



## Amsterdam 15 - 17 April 2016

### Programme Details:

- Friday: all optional:
- Excursion
  - Board Reception, City Walk
- Saturday:
- Societies Meeting
  - Annual General Meeting
  - Keynote
- Sunday: Montessori Forum
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## FRIDAY 15 APRIL 2016

### HISTORICAL EXCURSION

**10.30 a.m.**

*Historical tour to Montessori landmarks in the Netherlands with guide and Montessorian Fred Kelpin*

#### Programme

- 10.30 a.m. Gather at the Maria Montessori House, Koninginneweg 163, Amsterdam for coffee and tea.
- 11 a.m. Presentation on the history of Maria Montessori's life in the Netherlands, and highlights of objects and photos in her study.
- 12 p.m. Smaller groups to visit the study of Maria Montessori on the second floor of the building at 161. As there are no lifts in the building you should be comfortable to mount a number of staircases.
- 12.30 p.m. Leave by bus, with packed lunch on board. Visit to Maria Montessori's grave in Noordwijk, and the house where she died on Koningin Astrid Boulevard 54, Noordwijk.
- 3 p.m. The trip to Noordwijk is followed by a visit to the small town of Laren, just 35 km east of Amsterdam, where Maria Montessori started her lab school and teacher training centre when she first took up permanent residence in the Netherlands in 1936. The bus also has a short stop at Villa Intimis in the small town of Baarn, where the Pierson family first granted hospitality to the Montessori family.
- 5 p.m. Return to Amsterdam, in time to attend the reception hosted by the AMI Board at the Industriële Groote Club, Dam Square 27.

## FRIDAY 15 APRIL 2016

### RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE AMI BOARD

**5.30 p.m.**

- 5.30 p.m. Venue: the Industriële Groote Club, Dam Square 27
- 7.30 p.m. Reception hosted by the AMI Board — a perfect opportunity to meet old and new friends. We will have some short speeches welcoming all to Amsterdam, and together will enjoy a drink and a light snack. Goodbye's around 7.30 p.m.
- 7.45 pm. **Amsterdam City Walk** Participants are free to make their own arrangements for the evening, but if you are new to Amsterdam you can also join an entertaining and informative Amsterdam City Walk with guides Ton Copier and Lucie Meijer. The group leaves for the walk at around 7.45 p.m. from the venue of the Reception. The walk will take you along some of the oldest sights of Amsterdam, and is expected to take about one and a half hours. Those who have worked up an appetite can join Ton and Lucie afterwards for a simple yet tasty meal in one of Amsterdam's many restaurants.

# SATURDAY 16 APRIL 2016

## De Rode Hoed, Keizersgracht 102,

## Amsterdam (all meetings and meals on Saturday)

8.45-9.45 a.m. Registration opens, participants to pick up their individual bags and meeting papers

10 a.m.— **Affiliated Societies Meeting**  
12.30 p.m.

### AGENDA

1. Welcome, Lynne Lawrence, AMI Executive Director
2. Introducing our new Affiliated Societies
3. Expanding Montessori's Impact through Innovation and Enterprise
  - a. Media Mastery  
Prince George has put Montessori in the spotlight and AMI and its affiliates have been fielding many media enquiries. This presentation will explore how to go from trepidation to confidence in fielding print, radio and television media interviews.  
[Louise Livingston and Christine Harrison](#)
  - b. Innovative, Entrepreneurial and Creative  
The US Embassy in Bucharest used these words when awarding The Montessori School of Bucharest for entrepreneurship and as a role model for Romania's sustainable economic development.  
[Ana Maria Brezniceanu](#)
  - c. SEO Case Study – OMG!  
Through a social impact investment in Australia, the Montessori Australia Foundation and AMI have been able to engage the services of a leading SEO (Search Engine Optimisation) company OMG (Online Marketing Gurus). Follow our journey from search engine ignorance to optimisation.  
[Katie Denzin and Victoria Marshall-Cerins](#)
  - d. MONTESSORI 2020  
Montessori Dachverband Deutschland, the German umbrella organisation, has embarked on an exciting strategic project to advance the Montessori movement in Germany by shaping the future together, through its MONTESSORI 2020 project.  
[Joerg Boysen](#)
  - e. Montessori Events  
Organising Montessori events is one of our greatest avenues for strengthening community, practice, outreach and revenue. The Montessori Australia Foundation runs over 50 events a year and this presentation will highlight how to make the most of this opportunity for expanding Montessori's impact.  
[Megan Tyne](#)

## Affiliated Societies Meeting, agenda, continued

f. Congress Update for Affiliates

The Congress Organising Committee will give an update on the Congress for affiliated societies.

Soňa Havlickova

4. Closing Remarks

Philip O'Brien, AMI President

12.30 - 13.45 p.m. Buffet Lunch at the Rode Hoed



# **SATURDAY 16 APRIL 2016**

## **De Rode Hoed, Keizersgracht 102, Amsterdam (all meetings and meals on Saturday)**

**2 p.m. 2016 Annual General Meeting (members only)**

### **AGENDA**

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting.  
These will be available at the AGM.
- 4 Matters arising out of these minutes
- 5 a) AMI Annual Report over 2015, highlights of the year past
- 5 b) Financial Report over 2015
- 6 Matters referred by the Board  
The Board is proposing a number of minor changes to the Articles of Association and Bylaws (see pp 6-7 for proposed changes)
- 7 a) Foundation MM75 Fund
- 7 b) Association Montessori Internationale of the US Foundation
- 8 Strategic Plan: Achievements and Projections, New Initiatives. AMI's Bold Goal.
- 9 Any Other Business—points can be submitted in writing until the start of the meeting.
10. Launch of the English edition of Maria Montessori's book *Psico-Aritmética*
11. Time and dates of AGM and Montessori Forum 2017

### **4 p.m. Coffee and tea break**

**4.30 p.m. Keynote**  
non-AMI members can rejoin at this point to enjoy the keynote.



**6.00 p.m. Buffet dinner  
at De Rode Hoed**

## **Background information on agenda item 6 - Proposed changes to the AMI Articles of Association (new text in blue, current text in green)**

### Article 10.7 (new article)

“A member of the board that has missed two consecutive board meetings without a valid reason, at the discretion of the Board, may be asked by the Board to resign as a board member.”

### Article 11.1 — current text

The decisions of the board require the absolute majority of the votes validly cast.

### Article 11.1 — proposed text

The decisions of the board require the absolute majority (more than 50%) of the votes validly cast in a meeting in which at least half of the current board members are present.

### Article 22.2 — current text

The allocation of a surplus after liquidation will be determined by the board, with due observance of the fact that any surplus after liquidation of the association should be applied in accordance with the objective of the institution or contributed to another institution for general public advancement in accordance with article 6.33 of the (Netherlands) Income Tax Act of 2001.

*Article 22.2 — a change in Dutch legislation with regard to ANBI organisations (organisations serving the public interest) has meant that upon dissolution of the organisation AMI is no longer restricted in identifying only Dutch organisations to which surplus monies can be transferred.*

### — proposed text

In case of dissolution, the Board will determine the destination of the surplus after liquidation of the association. The destination must be made for the benefit of one or more charities with a similar objective or for a foreign institution intended exclusively or almost exclusively in the public interest and which has a similar objective.

## **Proposed changes to the AMI Bylaws (new text in blue, current text in green)**

### 3(b) — current text

A majority of the Board members shall be A.M.I. diploma holders. The remaining members shall include people with administrative, financial or legal expertise. All Board members shall be A.M.I. members and shall support A.M.I. principles. Preferably, the Board should represent the international nature of the Association.

### 3(b) — proposed text

A majority of the Board members shall be AMI diploma holders and at least one shall be an AMI Trainer. The remaining members shall be people with expertise required to support the effective functioning of the Association. AMI Board members shall be AMI members and shall support AMI principles. Every effort should be made to ensure that the Board will represent the international nature of the Association.

### 3 (f) Nominations — current text

Each year the Nominating Committee will prepare the nominations for the Board. Each such nomination shall be supported by at least one legal body (as referred to in Article 7, 1a of the Articles of Association) or two Board members or 25 individual members.

Nominations for the Board shall be submitted in writing up to 3 weeks prior to the General Meeting. The Nominating Committee will assess all nominations to be presented to the Board and make sure that a majority of the Board members will be A.M.I. diploma holders. Nominations shall be selected by the Board and presented to the General Meeting for appointment.

### 3(f) — proposed text

Each year the Nominating Committee will prepare the nominations for the Board. Each such nomination shall be supported by at least one legal body (as referred to in Article 7, 1a of the Articles of Association) or two Board members or 25 individual members. Nominations for the Board shall be submitted in writing up to ten (10) weeks prior to the General Meeting. The Nominating Committee will assess all nominations to be presented to the Board and make sure that a majority of the Board members will be A.M.I. diploma holders. Nominations shall be selected by the Board and presented to the General Meeting for appointment.

**SUNDAY 17 APRIL 2016**

**The Industrieele Groote Club,**

**Dam Square 27, Amsterdam (all meetings on Sunday)**

## Outreach Theme

10:15 - 11 a.m.



Ben Faccini — United Kingdom

Ben Faccini is a novelist who, from 2008 to 2010, helped run the “My Life Is a Story” campaign for UNESCO to raise awareness about street children. He will cover connected issues of exclusion, voice, identity, deprivation, and education, weaving into his presentation also details of his work as a novelist and writer in challenging schools in London.

11 - 11:30 a.m.



Ned David — Australia

Ned David is the current Chair of the Torres Strait Islanders Regional Education Council (TSIREC), a position he has held since April 2000, and is a member of various committees and forums. Ned has a very broad work history that includes government and private sector. His current role as the Manager of “Strategic Initiatives Bound for Success Torres Strait” involves working across all sectors and agencies to improve life opportunities for all students in the Torres Strait. Ned will speak on the role of Montessori education in building self-management and autonomy.

11:30 - 11:45 a.m.



Anila Hussain — Switzerland/Pakistan

Anila Hussain will talk about the dream she shares with her sister Shenila Ali. Both grew up in Pakistan until 2002, when Anila settled in Switzerland. Anila pursued a career in Montessori education while Shenila decided to become a fashion designer back in Pakistan. Living in diverse cultures made them realise that all boundaries are man-made and they wish to bridge the gap between East and West through their professions. Anila will speak on how women can be empowered in both worlds.

11.45-11.55



Chris Von Lersner — United States

### Slam Prayer: “Let Me Be Zero”

Chris Von Lersner is one of the original founders of Great Work, which was established to ‘foster a paradigm shift in the public dialogue about schools.’ Their work is intended to engender a “Copernican Revolution” in education. Great Work encourages the public to renounce the outmoded belief that a predetermined scope and sequence of academic content should serve as the centre around which the education system revolves.

## Mathematics Theme

12 - 12:30 p.m.



Benedetto Scoppola — Italy

Benedetto Scoppola is the President of the Opera Nazionale Montessori, Italy and Associate Professor in Mathematical Physics at “Università degli studi “Tor Vergata”, Rome. Since 1998 he has studied the problem of teaching mathematics at primary school level. He is a member of “Istituto superiore Montessori di ricerca e formazione” of the Opera Nazionale. In 2011, Benedetto prepared for publication in English, together with Kay Baker, Montessori’s book *PsicoGeométria*, with completely new illustrations. Today he can proudly speak of the itinerary leading to the English publication of the second Psico book, *Psico-Aritmética*, which was realised with the same team.

**Lunch from 12.30 – 1.30 p.m. at the venue**

1:30 - 2:10 p.m.



Manuela Piazza – Italy

Manuela Piazza is an Italian cognitive neuroscientist, who will speak on the Mathematical Mind—giving background on what we know about brain development, particularly in relation to mathematics. Dr Piazza holds a PhD in cognitive neuroscience from the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience of University College London, UK. She has worked for several years as a researcher at INSERM (French national institute for biomedical research), in Paris. Currently, she is an associate professor at the Center for Mind & Brain Sciences of the University of Trento, Italy. In her research she focuses on the cognitive and neural underpinning of numeracy and its development throughout life.

2.10 - 2.30 p.m.



## Century of the Adolescent

David Kahn will introduce this concept and show a short film from an adolescent environment in the Philippines, Abba's Orchard Erdkinder.

David is Executive Director of NAMTA, and programme director of the Montessori Orientation Adolescent Studies.

## Mathematics Theme continued

2.30 - 3:15 p.m.



## Michael Waski — United States

Michael Waski is a math teacher at Montessori High School at University Circle in Cleveland, Ohio. He holds the AMI elementary diploma from Bergamo, Italy, a BS from Kent State University (OH), and an MA in educational administration from California State University, San Bernardino. Michael has been teaching for fifteen years, eleven of which have been at the adolescent level. In addition, Mike is a member of the visiting faculty on the AMI Montessori Orientation to Adolescent Studies course as well as a frequent NAMTA presenter. Mike is also the author of *Montessori Algebra for the Adolescent*. He will speak on Mathematics for the Adolescent.

## Montessori Research

3.15 - 4 p.m.



## Steve Hughes — United States

Steve Hughes is chair of AMI's Global Research Group, and will close the day by giving the participants an update on research work done in the year past, and new developments.

Dr Hughes holds a PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Minnesota and his post-doctoral fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at the University of Minnesota Medical School, where he served as a member of the faculty of the Division of Pediatric Clinical Neurosciences from 2001 to 2011.

He has specialised in neuropsychological assessment of children and adolescents with a wide range of learning, developmental, and medical disorders. His research interests include measurement of attention and executive functioning in children and adults, the effects of living in poverty on child development, and the neuro-developmental benefits of Montessori education.