The Discovery of the Child
Hope for the Future

UK Centenary Conference Programme 2007

"...mankind can hope for a solution to its problems, among which the most urgent are those of peace and unity only by turning its attention and energies to the discovery of the child and to the development of the great potentialities of the human personality in the course of its formation."

Discovery of the Child by Maria Montessori
14 JULY 2007  SATURDAY  Venue Regents College

Honour The Past

09:00  Guests arrive
Tea and coffee and an opportunity to visit the exhibitors

10:15  MONTE KENISON
What Happened in San Lorenzo
The discoveries made in the first Children’s House that led Maria Montessori to reveal the secret of childhood and inspired an enduring and worldwide social movement that has lasted one hundred years.

11:00  LYNNE LAWRENCE
The Universal Child
Exploring the vital inner directives found in all children which enable the potentialities of the human being to unfold.

11:45  The Montessori Journey - Centenary DVD

Celebrate The Present

12:00  BAIBA KRUMINS GRAZZINI
The Montessori Continuum
The characteristics of the child from conception to maturity and our response at each plane of development if education is to be an aid to life.

12:45  Buffet Lunch and an opportunity to visit the exhibitors

14:30  IRENE FAFALIOS
Montessori Today
The state of Montessori today - global, diverse, extensive, substantive, growing and responsive. Current scientific research confirms what Maria Montessori observed one hundred years ago.

Create The Future

15:15  DAVID KAHN
The Child as an Agent for Change
The increasing awareness of the great potential of the child to act as an agent for change.

16:00  Centenary DVD

16:15  Tea and Coffee

16:45  Panel Discussion

17:15  ANDRÉ ROBERFROID
A Call for Action
As we stand on the brink of our next hundred years, what can we do to make a difference in the lives of children and truly ‘Champion the Cause of all Children’.
**SPEAKERS** UK Centenary Conference

### JULY Speakers

**Monte Kenison** is Director of Training at the Montessori Teacher Training Centre AMI Northern California. He has over 36 years of experience in Montessori schools. He received his AMI diploma in 1973 from The Montessori Education Centre in Palo Alto, California. Mr. Kenison serves on the board of AMI.

**Lynne Lawrence** is Director of Training at the Maria Montessori Institute AMI which is run under the auspices of the Maria Montessori Training Organisation. She is also director of their schools which educate children from 3 to 12 years old. Mrs. Lawrence trained in London in 1974 under Hilla Petell. She has worked with Muriel Dwyer on the ‘Help the Children’ project in Kenya since 1978. She is the author of the book ‘Montessori Read and Write’.

**Baiba Krumins Grazzini** is Director of Training at the International Centre for Montessori Studies foundation. She has been involved with Bergamo’s AMI Elementary Training Course since 1975 and became an AMI Elementary Trainer in 1988. In 1992 Ms. Krumins Grazzini joined Camillo Grazzini as Director of Training. Baiba holds both a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree in Economics from the University of London.

**Irene Fafalias** received her 0 to 3 and 3 to 6 AMI diplomas from the Maria Montessori Institute in London and AMI Montessori Elementary diploma from Bergamo, Italy. She was a lecturer and tutor at the MMI for 10 years. Irene moved to Greece in 1999 where she has set up and run two AMI Associated Courses for the 3 to 6 age group. She is currently the educational consultant for a non profit organisation intent on setting up small Montessori schools throughout Athens.

**David Kahn** is Executive Director of the North American Montessori Teacher’s Association and has 17 years of Montessori teaching experience. He holds a B.A. in Fine Arts and Classics from the University of Notre Dame as well as the AMI Montessori Elementary diploma from Bergamo, Italy. Mr. Kahn was the founding director of the Hershey Montessori Farm School in Ohio, an acclaimed model for Montessori adolescent education, and now serves as the school’s Pedagogical Consultant.

**André Roberfroid** is the AMI president. Mr. Roberfroid joined AMI in 2005 from a long career with UNICEF and a lifetime commitment to the welfare of the world’s children. He was the UNICEF Deputy Executive Director for Programme and Strategic Planning until his retirement in 2003. He holds a B.A. in Chemistry and a B.Sc. in Economic Sciences from the Catholic University of Louvain.

### OCTOBER Speakers

**Sue Palmer** is a writer, broadcaster and consultant in the education of young children. She is a regular contributor to the Times Educational Supplement and other journals, and the author of many books for 3 to 12 year olds. She also acts as an independent adviser to many organisations, including the Department for Education and Skills and the BBC. Mrs. Palmer is the author of the book ‘Toxic Childhood’.

**Angeline Lillard** is Professor of Psychology at the University of Virginia. She received a B.A. in English Literature from Smith College and a Ph.D. in Psychology from Stanford University. Dr. Lillard has been studying Montessori’s methods for more than two decades. She is the author of the educational bestseller ‘Montessori: The Science Behind the Genius’.

**Steven Rose** is Professor of Biology and Director of the Brain and Behaviour Research Group at the Open University, Visiting Professor in the Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology at University College London, and, jointly with Sociologist Hilary Rose, Professor of Physics [Genetics and Society] at Gresham College, London. He is the author of the books ‘The Making of Memory’ (1992), ‘Lifelines’ (1997), ‘Alas, Poor Darwin: Arguments Against Evolutionary Psychology’ (with Hilary Rose, 2000) and ‘The 21st Century Brain’.
09:00  Guests arrive  
Tea and coffee and an opportunity to visit the exhibitors

10:15  SUE PALMER  
Toxic Childhood  
Sue Palmer has spent the past three years researching how contemporary culture is influencing children’s development and particularly their capacity to learn.

11:15  ANGELINE LILLARD  
Montessori - The Science Behind the Genius  
Angeline Lillard shows that science has finally caught up with Maria Montessori. Current scientific research provides astounding support for her major insights.

12:30  Buffet Lunch and an opportunity to visit the exhibitors

14:00  STEVEN ROSE  
The 21st Century Brain  
We are 98.4% genetically identical to chimpanzees, yet no-one would mistake a human for a chimp. So what makes us human? What neuroscience can say about the process of becoming human.

15:00  ANGELINE LILLARD  
Study of Montessori Outcomes  
Although Montessori teachers, parents, and former students tend to believe the system has an important impact on children, few scientifically acceptable studies have been conducted. Dr. Lillard explains her recent research.

16:15  Tea and Coffee

16:45  PANEL DISCUSSION  
Chaired by PETER JACKSON  
President of the Montessori Society AMI UK. Senior lecturer in Educational Psychology at the Froebel Institute for many years and the former chair of the Froebel Company’s Research Committee.

17:15  CLOSING REMARKS  
ISABEL RAPHAEL  
Chair of the board of the Maria Montessori Training Organisation. Head teacher of Channing School for Girls for many years and a passionate advocate for Montessori education.

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