



# MANZ Conference 2024

*Educate and Advocate*  
*Ako mai, Tautoko mai*

6 - 7 July

Waipuna Conference Centre,  
Auckland



Programme Saturday 6 July 2024

Time	Stream	Programme Item		
8:00 am		Registration Opens		
9:00 am	Official Welcome	Mihi Whakatau  Conference Welcoming Address, Special Announcement, Presentation of Awards		
10.30 am		Morning Tea (Break for 30 minutes)		
11.00 am - 11.30 am	Pasifika Keynote	Leadership-The Pasifika Way <i>Tasi Malu</i> Once upon a time the only acceptable leadership models were Western ones. Pasifika have models which could really revolutionise the way we lead in this modern world. Pasifika village leadership is a leadership model that I have developed which can help any leader navigate through any time, but especially times of adversity.		
11.30 am - 12.00 pm	0-3 Years Keynote	Born to Move <i>Kavya Chandrasekhar</i> Dr Montessori saw the importance of movement and she said movement is how the newborn engages with the environment to develop intelligence. As parents and educators we need to invest in creating environments that allow the young child to move from birth. Through the act of moving, the personality develops, guiding the child to become young capable individuals who can act or achieve things on their own. “To have a vision of the cosmic plan, in which every life form depends on directed movements which have effects beyond their conscious aim, is to understand the child’s work and be able to guide it better” Maria Montessori, The Absorbent Mind.		
12.00 pm - 1.00 pm		Lunch (Break for one hour)		
	0-3 Years	3-6 Years	6+ Years	0-18 Years
Presenter	<i>Kavya Chandrasekhar</i>	<i>Sarah Werner Andrews</i>	<i>Jamie Rue</i>	<i>Various Speakers</i>
1.00 pm - 2:30 pm Workshop One	<b>Practical Life and the Young Child</b> From the moment of birth, the young baby witnesses us do tasks and how we do daily life. Our daily way of living is cultural and represents the place we live in. It is through these practical life activities that the human born baby and toddler begin his process of becoming a member of his family and cultural group. This workshop will look at the role of Practical Life activities and how it aid the child’s adaptation in helping him to see a way to live daily life.	<b>Guiding Children 'Back from the Edge': Preparing Our Environment to Support Children at Risk</b> Montessori environments are such a powerful way to help children who are in danger of losing themselves, children at risk, children with obstacles to healthy, happy, development. This session aligns Montessori educational principles with best practices in supporting children who need it the most.	<b>Nurturing Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Through Cosmic Education</b> Cosmic Education is the phrase Dr. Montessori used to describe the plan that she devised for children in the second plane of development. We must remember that this is not a curriculum we impose upon the children. For the adults delivering it, cosmic education is a framework and a philosophy. For the children, it is simply the entire universe of ideas, a limitless field of exploration and discovery. This integrated approach to education, when implemented properly, allows children to practice critical-thinking every day. It encourages them to build their skills for solving problems.	<b>MANZ Strategic Planning 2025-2029</b> <i>MANZ Council</i> Come and have your say and assist MANZ Council to decide on the direction of your organisation over the next 4 years.

2.30 pm	Afternoon Tea (Break for 30 minutes)			
3.00 pm 4.30 pm Workshop two	<b>Creative Expression in the Young Child</b> Various creative forms open up a door of possibilities for the infant to be immersed in day to day living. We need to include creative expression from birth since they are life subjects that allow for sensory exploration and aesthetic enjoyment and personal contribution. The workshop will look at some ideas on art, music and nature to include in the child’s life from the beginning.	<b>The Social Relevance of Montessori Education</b> Montessori education releases human potential. This session demonstrates how the Children's House not only supports the Five Domains of School Readiness for young children, but goes beyond, because through the process of normalization comes cultivation of the whole of a child's life, and healthy, whole human beings create a healthy, whole society.	<b>Extending Cosmic Education part 1</b> In training, we explore the pedagogical principles of Montessori education, and we also receive thousands of lessons we can offer to the children. And those aren’t even enough! In Part 1 of this two-part workshop, we will explore practical ways to extend the content we offer children in the 6-12 environment in the subject areas of history, biology, geography, and art. You will leave with a few more lessons already created and practiced!	<b>Exploring Raranga (Weaving)</b> <i>Krista Kerr and Ingrid Peke</i> Embark on a captivating journey with Ingrid and Krista as they share their learning of raranga and how this has enhanced their setting. Delve into the intricacies of raranga, exploring not just the art form but also the rich cultural tapestry woven into the fabric of harakeke.  Join us for a hands-on session where you will be guided in weaving techniques using paper strips and the process of preparing and using harakeke to create a mini tāpeka (cloak). Together, let's celebrate the beauty of cultural exploration and its lasting impact on the members of our community.
4.45 pm - 6.00 pm	Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand Annual General Meeting			
6.15 pm - 7.15 pm	Nibbles & Natter Session			

Programme Sunday 7th July 2024

8.30 am - 9.15 am	<b>3-6 Years Keynote</b>	<b>Keynote: Joyful Engagement: The Heart of Montessori Education</b> <i>Sarah Werner Andrews</i> One of Montessori's surprising discoveries was the joy she saw in children through the normalizing power of meaningful work. We know that children's work IS their play, and as we become more aware of the healing nature of happiness, Montessori education is more important today in bringing people together, building community, and healing society and ourselves.		
9.15 am - 10.00 am	<b>6+ Years Keynote</b>	<b>Building the Self in Relation to Society: The Work of Children Ages 6-12</b> <i>Jamie Rue</i> From birth to adulthood, children’s development is driven by the need to construct themselves and to build the adults they will become. From the ages of 6-12, children become aware of how society works and begin to wonder what their role within society might be. They see what humans have been able to accomplish and they start to test their own abilities and capacities. The academic work that children do is the means through which this larger, deeper work is accomplished.		
10.00 am	Morning Tea (Break for 30 minutes)			
10.30 am - 11.15 am	<b>Biculturalism Keynote</b>	<b>Te tuakiri o te tangata  Beyond the skin of man</b> <b>Balancing the spiritual wellbeing with the physical wellbeing of man</b> <i>Arapera Herewini Card</i> The Māori health model, <i>Te tuakiri o te tangata Beyond the skin of man</i> emphasises the interconnectedness of spiritual and physical wellbeing. This holistic approach aligns with Māori epistemological beliefs, emphasising the importance of balancing spiritual and physical aspects for overall well being. The model identifies nine elements which combined together formulate the essence of wairua or the make-up of the spirit. We will also identify three external influences that impact the wairua spirit of man. If applied correctly it will support children’s ability to reach their full potential as they comprehend their world around them.		
<b>Stream</b>	<b>0-3 Years</b>		<b>3-6 Years</b>	
<b>Presenter</b>	<i>Kavya Chandrasekhar</i>		<i>Sarah Werner Andrews</i>	
<b>Workshop 3</b> 11.15 am 12:45 pm	<b>Language Development in the Young Child</b> Language plays a creative part in the adaptation of the child to his place. We know that the infant can learn any language that they are born into. What makes the difference is the rich environment which is interactive and supported with a consistent adult responding to the baby. The workshop will look at the role of the adult in the acquisition of the language particularly in providing and supporting a rich language environment.	<b>Bringing Our Best Selves to the Classroom</b> What does it mean to "see" a child? What does it mean to really observe? When we challenge ourselves to develop a deeper understanding of the Montessori Method and ourselves, we become truly capable of "following the child" and teaching for mutual liberation.		<b>Extending Cosmic Education part 2</b> In training, we explore the pedagogical principles of Montessori education, and we also receive thousands of lessons we can offer to the children. And those aren’t even enough! In Part 2 of this two-part workshop, we will explore practical ways to extend the content we offer children in the 6-12 environment in the subject areas of math, language, geometry, and music. You will leave with a few more lessons already created and practiced!
12.45 pm -1.45 pm	Lunch (Break for one hour)			

<b>Workshop 4</b> 1:45 pm - 3.15 pm	<b>Nurturing Independence through Observation and Collaboration</b> When the primary caregivers and educators are able to respond to the cues of the young child, they are giving opportunities to the child to understand what is happening to their body and be aware of their body functions. To achieve this, caregivers need to observe their children right from birth. The workshop will explore ways in which educators can work with primary caregivers to support some milestones towards independence from birth through collaboration.	<b>In the Beginning, There Was Rhythm...</b> Starting with the rhythm clapping patterns, this interactive session will demonstrate how children can learn to read and write musical rhythms in the same manner that they learn to read and write language.	<b>Cosmic Education as Advocacy</b> If we truly want to advocate for children, we must implement Cosmic Education in its entirety. Montessori saw Cosmic Education not simply as a plan for children ages 6-12, but as a powerful tool for creating peace. Children who have truly experienced Cosmic Education have had their development needs met, have been exposed to an integrated view of all academic disciplines, and have an understanding of their role and responsibility in society. By supporting this type of work, we are supporting children in becoming critical thinkers and problem-solvers, which lays the groundwork for a more peaceful world.
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3.15 pm	Afternoon Tea (Break for 30 minutes)	
<b>Workshop 5</b> 3.45 pm - 4.45 pm	<b>Movement, Singing Games, and Dancing</b> <i>Sarah Werner Andrews</i>  During this joyful and energetic session, we will explore the fun of adding movement to songs, learn singing games, and have a great time learning dances for young children. Come ready to laugh and play together! .	<b>Local Curriculum in 6 – 12 Years</b> <i>Led by Dimitra Pantazis and Tania Gaffney</i> We are all in different schools... and we are all trying to do “Local Curriculum” So what does that look like in each of our schools BUT also within each of our Montessori albums?  What should we draw out – which plants, which animals, which part of fundamental needs?  Let’s think about our school, our town and city, and then our country...  Local Curriculum is the sum of parts... language + maths + history + geography + biology + botany  <b>Bring what you have to share so that we can all grow together!</b>  <b>This is an interactive workshop for all primary kaiako.</b>
4.45 pm - 5.00 pm	Conference closing (All together for Closing) <i>Cole Theatre</i>	