

UKRAINE

The Support and Development of the Method of Maria Montessori in Ukraine

Highlights

In order to improve the quality of education, the society regularly hosts informative hands-on workshops with AMI-qualified specialists, to discuss the Montessori method and school administration for specialists, parents and Mechnikova university psychology department students.

Information regarding AMI, and news about events in Russia, Belarus and global Montessori societies can be found at <www.montessori-org.com.ua>.

The AMI affiliate in Ukraine supports AMI's "One Voice" international initiative - the united voice calling for unification of actions and efforts of all Montessorians to achieve a broader distribution of doctor Maria Montessori's ideas through the society and help as big a number of children in realising their natural potential as possible.

Within the boundaries of the "One Voice" initiative the society invites all active Montessori organizations to sign the Montessorians Memorandum In Ukraine, the goal of signing the memorandum is to consolidate teaching organizations in order to develop Montessori in Ukraine constructively.

The society's website is gradually becoming a more popular source of information for all the Montessorians in Ukraine.

Events and Activities

In April, Co-founder and head of the Ukrainian society, Julia Timoshevskaya and Co-founder Maria Taranenko, took part in the annual AMI meeting in Amsterdam.

In May, a presentation of AMI affiliates in Ukraine work took place in Uzhhorod in the south of Ukraine.

In July, Patricia Wallner, a 0-3 AMI Trainer, visited Ukraine for the first time with her scientific-practical seminar "Realization of the Montessori Approach at school and at home" at the invitation of the society.

In November, Tatyana Repnova, Head of the Association of Practicing Psychologists in Odessa Region, along with a group of psychology students representing various higher educational establishments and practicing psychologists visited the AMI's affiliated society in Ukraine and the Odessa Montessori School. Svetlana Kalneva presented the AMI affiliate in Ukraine and hosted a seminar on the topic of "Maria Montessori's Authentic approach in Ukraine". Julia Marchuk introduced the guests to the 0-3 AMI class and told them of the importance of moving for children of that age.

Collaboration and Partnerships

2014 saw the creation of the Eastern-European AMI Affiliates Federation (as of today, the affiliates in Ukraine and Russia are part of it). The main aim is to spread authentic Montessori method in both countries and provide mutual support.

In 2016, the Eastern-European Affiliates Federation accepted the request of the Belarusian society to join the Federation.

The AMI affiliate in Ukraine continues to distribute books translated into Russian by the Montessori Public Fund. Owing to the fruitful collaboration of the union, the AMI affiliate in Ukraine was able to introduce to their colleagues the “10 Steps Programme” to achieve the AMI-standard for 0-3 and 3-6 classes.

In January 2017, Julia Timoshevskaya and the heads of the Ukrainian Montessori centre agreed to collaborate on future initiatives.

Publications and Media

The Whole-School Montessori Handbook, published by NAMTA, was translated into Russian. The entire Russian-speaking Montessori society of Ukraine, Russia and Belarus is keen on having the book for administrators translated soon.

On February 15-18, an international online conference “Montessori from birth” took place. During the first day of the conference, heads of AMI Affiliates, Anna Pugachova and Julia Timoshevskaya spoke. It was addressed to parents with children aged 0 to 16 and it caught the attention of 3000 viewers, and had many positive reviews.

The Ukrainian affiliate took part in an educational programme on Odessa city radio on the topic “Maria Montessori’s scientific pedagogics method”.

On September 26-29, the annual on-line Montessori conference “Montessori from Birth” took place. Julia Timoshevskaya spoke on the topics, “What can we do instead of turning on cartoons and also have the time to do everything one needs?” and “How to involve the child into your life and your daily activities?”

In October, Julia Timoshevskaya wrote an article “Mistakes correction” for the second issue of a Russian-language “Competent Parents”. The author of the article debunks myths about Maria Montessori that were covered in the STB (Ukrainian channel) in the programme “Everything is going to be all right” episode “HOW TO RAISE A CHILD ACCORDING TO THE MONTESSORI SYSTEM”. The journal is issued by the AMI affiliate in Russia.

In November the society assisted with an online query regarding a research project “Montessori teachers in Europe: profiles and identity between tradition and transformation”.

Julia Timoshevskaya and Maria Taranenko
Co-founders