

# MANZ CONFERENCE 2012

*Imagination, Creativity and Work*



**APRIL 14-16**

SPENCER ON BYRON HOTEL,  
9-17 BYRON AVENUE, TAKAPUNA  
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Montessori  
ASTORIA NEW ZEALAND



# Welcome



Whether you have already made the decision to attend our 2012 conference or not, you will find full conference details here. Print off some pages and settle back for a thorough read. I am sure you will be inspired to make plans to come to Auckland in April for our conference. The MANZ Conference is a time to re-examine your knowledge and understanding of Montessori, to gain new ideas, to examine current practise and to plan for the future.

We will also be celebrating 100 years of Montessori in New Zealand at the conference; so make time to be part of this historical gathering.

Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand again acknowledges generous sponsorship from Every Educaid and Nienhuis. Together we aim to empower Montessori centres and schools to offer excellent Montessori programmes to children and students throughout New Zealand.



*Ana Pickering*

EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
• Montessori Aotearoa  
New Zealand

**Nienhuis**  
MONTESSORI

 **EVERY EDUCAID**



# Conference Opening

The conference opening is on Saturday April 14 at 1.15 pm. We will welcome speakers and delegates and enjoy some reflections from Montessori graduates. Please leave time to collect your name label and conference bag prior to the conference opening. The first keynote address will follow on immediately and we will then break for afternoon tea which will give you time to greet old friends.

## Keynote Addresses

**Saturday April 14, 2-2.45pm**  
**Keynote: What is Imagination?**  
*Sarah Werner Andrews (USA)*

Imagination is the creative heart of humanity. With imagination, we transcend the physical limits of space, time, and reality, making the impossible, possible. To set the stage for our time together, we'll take a look at the imagination from the perspectives of psychology, philosophy, and neuroscience, awakening ourselves to this uniquely human potential.

**Saturday April 14, 3.15-4pm**  
**Keynote: Self-Construction: The Creative Work of the Child**  
*Elise Huneke Stone (USA)*

The most creative work of childhood is one that begins at birth: Self-construction. At each stage of development, children take from their

environments and from the people around them what they need to grow and develop, and each child does this differently. We in Montessori are uniquely prepared to support the children in this creative work, the work of creating the story of themselves.

**Sunday April 15, 8.45-9.30am**  
**Keynote: Reflecting on Montessori**

*Nicola Chisnall (NZ)*

Montessori says that "the child is endowed with great creative energies, which...require a loving and intelligent defence" (The Absorbent Mind).

What does this mean for teachers in Aotearoa today? This keynote will reflect on the use of a critically engaged pedagogy in our work.

**Monday April 16, 8.45-9.30am**

**Keynote: The Inner Child**  
*Nancy Lechner-Wallner (USA)*

We dedicate ourselves to learning about the development of the child, but at what expense to ourselves? Along the way, have we lost our sense of humour? Our ability to be spontaneous? To try new things? What brings you joy, as an adult? What has happened to our inner child? It's time to just laugh out loud.

**Saturday April 14 from 9.30am to 12pm**  
**Discover Montessori**

Discover Montessori is an opportunity for parents and those new to Montessori to come and learn more about Montessori from New Zealand-based speakers.

# Workshops - *Montessori Three to Six*

**Sunday, April 15,  
9.30–10.30am**

## **The Birth of Imagination**

*Sarah Werner Andrews*

The capacity to imagine emerges very early in childhood, and one of the earliest and most obvious indicators of the imagination is pretend play. In fact, by the time children come to our schools, most are expert pretenders. We'll explore the fascinating process of how the imagination develops in the early years of life, situations when children are confused by pretend, and the cognitive and social processes at work during pretend play.

**Sunday, April 15,  
11–12.30pm**

## **Work and Play – What's the Difference?**

*Sarah Werner Andrews*

The virtues of play have long been acknowledged as being fundamental to happy and healthy child development, or "self-construction". Montessori honored the child's constructive activity by calling it "work." But in order to support child development, work and play must share several important characteristics, because ultimately it is the quality of the experience that directs the quality of development. We'll examine the characteristics shared by work and play and how both are supported in a Montessori classroom.

**Sunday, April 15,  
1.30–3.30pm**

## **Just What Did Montessori Have to Say About the Imagination?**

*Sarah Werner Andrews*

With the emphasis on reality-based activities in Montessori environments, many people have misunderstood Dr. Montessori's attitude towards play and imagination. A chronological examination of Montessori's writings reveals her opinions about educational methods that focused only on pretend play, her understanding that knowledge is the creative force behind imagination, and her recognition of the early childhood years as the "special period for the construction of the imagination... and the period of play."

**Monday, April 16,  
9.30-10.30am**

## **"I Am the Clean-Up Guy!" Imagination and Social Development**

*Sarah Werner Andrews*

Within the activities of Practical Life we find an ideal setting for the development of imagination. Here we see a convergence of social and physical activity with core executive function skills, aided by the imagination at work. We will explore how the imagination fuels self-image, social cohesion, self-discipline, memory, and cognitive

flexibility- abilities that have a lasting effect on both academic success and personal satisfaction.

## **Monday, April 16, 11–12.30pm Sensorial Games-From Abstraction to Imagination**

*Sarah Werner Andrews*

In the process of creative self-construction, new learning is practiced and repeated with increasing levels of refinement until it becomes an integrated part of the child- what Montessori called "incarnation." The Sensorial games and variations are a perfect match for helping the child refine abstractions and strengthen memory, building a wealth of riches for the creative imagination- all the while having fun!

## **Monday, April 16, 1.30-3.30pm Expressions of Imagination at Work**

*Sarah Werner Andrews*

With our new awareness and understanding of work, play, and the cognitive processes at work within the child, we'll examine typical classroom situations through the lens of the developing imagination. We'll discuss how to align the child's needs with the most beneficial activity, when intervention is helpful and when it is not, and how our environments and our attitudes can support the amazing creative potential within each child.

# Workshops - *Montessori Six to Twelve*

**Sunday, April 15,  
9.30 – 10.30am**  
**Re-imagining Work**  
*Elise Huneke Stone*

When we recognize self-construction as the creative work of the child, we raise many questions about how we are to proceed as Montessori adults. What does elementary work look like? How can we help the children sustain and elevate their work? How can we distinguish between productive activity and activity that does not serve the children? What is the adult responsibility and what is the children's? How can we communicate with parents about our approach to work and creativity? How do collaborative elementary projects affect our understanding of work? Though we may not have all the answers, we will raise these and other pertinent questions as a theme to be explored throughout the conference.

**Sunday, April 15, 11–12.30pm**  
**From the Question Game to the Cosmic Autobiography: Creative Explorations**  
*Elise Huneke Stone*

The Question Game, a spoken language activity from the three to six class, is one of the ways we support children's creativity when they are young. This game can be adapted

for older children and their studies, and can be detected as an underlying current in some of our presentations in the elementary. We'll play the Question Game in several different ways that can be brought to the elementary children as a foundation for their own creative explorations in Cosmic Education.

**Sunday, April 15, 1.30–3.30pm**  
**Style - developing a creative voice**  
*Elise Huneke Stone*

Style can be thought of as the unique qualities that one brings to a creative endeavor, the voice or personalization of our work. Style is the result of the choices we make in our creative process. In this session, participants will engage in a series of activities that help elementary children explore language style and identify its components. When we foster an awareness and appreciation of style, we can expect the children's voices to emerge more confidently and creatively. For this workshop, participants are asked to bring a beloved children's picture book (short; does not have to be geared to elementary children).

**Monday, April 16,  
9.30-10.30am**  
**"Whose Pencil is This?" – Elementary Work and Social Development**  
*Elise Huneke Stone*

The elementary child is a collaborative worker. This gregarious instinct combined with the open-ended nature of elementary work, means that there are many opportunities for social development. Building on the foundations of their work in primary, elementary children continue to develop core executive function skills, and come to a new awareness of fairness, effort, conflict and resolution, sharing resources, recognition, compromise, evaluation, and responsibility. Because the imagination is so strong at this age, we can use it as a tool to help the children create a productive, peaceful learning community. The first step to building this community is when the adult recognizes this creation as a vital work of the children and helps them integrate social development into all that they do at school.

# Workshops - *Montessori Six to Twelve*

**Monday, April 16, 11–12.30pm**  
**The Creative Work Journal**  
*Elise Huneke Stone*

In the process of creative self-construction, part of what the children are learning is how to reflect upon and understand themselves as learners. This meta-cognition can be supported throughout the elementary years by a thoughtful implementation of the work journal, a standard practice in Montessori elementary classes. We will examine the role of the work journal and its potential for development across the six years of elementary and beyond. Participants, please bring a journal or notebook (an ongoing one is fine!)

**Monday, April 16, 1.30-3.30pm**  
**Creativity and Work in Cosmic Education**  
*Elise Huneke Stone*

The elementary child is said to have an extroverted intelligence, with energy directed outwards toward understanding the world. "The world is acquired psychologically through the imagination," Dr. Montessori wrote, and the imagination is one of the dominant cognitive powers of this age. We will end our time together with an overview and sharing of different kinds of creative work that can emerge from each area of

Cosmic Education: History, Geometry, Math, Biology, Geography, Language, Music, Art, and Going Out. We will inspire each other to recognize and support the unique ways that creative self-constructive work is happening and can happen in our elementary communities.



# Workshops - *For All Ages*

Sunday, April 15,  
9.30-12.30pm

## Montessori Under Three *Nancy Lechner-Wallner*

Whether you are working with infants, are planning to work with infants, interested in what comes before the Montessori three to six class, this workshop will give you some knowledge of the Montessori approach to babies and infants. You will gain an overview of the Montessori approach to the developmental needs of the child under three years and an introduction to the Montessori infant-toddler prepared environments with some practical idea about resources, daily routines and activities.

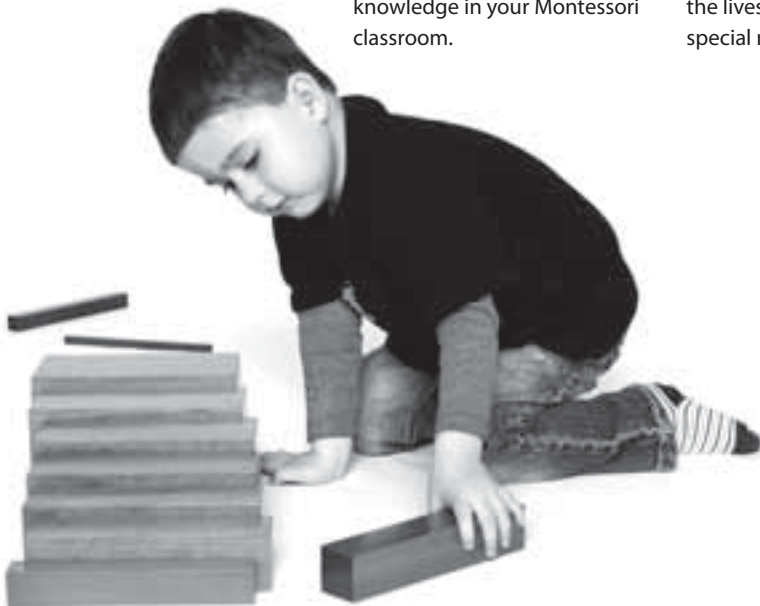
Sunday, April 15, 1.30-5.30pm  
The Role of Temperament

## *Nancy Lechner-Wallner*

Why are people different? Why are some people outgoing and others withdrawn? Why are some people labelled risk takers and others shy? In this workshop you will learn about temperament, what it is, how it develops and how this knowledge can help your interactions with adults and children in your life. **This interactive workshop is suitable for adults working with children of all ages, even teenagers.** It will give you some insight into how you respond to people and events in your life and give you some ideas about how to use this knowledge in your Montessori classroom.

Monday, April 16, 9.30-3.30pm  
Understanding Special Needs  
*Nancy Lechner-Wallner*

We are often unsure how to act, help, or teach children with special needs and we may feel uncertain about our ability to support children with needs outside the 'normal' learning curve. Nancy is very connected personally and professionally to the community of people with different abilities and she will share her personal journey. You will gain some insights about the challenges facing individuals with special needs, the cycle of grief experienced by parents and families, your role as a Montessori teacher, the expectations and the rewards of participating in the lives of children with special needs.



# Skills for Leadership Workshops

## **Saturday, April 14, 4.30-6pm** **Self Review in Montessori classes**

Montessori teachers will be sharing their centre or school self-review projects. If you want to learn more about the self-review process and what this reflection looks like in a Montessori setting come and support your colleagues. You will see a range of planned and spontaneous self-reviews from Montessori ece centres and strategic, regular and emergent self-review in Montessori primary classes and schools.

## **Sunday, April 14,** **9.30-10.30am** **Montessori Journey to Excellence**

MANZ has launched the Montessori Journey to Excellence. Come and learn more about the intent of this continuous self-improvement programme, gain an understanding of the quality indicators for Montessori ece centres and schools, discover how you could become a mentor and how your centre or school can become part of the pilot programme in 2012.

## **Monday, April 16,** **9.30-10.30am** **What are RTC's?** **Cathy Wilson**

What do you need to know and do to be a professional educator in New Zealand? What are the

RTC's and what does it mean to be a reflective practitioner? In this workshop you will gain an overview of the registered teacher criteria and the recently launched New Zealand Teachers Council Induction and Mentoring Guidelines. Cathy will focus on how you will use the registered teacher criteria, how to collect evidence for the criteria and links to personal professional learning, job descriptions and performance reviews.

## **Monday, April 16, 11-12.30pm** **Transforming Professional Relationships** **Nicki Dowling and** **Adie Graham**

This interactive and practical workshop will explore the possibilities of the shift from 'advice and guidance' to quality educative mentoring for transformational and sustainable professional growth and development. What is educative mentoring? Who needs these skills and why? What are the skills for mentoring and how do you start? In this interactive workshop you will begin to gain some mentoring skills to use in your workplace for supporting teacher registration and to enhance your professional relationships. Mentoring skills will also be a focus for the Montessori Journey to Excellence.

## **Monday, April 16, 1.30-3.30pm** **Moving from Difficult to Deliberate** **Nicki Dowling and** **Adie Graham**

In this workshop you will gain some understanding and skills to help you move from 'difficult to deliberate'; understanding and engaging in that 'open to learning' conversation to maintain the relationship and progress the task. This interactive and practical workshop will explore how to respond to some of those 'difficult mentoring moments' and you will have the opportunity to practice and critique in a safe and supportive atmosphere. You will need to have attended a NZTC workshop or the previous workshop with Nicki and Adie as a prerequisite for this workshop.

## **Q&A**

Sunday April 15, 4-5.30pm

If you have a burning question to ask our Q&A sessions are a wonderful opportunity! Please post your question in the appropriate box at the registration desk. A selection of questions will be made by Sarah, Elise and Nancy late on Sunday afternoon. Questions will be selected to include all the age groups.

# Speaker Bios



## **Sarah Werner Andrews**

Sarah is an Association Montessori Internationale 3-6 trainer at the Montessori Institute Northwest in Portland, Oregon where she has been working since 2008. Sarah is currently the Co-Director of Primary Training, sharing a rich background of primary and elementary classroom experience and a strong interest in connecting current education research to Montessori principles and practice. Sarah holds

a Masters in Education, a B.A. in Music Performance, and both 3-6 and 6-12 AMI Montessori diplomas. Sarah and her husband have two teenage sons, who wish they could be coming to New Zealand! She will be focusing on different aspects of "imagination" including pretend play, and aspects of current educational research and its potential application in Montessori at the MANZ 2012 Conference.



## **Elise Huneke Stone**

Elise Huneke Stone has been a life-long student of human nature. She studied developmental psychology and anthropology and holds AMI diplomas for both 3-6 and 6-12 and has recently completed her Masters degree from Loyola University. Elise has also supported families as a natural childbirth educator and worked for several years with the North American Montessori Teachers Association Orientation to

Adolescence and as a houseparent at the farm-school for adolescents at Hershey Montessori School. She is completing AMI Training of Trainers at Hershey Montessori Training Institute in Cleveland, Ohio, and will join the staff at Montessori Institute Northwest. But Elise learned the most about human nature from her husband and two daughters (all involved in Montessori) and from her students in the 21 years she spent in Montessori 6-12 and adolescent communities.



# Speaker Bios



## **Nancy Lechner-Wallner**

Nancy Lechner-Wallner has been working with young children since 1977, and holds Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) diplomas for birth to three, 3-6 and special education and a Master's degree. Nancy is currently participating in the Training of Trainers at the Assistant to Infancy level. She is also the course assistant at the Montessori Institute of the Northwest in Portland, Oregon and has also been assisting in the first birth to three training in Sydney in 2011. In addition to her years of experience as a teacher, she is the mother of two children. Nancy, and her son Patrick, volunteered as public speakers and ambassadors with the U.S. non-profit

organization March of Dimes for four years. Other volunteer work includes being a contributor to the California state-funded Early Start programme in its development of the book, *Beginnings*, for high-risk infants, and recently developing a parenting programme at a maternity home for homeless women. Nancy has presented parent workshops and staff development in California, Oregon, Australia, and Europe. She and her sister, Patricia Wallner are co-founders of ParentAndChildTogether, an education-based service offering parent coaching, private consultations, workshops, staff development, and help creating prepared environments for home and schools.



## **Nicola Chisnall**

Nicky is a Senior Lecturer at AUT University in Auckland where she coordinates the Montessori programme for teacher education at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. She holds an AMI diploma for 3-6, a Master's degree from Victoria University of Wellington and submitted her PhD in Montessori education in late 2011. Nicky has been involved in the New Zealand Montessori movement for over 25

years, undertaking a wide range of roles as teacher, writer, centre owner, administrator, parent and long-term volunteer for MANZ. Nicky was involved in the establishment of Wa Ora Montessori School, which reaches its 25th anniversary in 2013 and in the development of MANZ which is celebrating its 30th anniversary at the 2012 conference.

# Speaker Bios



## **Cathy Wilson**

Cathy Wilson is the assistant principal at Wa Ora Montessori School in Lower Hutt. She has been involved with Montessori for the last 19 years, first as a parent and then as a teacher and currently leads a teaching team of over 12 full and part-time staff. Cathy completed her Aperfield Montessori diploma in 1998, then a degree in early childhood education in 2006. She travelled to Thailand four

times over 18 months completing her Association Montessori Internationale qualification in 2010. Cathy is currently a tutor for Aperfield Montessori Trust. She was on the Early Childhood Council (ECC) Working Party and has presented workshops on the registered teacher's criteria. Cathy is also involved in the MANZ Montessori Journey to Excellence project and was elected to MANZ Council in 2011.



## **Nicki Dowling**

Nicki Dowling was a lead facilitator in the New Zealand Teachers Council Induction and Mentoring Pilot 2009-2010 and is a facilitator in the national workshop series 'Guidelines for Induction and Mentoring and Mentor Teachers'. Nicki is a talented presenter and resource developer and her background is in secondary middle

leadership and 'at risk' student support. Nicki has supported PRT's, beginning middle leaders, specialist classroom teachers and pathways teams for many years in her role as a professional development and learning facilitator and has a passion for integrated and effective educative mentoring for all teachers.



## **Adie Graham**

Adie Graham was a lead facilitator on the New Zealand Teachers Council Induction and Mentoring Pilot 2009-2010 and the national series of workshops introducing the Guidelines for Induction and Mentoring and Mentor Teachers. Adie is a very experienced facilitator who also works in the following

areas as part of her role: career pathways, effective teaching and learning, middle leadership and Te Kotahitanga. She has a background in both primary and secondary education and has specialised in individual learning programmes and meeting special needs. She brings experience in middle and senior leadership to her work.

# General Information

## Trade Exhibition

Conference sponsors and other trade displays will be available for you to view each day at the conference.

## Registration Desk

When you arrive at the conference please come to the Registration Desk located on the first floor.

- Saturday April 14, 2012, 10am to 5.30pm
- Sunday April 15, 2012, 8am to 5.30pm
- Monday April 16, 2012, 8am to 5.30pm

## Montessori Conference Dinner and Centenary Celebration Saturday, April 14, 7.00pm till late

We will be celebrating 100 years of Montessori at the 2012 MANZ Conference dinner. We invite you to help build a timeline at the conference; you will have the opportunity to contribute photos of early classes, people, events, teacher meetings, workshops ... and help to build a pictorial history for Montessori in NZ. Come and enjoy a delicious meal and dance the night away ...

## Annual General Meeting

The Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday April 15 at 5.30 - 7pm. Come and find out what MANZ has achieved in 2011 and plans for 2012 and beyond.

## Staying at the Spencer on Byron

Accommodation at the conference venue, the Spencer on Byron in Takapuna can be booked via <http://booking.ihotelier.com/istay/istay.jsp?groupID=610220&hotelID=75565>.

To enquire by phone: 09 916 6111 and ask for Montessori Aotearoa 2012 Group Booking.

## Registration Information

### Full Conference Registration Package

If you wish to attend the full conference, then choose the three-day conference registration. The full registration is for all days of the conference (Saturday, Sunday, and Monday) and includes all sessions, teas on all days, lunches on Sunday and Monday, a conference satchel and handbook. There are discounts offered to MANZ school, organisation and individual members. Please note there is no lunch provided prior to the conference opening at 1pm on Saturday April 14. But there are lots of places to eat in short walking distance of the hotel.

### Day Conference Registration Package

If you wish to attend for only one or two days of the conference, then choose the one-day conference registration. The one-day registration includes all sessions, teas, lunch on the day (s) booked and conference handbook. There are discounts offered to MANZ school, organisation and individual members. Please note Saturday has a reduced registration rate. You can choose two days in your online pre-registration.

### Discover Montessori

Discover Montessori is an opportunity for parents and those new to Montessori to come and learn more about Montessori from New Zealand-based speakers. This session is on Saturday April 14 from 9.30am to 12pm, prior to the conference opening. The session does not include morning tea or lunch.

# General Information

## Registration Discounts

### MANZ School and Organisation Member Discount Package

If your early childhood centre or school is a school member of MANZ, all your staff and parents receive a special school member rate. If your organisation is an organisational member of MANZ one person will receive a special school member rate for one person.

### MANZ Individual Member Discount Package

If you are an individual member of MANZ in 2012 you will receive the special individual member rate. PLEASE NOTE: Student members of MANZ can register for the discounted member school rate. MANZ may require evidence of your student identification and will email you directly.

### Becoming a MANZ Individual Member

If your centre or school is not a school member of MANZ, you have the option to join MANZ as an individual member and receive the individual member package. You will also receive two quarterly MANZ publications, including the colour magazine Montessori Voices in 2012 as part of your membership.

### Late Fee

A late fee of \$100.00 will be added to all pre-registrations received after Monday March 26, 2012.

REGISTRATION PACKAGE		FULL REGISTRATION	MANZ MEMBER SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATION DISCOUNTS	MANZ INDIVIDUAL MEMBER DISCOUNTS
Three-day conference registration only		\$800.00	\$400.00	\$590.00
Discover Montessori		\$50.00		
One-day conference registration only	Saturday	\$220.00	\$110.00	\$160.00
	Sunday	\$420.00	\$210.00	\$310.00
	Monday	\$420.00	\$210.00	\$310.00
MANZ Conference Dinner Tickets	\$60.00			
MANZ Individual Membership	\$62.00 or \$30.00 for students*			
Late Fee of \$100.00 if registering online after March 26, 2012				

# General Information

## Pre-Register Online

You must pre-register online at [www.montessori.co.nz/conference](http://www.montessori.co.nz/conference). A confirmation email will be sent automatically. Payment must be made by internet banking or cheque.

## Confirmation of Payment

When your payment is received confirmation of your full registration and GST invoice will be sent to the billing email address provided in your online pre-registration.

## Conditions of Registration

All registrations and payments need to be received by Monday April 2, 2012. There will be no onsite registrations.

## Cancellations and Refunds

A full refund is available up to Monday March 26, 2012. After March 26 a cancellation fee of \$100 applies. No refund can be given for cancellations received after Monday April 2nd, 2012. All cancellations must be notified in writing by email to [eo@montessori.org.nz](mailto:eo@montessori.org.nz) or by post to MANZ, PO Box 31-461, Lower Hutt, New Zealand.

## Disclaimer

The programme is correct at time of print. However, MANZ reserves the right to alter the programme at any time and shall not be responsible for any costs or damages arising from any action based on the information in this brochure.

## Insurance

MANZ cannot accept responsibility for personal injury, loss of property or changes in travel plans. Insurance is the responsibility of the individual delegate.

