

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMI – Elementary Alumni Association (AMI-EAA)

Events and Activities

In July 2016 our Annual Conference was held in Squamish, BC and we were thrilled to hold our conference outside the US. Erin Higginbottom, of the Montessori Society of Canada, was our gracious onsite host. She filled our evenings with highlights of the region: food, culture, activities, and a spectacular outing to Whistler. Our lecture presentations were given by Alison Awes, Nadine Romig, Regina Cyvas, and Ada Jaime. We were excited to have 15 first-time attendees in our midst! For over 40 years this summer conference has been a rejuvenating and refreshing time for our members. As always, the sharing of our daily practice, both strengths and struggles, provided time for reflection and growth.

This upcoming summer 2017 we will be traveling to beautiful Greenville, SC and staying at Furman University. Samantha Veejay will be our onsite host. We will be exploring “Mechanics in the Cosmic Classroom” from July 9 to 14.

In February 2017, AMI-EAA sponsored the annual Refresher Course with AMI-USA. The Refresher was held in Austin, Texas. Trainer, Phyllis Pottish-Lewis presented on the topics mathematics and geometry in “Gifts to give our Children from the Mathematical Geniuses Who Have Shaped the World”. She designed the course to provide teachers with activities and ideas that allow the children to delve more deeply into their work. Again, the elementary attendance reached record highs! We are most grateful to our presenters and to all the volunteers who make the conference a success. The 2018 Refresher Course will be held in Phoenix, Arizona.

Collaborations and Partnerships

In support of the Outreach arm of AMI’s Strategic Plan, EAA is actively involved in AMI’s Bold Goal Project. AMI launched its Bold Goal project in February 2016 to increase our social impact by tripling the number of AMI-prepared adults working in U.S. education within five years. EAA Board members will participate in the Leadership Group as well as serve on several of the Working Group teams to develop a strategy for achieving this goal.

Publications and Media

On our newly updated website our members receive numerous benefits including an online newsletter published three times a year, a members-only section of the website where special conference materials are made available, and our entire archive of past EAA newsletters. Each past edition is now available through a searchable key-word database.

This past year we worked to transform our Job Posting services to a fully online platform. We hope that this will make it easier for schools to advertise for elementary teachers as well as making the search process more efficient for teachers looking for available job opportunities.

In addition to our website, EAA also continues to provide a strong online presence with EAA-Talk, our group discussion forum. Contributions are made by teachers, trainers, and our pedagogical advisors.

Membership

EAA continues to serve members in Europe, North America, South America, Australia, Africa, and Asia. Our membership has doubled in the last five years and we currently have around 700 members. We strive to connect to trainees and new graduates by offering them a complimentary membership during their training and for their first year after graduation.

Board and Committees

Current Board

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| • Chair | Allyson Creel, North Carolina |
| • Vice-Chair and Treasurer | Gayle Waner, Washington |
| • Secretary, Membership Coordinator | Amanda Cade, Minnesota |
| • Publications & Communications Coordinator | Anna Discenzo, Ohio |
| • Outreach Coordinator | Wendy Tye, California |
| • Conference Coordinator | Rachel Eberhard, California |

EAA would like to extend sincere gratitude to our pedagogical advisors, Phyllis Pottish-Lewis, Greg MacDonald, Alison Awes, and Ann Dunne. We would like to welcome Carol Hicks as she joins this esteemed group of elementary trainers.

Allyson Creel
Chair