

Time	Stream	Programme Item		
8:00 am		Registration Opens		
9:00 am	Official Welcome	<p>Mihi Whakatau</p> <p>Conference Welcoming Address and Presentation of Awards</p> <p>Honouring our tipuna Debbie Senoff-Langford, foundation member of MANZ Council, will speak of the establishment of Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand.</p>		
10.30 am		Morning Tea (Break for 30 minutes)		
11.00 am - 11.30 am	Biculturalism Keynote	<p>Being bilingual: <i>Look, Listen and Speak</i> -Telling our stories <i>Arapera Card</i></p> <p>Research shows that children who are bilingual, strengthen their cognitive abilities. They can pay attention better and have an easier time focusing, remembering, and making decisions. They are training their brains to think about language, and they have a better appreciation of different languages and cultures. Developing a strategy for language acquisition that includes a bicultural approach will encourage children to <i>Listen, Look and Speak</i>.</p> <p>Stories, legends, fables, folklore, narratives, even yarns contain historical information that provide value and quality to each other’s cultures and identities. Many indigenous cultures have rich storytelling traditions that are unique to their culture. Storytelling is an important part of Māori culture, where history, art, mythology and local knowledge come together. The preservation of tikanga, te reo and our history relies heavily on korero being shared and passed down through generations.</p> <p>Sharing traditional stories are pivotal to keeping our language and culture alive. The development of bicultural experiences encourages authentic learning environments where children are engaged in lots of opportunities to <i>Look, Listen and Speak</i>.</p>		
11.00 am - 12.30 pm		<p>Parent and New Kaiako Information Session: <i>Gillian Somers</i></p> <p>Everything that happens in a Montessori environment has at its root, the scientific discoveries that Maria Montessori made based on her observations of children. What is amazing is that these findings are true for children across time and space. They are just as relevant for tamariki today as they were for those in Dr Montessori’s time; just as true for children born in India as they are for those born in Italy. It is only now that modern brain research is able to validate many of the findings that she made through her observations over a hundred years ago.</p> <p>When a child starts in a Montessori environment, that child is spending a large portion of his or her day there. We believe that we enrol families and not just children. Research shows that student outcomes are enhanced when links are made between the student’s learning at school and other contexts important to the student, particularly home and community settings. Montessori is not just a school but rather it is a philosophy of life. Your children’s developing independence and skills go out the gate with them at the end of the day!</p> <p>This workshop will share an overview of Montessori philosophy and her understanding of Human development from 0–24 years. We believe that the more a parent knows about what we do and why, the more it will be available as a tool for them to support their child’s life in the home and the more understanding they will have of the reasons for the how and why of we do things the way we do.</p> <p>The workshop is open invitation for anyone interested in knowing more about Montessori whether as a teacher, a grandparent, a current parent or a prospective one.</p>		
11.30 am - 12.00 pm	0-3 Years Keynote	<p>The Importance of Infancy and Early Childhood <i>Kavya Chandrasekhar</i></p> <p>The experiences that young children have early in life plays a crucial role in the development of the brain. The brain is most responsive to supportive and nurturing experiences and environment during early years. The hallmarks of Montessori education namely the adult, the prepared environment and observation provides us with the tools to support the architecture of the developing brain. As a community of parents and caregivers we need to leverage on the wisdom of Montessori education to provide social and emotional support of children.</p>		
12.00 pm - 1.00 pm		Lunch (Break for one hour)		
	0-3 Years	3-6 Years	6+ Years	Implementing Montessori in Aotearoa 0-18 Years
Presenter	<i>Keynote Speaker</i> <i>Kavya Chandrasekhar</i>	<i>Various Speakers</i>	<i>Keynote Speaker</i> <i>J McKeever</i>	<i>Various Speakers</i>
1.00 pm - 2:30 pm Workshop One	<p>Supporting the developing brain through Observation</p> <p>Montessori was a doctor; anthropologist. She spent a lot of time observing to see how development unfolds. She saw the unfolding of a full person happening and called it a mystery. She saw that the order perceived by the children is different from that of the adult.</p>	<p>Internal Evaluation/TAI through your Professional Growth Cycle <i>Michela Homer</i></p> <p>Internal Evaluation is an area in ECE that continues to challenge and is an identified area of focus that requires improvement from ERO/ MoE. Through this workshop, Michela aims to offer you a way of engaging in this process so that it’s meaningful, impactful and actually makes a real difference..</p>	<p>INSPIRE – DON’T REQUIRE! Part one</p> <p>Dr. Montessori said, “<i>We do not want complacent pupils, but eager ones.</i>” Our goal is to spark the children’s interest and their desire to learn more. We know that assignments are not part of the Montessori approach, yet we are often unsure about how to inspire purposeful engagement.</p>	<p>The Professional Growth Cycle – a practical guide <i>Bill Hubbard and Simon Cottle</i></p> <p>This workshop is an opportunity to re-balance trust and accountability and to ensure the growth of the profession rather than completing appraisals as a meaningless compliance task. You will also network with others, to either kick start your Professional</p>

	0-3 Years	3-6 Years	6+ Years	Implementing Montessori in Aotearoa 0-18 Years
Cont	She saw many things when she observed children such as independence, engagement, focus, lack of fatigue and repetition. She insisted that in order to know the infant we must observe and follow the child and watch their outer manifestation. This workshop will explore the tenets of observation and practical tools for observation so as to inform our practice.	We'll explore ways that centre leaders could drive this with limited time to maximise impact and look at a few examples that Michela has been through with her own teams. The workshop will also look at how to weave MJ2X and the NELP through this process.	In this series of interrelated workshops for 6-12 teachers, we will explore key Montessori principles that are necessary to have in place to <i>inspire</i> second-plane children to express themselves creatively, socially, and intellectually. Our emphasis will be on to support natural development so our classrooms will be abuzz with joyful adventures.	Growth Cycle (PGC) or evolve its potential and effectiveness. Join Simon and Bill to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide starting prompts to formalise what you already do and value to support teachers' learning - consider overall design, and - share and listen to ideas for honing the PGC elements. The workshop is open to all kaiako and leaders
2.30 pm	Afternoon Tea (Break for 30 minutes)			
3.00 pm 4.30 pm Workshop two	<p>Opportunities for learning and nurturing experiences for the Infant</p> <p>The workshop will explore one of the key hallmarks of Montessori education which is the prepared environment. The infant incarnates the environment into their very being by absorbing the physical and the psychic aspects of the prepared space. Whatever is in the environment becomes the material for self-construction. Furthermore the psychic construction happens with the interplay between the child and the environment. The infant becomes who he or she needs to be, by interacting with the environment through movement, manipulation, engagement and interaction with the people. When we obstruct the child from interacting with the environment it is a violation of human needs. As educators we must commit to enabling the child to interact with the environment and our first aim needs to render the child independent of the adult. This interaction should be guided by choice with the intention to learn and discover one's maximum capacity so that the child can consistently feel, "I can do it myself".</p>	<p>Building Observation Skills</p> <p><i>Krista Kerr</i></p> <p>Maria Montessori says "Observation requires careful and individual preparation on the part of the observer. Preparation is necessary in order to render him capable of observing and of understanding that which he observes."</p> <p>Come along to this workshop and prepare yourself for developing the skill of observation in your akomanga. Discover more about the what, why, and how to, of observing in a Montessori environment: Why do we need to observe? How do we observe? What should we observe and then what do we do with those observations?</p> <p>Underpinning our observations here in Aotearoa is our knowledge and awareness of Māori learning dispositions, tikanga, and mātauranga. How does this affect how and what we observe, as well as how we use these observations?</p> <p>All of these questions will be discussed during our time together, including some small group, collegial discussions where you can share your thoughts and experiences.</p>	<p>INSPIRE – DON'T REQUIRE!</p> <p>Part two</p>	<p>How to have fun and create a strategic plan in less than four hours</p> <p><i>Jill Bond</i></p> <p>Strategic planning is about working out what is important and how to get there over the next three-to -five years. It is also about setting some goals to keep a clear focus on your direction of travel and where you prioritise resources. Join us at this interactive session where you will learn simple techniques to enable you to facilitate a group of people to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A purpose statement ● Strategic Priorities ● Ways of working. <p>This will all be achieved using a whiteboard, engaging in rigorous discussion, and having lots of fun.</p> <p>The end result will be an A4 (two-sided) three-to-five-year strategic plan.</p>
4.45 pm 6.00 pm	Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand Annual General Meeting			
6.15 pm 7.30 pm	Nibbles & Natter Session			

9:00 am - 9.30 am	Keynote	Montessori Sports <i>Jip Bartels (via Zoom)</i> Lack of movement is one of the biggest threats to health in modern societies. Technological developments have, and are, contributing to a sedentary lifestyle with obesity being a serious threat to mental health and quality of life. Sport enhances the physical, emotional and spiritual development of children and is universal in its appeal - provided that it is designed and maintained using Montessori principles. Jip will explain how and why <u>Sport</u> should be part of our Montessori environments giving some examples as to how easily you can introduce it into daily activities.		
9:30 am 10.00 am	6+ Years Keynote	BE INSPIRED! INSPIRE! <i>J McKeever</i> Let's take a closer look at the conference theme as it applies to Montessorians working with children at all levels of development, but especially as it applies to those of us working with children 6-to-12 years of age. What are <i>our</i> sources of inspiration? How do we go about inspiring those in our care?		
10.30 am	Morning Tea (Break for 30 minutes)			
Stream	0-3 Years	3-6 Years	6+ Years	
Presenter	<i>Kavya Chandrasekhar</i>	<i>Various Speakers</i>	<i>J McKeever</i>	
Workshop 3 11:00 am 12:30 pm	Empowering parents, caregivers and educators to support development from Birth. The adult prepares and maintains the environment and once prepared, the prepared adult links the child to the environment through the activities that aid development. Once this link has been established between the child and the environment she retrieves into the background. This interaction between the child and the environment comes from inside in an environment that is thoughtfully prepared to meet their needs. The educator carefully observes to remove any hurdles in the path of development and her informed observations enable her to assist every child and respond to their need as it arises. As an educator we need to be cognizant of the fact that the children are their own teachers and independence is their goal. Hence, if independence is the goal of education then the adult becomes less important. The workshop will explore the role of the adult in creating a human environment to support optimal development from birth.	Making Sense of, and Developing the Localised Curriculum <i>Shelley Clark</i> Do you ever wonder how you make your localised curriculum visible? Do you ever wonder how MJ2Ex could be used in a meaningful way that helps you articulate to others the why, what and how of your learning programme? Do you ever wonder how you show how you uphold the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in your curriculum? This workshop will help you see the value of having a living, relevant and authentic Quality Practice Template, which will help you work smarter, not harder - making links and connections to other processes within your classroom and school.	INSPIRE – DON'T REQUIRE! Part three	
12.00 pm -1.00 pm	Lunch (Break for one hour)			
Workshop 4 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Understanding milestones that enable the journey towards Independence during the first three years of Life. The workshop will explore some of the milestones that needs the community's understanding to support the child's journey towards independence. The caregivers and the educators' attitude directly influence the way the child navigates through the milestones. Hence, this is a huge responsibility to all those who care for the new-born and the greatest joy should be to be able to serve this child.	Assessment through the lens of Montessori <i>Kerry Pratchett</i> Dr. Maria Montessori recognised the power of purposeful observation as a tool to inform assessment of learning. Join this workshop to discuss summative and formative assessment. During this workshop will look at the requirements of the Licensing Criteria and ERO, with a particular focus on assessment through a te ao Maori lens. Please bring an example of a cycle/term of assessment/learning stories for one child, your philosophy statement, and any assessment guidelines from your workplace. The reason is because really ECE is moving towards talking about assessment rather than learning stories. Learning stories sit under the umbrella of assessment. They are absolutely still relevant, but we talk about them as being part of assessment.	INSPIRE – DON'T REQUIRE! Part four	

3.00 pm	Afternoon Tea (Break for 30 minutes)	
3.30 pm -5.00 pm Workshop 5	<p data-bbox="388 261 1102 332">0-6 Years: Grace, Courtesy and Other Languages of Aroha <i>Carol Potts and Carli Hausler</i></p> <p data-bbox="338 379 1152 528">The concepts of grace, 'goodwill to others', courtesy, 'acts from the heart' plus oral self-expression, weave an essential foundation for the emerging personality of tamariki during the first six years of life.</p> <p data-bbox="338 599 1152 706">Join Carli and Carol as we traverse; grace and courtesy plus a liberal sprinkling of oral language with tika/relevance and pono/sincerity.</p>	<p data-bbox="1417 261 1795 332">6-12 Years: Montessori Dance <i>Kei Ikeda</i></p> <p data-bbox="1178 391 2039 765">Come and learn how you can effectively embed creative dance into the Montessori learning environment with Montessori Dance! Dance is a form of expression that is available to all of us. Learn how you can offer explorations in dance to your children in a way that fits beautifully with Montessori principles and within the framework of Cosmic Education. This interactive workshop will provide you with the knowledge and skills to confidently integrate dance into the life of your classroom. You will come away from this workshop with practical activities that you can implement straight away.</p> <p data-bbox="1178 807 1675 848"><u>No previous dance experience is needed.</u></p> <p data-bbox="1178 890 2039 1098">Come with an open mind and readiness to explore! Participants will receive a handout of the dance activities covered in the practical session as well as access to the Montessori Dance Spotify playlist to get started on their music collection for creative dance exploration in the classroom.</p> <p data-bbox="1178 1139 2039 1216">*Please wear comfortable clothing that supports freedom of movement.</p>
5.00 pm 5.15 pm	Conference closing (All together for Closing)	