current temporary exhibitions. All visitors need a ticket with a start time to have access to the museum.

Amsterdam Tourist Portal

For all other tourist information about Amsterdam, check out the website: iamsterdam.com

Peace Palace, the Hague

The Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands) houses the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the United Nations International Court of Justice and The Hague Academy of International Law. The Visitors Centre is open Friday - Sunday and there are tours of the Peace Palace a few days each year.

Maria Montessori's Grave, Noordwijk

Maria Montessori's Grave can be found at the Rooms-katholieke begraafplaats Noordwijk.

Featured Sponsors

Nienhuis MONTESSORI

More than 90 years Nienhuis has been serving the international Montessori community with the highest standard Montessori materials as an AMI approved manufacturer. In fact, it was Maria Montessori herself who selected Nienhuis as one of her material manufacturers. She chose us for a reason. We know what it takes to isolate one quality, to facilitate control of error, to entice activity and to support the concept of cosmic education. We know that learning is all about the details.

Until today, Nienhuis never stopped developing ideas to enrich the prepared Montessori environment and we will not cease to do this. Even though Maria Montessori left a great legacy which we greatly respect, there are still areas that require development, refinement or adjustment. Nienhuis thinks that a prepared environment should not be a museum. It should be a dynamic learning environment in which there is subtle change without losing the organized structure and without losing the concept of 'less is more'.

Nienhuis has been a proud partner and supporter of Montessori Europe since the very beginning. Montessori Europe is constantly working to unite all Montessorians and Montessori associations in Europe. Together we can speak with one voice to educational professionals, parents, government officials to show the beauty of Montessori Education.

Together with Montessori Europe, Nienhuis wants to offer the best future to all children. Please visit www.nienhuis.com to learn more about our company, our material, our developments and the places where you can obtain our products.



More than a hundred years after the first production of Montessori materials in Gonzaga, the same principles of quality, attention to details and, most of all, attention to the child's needs, still guide **GAM Gonzagarredi Montessori** in the development and production of materials and furnishings. It was Maria Montessori herself, during her staying in Gonzaga, to give her personal instructions to the first carpenters who started the production.

You can still see some of the very first historical materials today in our **Montessori Museum**, the place GAM Gonzagarredi Montessori created to carefully preserve the unique heritage we received from our past and that we now use as guidance to our future.

To ensure the compliance to the authentic pedagogical principles, GAM Gonzagarredi Montessori keeps constant relationships with the **leading Montessori organizations** such as Montessori Europe, the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI), by whom the company is officially accredited, Opera Nazionale Montessori (ONM) in Italy, as well as many other associations, trainers, teachers, educators around the world, supporting all of them to spread the Montessori word.

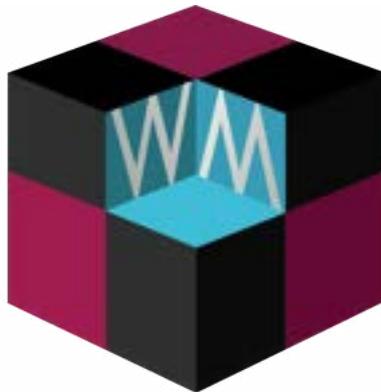
Along the years, in addition to the traditional range of Montessori materials, GAM has become a leading company in designing, manufacturing and marketing of innovative and customized **turnkey solutions for state-of-the-art educational environments** for nurseries, kindergartens, schools, libraries and cultural centers.

We are proud to stand alongside **Montessori Europe** and help promoting a better education for a better future.

www.gonzagarredi.com

Featured Sponsors

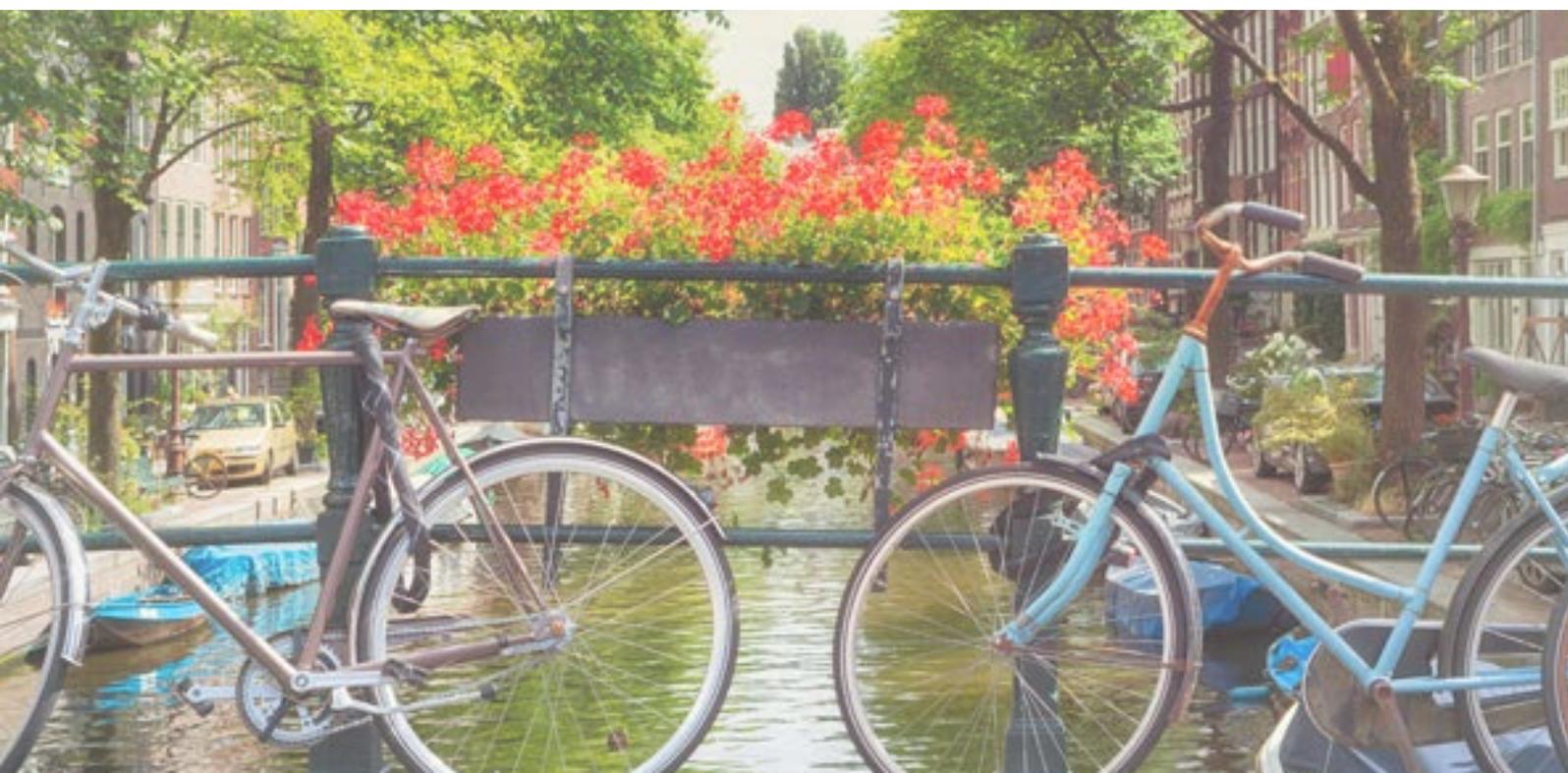
WATERPARK



MONTESSORI

Through many years of experience, Waterpark Montessori offers a complete support package for Montessori schools with their Montessori International Training, Montessori Classroom Software, Advisory Services, Montessori Training Materials, and Planning & Recording Software, created specifically by Montessori experts for the classroom.

They aim to make MACTE-accredited Modern Montessori training Online accessible all over the world by working with local Montessori schools in different locations. Montessori's practical component is central to successful training. Using blended learning Montessori Online techniques, they aim to make their programmes as flexible and accessible as possible, without compromising the practical element. They also provide a Montessori Certificate after completion of the programme.



Sponsors

montessori-pierson  publishing company


classroom **Mechanics**


Montessori
Stiftung
Berlin



Partners

Global Association of Montessori Education and Sport

www.montessorigames.org



We at GAMES believe that sports have the power to unite people and to be a driver for social change. As a nonprofit organization, our goals are purely that of promoting health, peace education and cultural understanding and international friendship, by connecting people through sport, education and shared culture. Instead of winners or prizes, we remove the competition and combine children of mixed age, gender and nationality, to participate in the Olympic spirit of fun, friendship, solidarity and fair play.

Join us to learn more about how we use sports and physical activity to help guide young people to become better world citizens and create a more peaceful and sustainable future.

Montessori Model United National

www.montessori-mun.org



MMUN is a yearlong transformative experience for students 9-15. Simulating the format of the United Nations, students are changed through the process of becoming an MMUN delegate. Representing a country, other than their own, they discover that they can become active in solving real-world problems. That discovery lasts a life-time. Students engage on a global level throughout the school year as they join social meetups and committee-style simulations with international peers.

At the MMUN International Conference, live in NYC or Rome or online, they interact with other students from across the world to create solutions to current world issues and develop global awareness, problem-solving and negotiation skills. They learn they have a voice and can make a difference to create the world they dream of.

Partners

The Flourish Project

www.flourishproject.net



The Flourish Project introduces a new and powerful framework for understanding and mapping human wellbeing that promotes community involvement and whole-systems thinking. Currently moving into its pilot period, it offers schools, community-leaders and national policymakers the ability to better understand and promote the health and wellbeing of their own communities and populations. It helps to ensure that child and family wellbeing is at the heart of all local decision-making and assists cities and local authorities to become Centres of Flourishing.

Above all, it underpins the call for a more caring and compassionate world.

Think Equal

www.thinkequal.org



Think Equal is a global education initiative, led by human rights activist Leslee Udwin, committed to creating a safe, free and equal world through a system change in Early Childhood Education. Both a movement and a concrete programme, Think Equal teaches 25 social emotional learning competencies to children aged 3-6, such as empathy, self-esteem, gender equality, inclusion, environmental stewardship, emotional intelligence and respect for people and planet. Created with help from global experts and thought leaders, Think Equal has designed a scripted, comprehensive, evidence-based and holistic programme to build pro-social foundations in children's developing brains for positive life outcomes.

Partners

Youth Impact! Forum

www.youthimpactforum.com



The Youth Impact! Forum's mission is to empower students to change the world in support of the Global UN Goals by building successful projects in their local communities. To do this, YIF works directly through teachers to provide all the scaffolding needed to successfully foster impactful student initiatives.



Become a Member

Our Mission

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. Recognising the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, alongside specific initiatives such as the UNESCO Futures of Education programme, we offer events and other opportunities to encourage networking and collaboration amongst our members, promoting the exchange of ideas and mutual support, facilitating the preparation of today's children for tomorrow's world.

Individual membership of Montessori Europe provides access to:

- A programme of online webinars, offering regular opportunities to connect and challenge your practice with the opportunity to request a certificate of attendance
- Attendance at our annual Congress with discount for members
- Voting privileges in the election of the Montessori Europe Board of Directors and at the AGM
- Exclusive access to members' forum on our website

Membership for organisations is also available.
Information [on our website](#).

