Montessori from Birth to Six: In Search of Community Values
November 7-10, 2013

The Keepers of Alexandria
November 7-9, 2013

Conference Events at the University of St. Thomas
Accommodations available at DoubleTree Suites by Hilton–Minneapolis
The Keepers of Alexandria

Participants in The Keepers of Alexandria will attend full-day sessions, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. An additional materials fee of $175 is required.

Thursday, November 7 through Saturday, November 9, 2013

8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m.
Registration for The Keepers of Alexandria
(Thursday, November 7 only)

9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
The Keepers of Alexandria
Kathleen Allen and Gerard Leonard

This workshop, running all day Thursday and continuing Friday and Saturday, delves into language and history as well as the teaching of Latin. A legacy training event, The Keepers of Alexandria is in its fourteenth year of enriching elementary classrooms with one thousand years of Alexandrian history while presenting Latin as an integral point of entry into understanding grammar and ancient culture for upper elementary children.

Participants enjoy classical Latin language study with a focus on The Art of History and The Art of Grammar. In addition participants study history, looking at the cultural centers of Egypt, Greece, Rome, the Byzantine Empire, and the ancient Arabic world.

Breaks: 10:00 a.m.–10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m.
Lunch: 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m.

Kathleen Allen is AMI-trained and has been teaching for more than forty years. She conducts research and design of classroom materials and is a key implementer of The Keepers of Alexandria. She currently teaches a lower elementary class at Hudson Country Montessori School in Danbury, CT. and serves as course assistant for the AMI elementary summer training course in Hartford, CT.

Gerard Leonard is AMI trained in Dublin at the primary and elementary levels and has been teaching for more than twenty-six years. He is the program coordinator at The Cobb School in Simsbury, CT. He is in the AMI Training-of-Trainers Programme, is currently a resident lecturer at the new Mexico City elementary course, and is a member of the NAMTA board.
The developmental period from birth to age six provides the child’s best chance for success. Language, movement, independence, self-discipline, and social coherence are the unifying principles that address the development of the child under six. A birth-to-six community family center reflects the community in which it is located as it brings together and supports interdependence, diversity, and empowerment among the families it serves. The focus of this conference is to consider the characteristics of the Montessori centers that view the first plane of education as a whole.

Thursday, November 7, 2013
7:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. • Registration

Friday, November 8, 2013
8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m. • Registration

9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.
Montessori Birth to Six: A Single Whole Plane of Education
Silvia Dubovoy

Dr. Dubovoy speaks to the strengths of a unified approach and the universal Montessori belief that the first plane impacts each child’s social and learning formation. The inner work of the child, maximum effort, normalization, and engagement continue seamlessly as the child moves from the toddler community into the Children’s House. The common threads and contrasting psychological characteristics bring the birth to six Montessori field into a unified and inclusive school community.

10:00 a.m.–10:30 a.m.
Break
Friday, November 8, 2013, continued

10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.  
**The Best for the Youngest: The Path Toward Unity**  
*Connie Black, Roxana Linares, and Molly O’Shaughnessy*

Bringing Montessori education to children everywhere is not a cause for one, it’s a movement of many. Montessori Partners Serving All Children is a collaborative effort of Twin Cities metro area organizations, all committed to providing exceptional, early-childhood education for low-income and culturally rooted communities. Molly and Roxana will share how their partnership helps bridge the gaps through bringing the unique strengths of organizations together to serve children in the best way possible, especially in the critical first six years of life.

11:30 a.m.–Noon • **Q & A**

Noon–1:30 p.m. • **Lunch**

1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. • **Breakouts (Choose one)**
3:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m. • **Break**

**A. How to Start a Parent-Infant Community and How to Maximize the Benefits**  
*Sarah Moudry*

How parents become introduced into the Montessori world is a key component to their continued engagement into deeper Montessori immersion. Sarah Moudry has perfected a friendly and practical approach to communicating our Montessori insights to parents of children from the ages of birth to crawling, crawling to walking, and walking and beyond. Knowledge reduces stress and makes for a calmer and happier home and family.

Lodging available at DoubleTree Suites • 1-612-332-6800
B. All Day/All Year Toddler Community: Supporting the Child, Family, and Community
   Laurie Pittman, Mary Santelman

Toddlers are curious, busy explorers who are remarkably more capable and independent than many adults realize. Laurie and Mary will share how Cornerstone Montessori’s toddler community supports the development of the “wondrous ones” and “terrific twos” who are in sensitive periods for order, language, and movement. Transitions to Children’s House and ways to support parents/caregivers in developing routines, setting limits, and responding respectfully to common behaviors of biting, hitting, and tantrums will be discussed. Cornerstone, a pilot school for the Montessori Partners Serving All Children’s outreach program, serves a vibrant community of multicultural and economically diverse families. Information will be shared about this program’s goal to provide high quality, early-childhood education to children living in underserved communities.

C. Montessori All Day/All Year: Gracious Living With Children Beyond the Hours of a Typical School Day
   Connie Black

The first Montessori Children’s Houses were all day programs. Connie returns to those roots and explores the notion of Montessori all day. She will share insights into providing the child with the support of optimal development throughout long hours of care without compromising Montessori principles. Learn how to maintain the balance between the consistency of routines that the child needs and the variation and novelty that makes life beautiful.

Friday, November 8, 2013, 4:30 p.m.

Special Event:
Enjoy Montessori Tours and Refreshments
Cornerstone Montessori School
Montessori Center of Minnesota Museum
Oak Hill Montessori School
Cost: $25
Saturday, November 9, 2013

9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.
**Joyful Engagement:**
**Montessori’s Common Core Standard**
*Sarah Werner Andrews*

Happiness is a quality that we identify with Montessori children and is essentially part of all that we do with children and their start in Montessori. When we model gratitude and support, “friendliness with error,” we build sturdiness in children. Montessori’s basic principles speak to developing core executive functions, which have been linked to reduced stress in children’s lives, greater life satisfaction, and happiness.

10:00 a.m.–10:30 a.m. • **Break**

10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
**Growing and Knowing: Why What Children Taste, Eat, Grow, and Cook Matters**
*Margaret Adamek*

How can Montessori programs shape palates, build skills, create community, and support the health of young children? Exciting research linking brain biochemistry, nutrition, gardening, and brain development demonstrate the importance of integrating holistic education for young children and their families. This presentation offers the evidence-based case studies that will convince you to develop a school-wide consensus on an approach to food at school.

11:30 a.m.–Noon • **Q & A**

Noon–1:30 p.m. • **Lunch**

1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. • **Breakouts (Choose one listed on the following page)**

3:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m. • **Break**

**D. Toileting Awareness for Montessorians in Infant, Toddler, and Primary Communities**
*Sarah Moudry*

Toileting is a powder keg of misconceptions and misinformation. Learn the details of a stress-free sequence that supports the child’s natural development. All continued on the following page
guides can benefit from this knowledge, which they can in turn communicate to the families they serve.

E. Healthy Eating: Issues and Successful Strategies for Children and Families

Margaret Adamek

You heard the why, here’s the how to a practical tools-oriented approach. Learn successful strategies for how Montessori educators can establish lifelong practices in their students to promote wellness, connection to the earth, and the importance of the table for families and communities.

F. What Is the Ideal Infant Group Care Environment: Montessori Nido Versus Infant Daycare Program

Emily Shubitz

“In 2011 half of mothers with infants in the U.S. work (The Bureau of Labor Statistics).”

Unless retired family members live down the block, group care for infants will most likely need to be used. Emily will discuss starting the first year-round, all day, Nido-Infant program in Minnesota at Oak Hill Montessori School. She will discuss the difference between infant daycare and an authentic AMI accredited Montessori Nido. Emily will share the process of designing a Nido from beginning to end (meeting with contractors, paperwork requirements, marketing, to the exciting opening day). Emily’s work with infants and families, along with her daily life as a mother of three young children, will highlight the utmost importance of quality infant programs that support our youngest in their social development, motor skills, sense of order, independence, language, and so much more.

Sunday, November 10, 2013

9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

Four Birth-to-Six Community Centers Discuss Community Profiles

Panelists: Connie Black, Kathleen Guinan, Tom Loew, Ginny Trierweiler
Moderator: Jackie Cossentino

Representatives from four existing programs (Cornerstone Montessori, Crossway Community, East Dallas Community Schools, and Family Star) share what constitutes a strong, early-childhood community center developed around Montessori principles.
Conference Speakers

Margaret Adamek is the owner of Terra Soma, a consulting firm that helps communities and organizations working on systems change to build effective collaborations. She has worked for nearly two decades on improving food environments for urban, rural, and tribal communities.

Connie Black is the director of outreach programs at the Montessori Training Center of Minnesota and is a Primary AMI trainer, guest lecturer, and consultant.

Jackie Cossentino is senior associate for the National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector. Jackie is a lecturer on educational leadership in Loyola Maryland’s Montessori Education Program.

Silvia C. Dubovoy is a teacher trainer, lecturer, consultant, examiner for AMI, and currently serves on the AMI Research Committee.

Kathleen Guinan is the chief executive officer of Crossway Community, the first charter school in Montgomery County, Maryland. Crossway is a community-based, non-profit organization that serves families by providing residential services and Montessori education to economically disadvantaged women and their children.

Roxana Linares is the executive director of Centro Inc., a partnership with Latino and Chicano families.

Tom Loew has been the director of Lindsley Park Community School, a public Montessori charter (East Dallas Community Schools), since 1998. He holds AMI diplomas at both the primary and elementary levels and has taught at both levels.

Sarah Moudry is a lead teacher in a half-day, infant community classroom and a parent-infant class facilitator at The Post Oak School, Houston, Texas.

Molly O’Shaughnessy is an AMI teacher trainer, international lecturer, and Montessori consultant.

Laurie Pittman is a toddler guide at White Bear Montessori School (White Bear Lake, MN) where she also facilitates a parent-infant community. In addition, she is a toddler afternoon guide at Cornerstone Montessori School (St. Paul, MN).

Mary Santelman is the parent education coordinator for Montessori Partners Serving All Children, an outreach program whose mission is to ensure high educational outcomes for children living in poverty.

Emily Shubitz has worked extensively in the Twin Cities region consulting and assisting heads of schools to develop parent-infant and toddler communities. She began the parent-infant program for the Montessori Training Center of Minnesota.

Dr. Ginny Trierweiler currently serves as president and CEO of Family Star Montessori School in Denver, Colorado. As a child psychologist, Ginny worked for many years providing and directing child and family mental health services.

Sarah Werner Andrews is an international speaker, AMI consultant, and a director of training at the Montessori Northwest in Portland, Oregon.

Lodging available at DoubleTree Suites • 1-612-332-6800
Opus Hall is located directly across the street from Terrence Murphy Hall. The four-story, 100,000-square-foot building is home to St. Thomas’ School of Education. Connected to Opus Hall is a K-12 magnet school opened in 1999 by a consortium of nine Minneapolis area school districts. The city of Minneapolis owns a 640-car parking ramp under Opus Hall.

**Accommodations**

Participants are responsible for their own accommodations and transportation.

Accommodations are available within walking distance of the University of St. Thomas at:

**DoubleTree Suites by Hilton - Minneapolis**

1101 LaSalle Avenue

Minneapolis, MN 55403, USA

**Reservations: 612-332-6800**

Register at the Doubletree Suites by Hilton by October 11 to receive the discounted group room rate of: single/double - $99. Mention NAMTA when registering. DoubleTree Suites by Hilton - Minneapolis offers self-parking for $19 per day.

**Travel Information**

DoubleTree Suites by Hilton - Minneapolis is approximately a 13-minute drive from Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP). Taxi service from MSP ranges from $39 to $49. Shuttle service is also available from www.supershuttle.com.

Driving from Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport to the DoubleTree Suites by Hilton - Minneapolis: Take 62 West or 494 West to 35W North to Downtown exits follow signs to 11th Street exit. Take 11th Street (one-way) 6 blocks to LaSalle, hotel is on the left.

Additional directions may be found on the hotel website:

A NAMTA Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota at the University of St. Thomas

NAMTA member tuition fee: ❑ $300 (❑ $315 after October 23)
Non-member tuition fee: ❑ $360 (❑ $375 after October 23)

Extras: The Keepers of Alexandria materials fee: ❑ $175
Friday Montessori Tours and Refreshments: ❑ $25

Register by October 23 for early registration rates!

Tuition fees include Friday and Saturday luncheons as well as a Thursday luncheon for The Keepers of Alexandria participants.

Choose one:
❑ Non-Vegetarian ❑ Vegetarian

Friday workshops (Choose one):
❑ A. Parent/Infant Community
❑ B. Toddler Community
❑ C. All Day/All Year

Saturday workshops (Choose one):
❑ D. Toileting
❑ E. Healthy Eating
❑ F. Infant Group Care

Name: _________________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Email: _________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________
City: ___________________ State/Province: _______ Postal Code: _______
Country: ___________ Name of Your School: ________________________

Payment options:
❑ Check or money order enclosed

Must be payable in U.S. currency and drawn on a U.S. bank.

❑ Visa ❑ MasterCard ❑ Am Ex ❑ Discover

Please indicate credit card type and fill out the information below.

Card Number: ___________________________________________________
Name on Card: __________________________________________________
Expiration Date: ___________ 3- or 4-digit Authorization Code: ________
(month/year) (found on front of AmEx, back of other cards)
Address: _______________________________________________________
Street Address where credit card bills are sent.

City: ___________________________ State/Province: _____________
Postal Code: __________________________ Country: ________________

Not a NAMTA member? It’s more economical to purchase a registration and a membership than it is to pay the non-member rate. Join NAMTA today!

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Use this form to join NAMTA or renew your membership.

Please Indicate:  ❑ New Member ❑ Renewing Member ❑ New Address

Last Name: ______________________  First Name: ______________________

Membership is for individuals only. No schools, please.
This information is used for our mailings. Please furnish your home mailing address.

Address: __________________________________________________________

City: _____________________________________________________________

State/Province: ____________  Postal Code: ____________  Country: ____________

Name of Your School: _______________________________________________

Phone: ________________________  Email: _____________________________

You must provide your complete and correct email address to receive The NAMTA Bulletin and other member communications.

If you are Montessori trained, please give your training information:
Location: __________________________
Affiliation: __________________________
Date of Diploma: ______________________
Level of Course: ______________________

Current Montessori Status:
❑ Administrator  ❑ Guide (Teacher)
❑ Trainee  ❑ Assistant
❑ Montessori Parent  ❑ Program Coordinator

Payment options:
❑ Check or money order enclosed
Must be payable in U.S. currency and drawn on a U.S. bank.
❑ Visa  ❑ MasterCard
❑ Am Ex  ❑ Discover

Please indicate credit card type and fill out the information below.

Card Number: _____________________________________________________

Name on Card: ____________________________________________________

Expiration Date: ____________  3- or 4-digit Authorization Code: ____________
(month/year)  (found on front of AmEx, back of other cards)

Address: _________________________________________________________

Street Address where credit card bills are sent.

City: __________________________  State/Province: __________________
Postal Code: ____________________________  Country: __________________

Membership Prices:
• U.S. Resident  ❑ $50
• Outside U.S.  ❑ $60
• Lifetime  ❑ $600
• NAMTA Directory  ❑ $18
(Not included with membership)
• NAMTA Online Bibliography*  ❑ $10
(Not included w/membership; requires email address)

Total Enclosed  $______

Return by January 17, 2014, to have your name listed in the member section of The NAMTA Directory.

❑ Check here if you do not want your name listed.

Join NAMTA online at www.montessori-namta.org
North American Montessori Teachers’ Association
13693 Butternut Road
Burton, OH 44021

Return Service Requested

Make your hotel reservations by October 11 to receive the NAMTA conference rate!

Montessori from Birth to Six: In Search of Community Values
Special Event: The Keepers of Alexandria
St. Thomas University, Minneapolis, MN, November 7-10, 2013