

MEPI *Hands For Peace* Conference

montessori

montessori educational programs international



MEPI

PO BOX 6

Smithville, IN 47458

“Celebrating Cultures”

MEPI International Conference

February 24th & 25th 2012

Keynote Address by

Andrea Scott

“Challenges and
Lessons Learned:
Montessori in a
Developing Country”

Conference Location:



Litchfield
BEACH & GOLF RESORT

14276 Ocean Hwy

Pawleys Island, SC 29585

1-888-766-4633



Sunday Bonus Workshop at
Brookgreen Gardens with Veronica Gerald

www.ultimategullah.com

Schedule: Friday, February 24, 2012

7:15– 8:00am Check in and on-site **Registration**

8:00–8:30 **Opening Ceremony**

8:45—10:15	Session A	Presenter	Level
	A-1. Who's Afraid of the Golden Beads: Part 1	T Noble & L Hendricks	EC, EL
	A-2. Parent Talk: The Language of Response-Able Parenting ...	Sarah Wilson	All
	A-3. Skip, Step...Sweep?	S Forseth & C Leslie	IT
	A-4. Origami: Art of Japanese Paper Sculpture*.....	Alice Clark	EC, EL, AD
	A-5. A Diverse Science and Culture Curriculum: Part 1.	J Engle & A Bolander	EC/EL
	A-6. Stress Reduction Through Mindfulness.....	Janet Wepner	All

10:15—10:45 Visit **Exhibitor Hall** and the **Silent Auction** during the break.

10:45—12:15	Session B	Presenter	Level
	B-1. Who's Afraid of the Golden Beads: Part 2.....	T Noble & L Hendricks	EC, EL
	B-2. Building Community From the Ground Up	J Fuller & L Bergrud	All
	B-3. Early Learning of Foreign Language the Montessori Way ..	Sandra Pokos	IT/EC
	B-4. Adolescent Round Table	Susan Putnam	AD
	B-5. A Diverse Science and Culture Curriculum: Part 2.....	J Engle & A Bolander	EC/EL
	B-6. Music Makes Me Happy and Smart	Warren McPherson	EC

12:15—12:45 **Lunch**—Please join us for a light lunch in the Tara Ballroom.

12:45—1:30 **Annual General Meeting** with presentation of new MEPI graduates.

1:30—2:30 **Keynote—Andrea Scott**

Challenges and Lessons Learned: Montessori in a Developing Country

Andrea will take us on a journey to the bush of Northern Kenya to the home of the Samburu, a nomadic group of pastoralists with a long and proud history. She will share their rich culture, unchanged for over 600 years, and will enlighten us with her experience of sharing Montessori in an area so remote, education is not available to every child.

2:45—3:45	Session C	Presenter	Level
	C-1. Planning and Record Keeping. Are You Kidding?	T Noble & L Hendricks	EC
	C-2. Journey of Peace Through Timelines	Katherine Schweizer	EC/EL
	C-3. Games for the Upper Elementary	LaVonne McPherson	EL
	C-4. Philosophy and Intentions for Field Supervision.....	Mary Helen Cline w/ IGS Staff	C/T
	C-5. Culture of Caring	Leila O'Neal	EC
	C-6. Energy Awareness and Responsibility	Mercedes Stewart	All

3:45—4:15 Visit **Exhibitor Hall** and the **Silent Auction** during the break.

4:15—5:45	Session D	Presenter	Level
	D-1. Dem Bones, Dem Bones, Dem Dry Bones.....	T Noble & L Hendricks	EC
	D-2. Exploring the World Through Labyrinths.....	Beth Langley	All
	D-3. Simple Lessons Learned Through Cultural Experiences.....	Andrea Scott	All
	D-4. Infant/Toddler Round Table: Environments	S Forseth & C Leslie	I/T
	D-5. Timeline of the Form of Letters of our Alphabet	Daniel Jutras	All
	D-6. Orff Music in the Montessori Classroom	Oscar Avila	All

6:00—7:30 **Munch and Mingle** with Native American flute player and story teller, Larry Groves... and with door prizes!
However, you must be present to win!

Need a Maria Moment? Head to the Reflection Room!

Hosted by Susan Putnam, Tina Childress, and Beth Langley, the environment is prepared for reflection and meditation, a place to come when you would like a little sanctuary to absorb the ideas that have been shared with you during the conference and to think about new lessons learned. As a professional it is important to take time to observe and reflect, and we invite you to utilize this peaceful spot to look within yourself, find connections to others and ideas, and recognize the Montessori Spirit that inhabits the Hands for Peace Conference.

**Admin = Administrators | IT = Infant/Toddler | EC = Early Childhood
EL = Elementary | AD = Adolescent | C/T = Certified/Trainers**

MEPI Office Phone: 812-824-6366 Email: MontessoriEPI@gmail.com Fax: 888-708-2470

Schedule: Saturday, February 25, 2012

7:00– 8:15am **Breakfast at Webster's, check in and on-site registration**

	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Level</u>
8:45—10:15	Session E	
E-1. Be Peace: Full Implementation of the Pyramid Model.....	Shanon Flowers	All
E-2. Simple Lessons Learned Through Cultural Experiences	Andrea Scott	All
E-3. You Know More Science Than You Think	Andrea Alexander	EC, EL
E-4. Exploring Books with the Brown Paper Bag Project	Brenda Coleman	EL
E-5. The Universal Appeal of Montessori	Mary Ellen Maunz	All
E-6. The Art of Storytelling.....	Larry A. Groves	All

10:15—10:45 Visit **Exhibitor Hall** and the **Silent Auction** during the break.

10:45—12:15	Session F	
F-1. Be Peace: Full Implementation of the Pyramid Model.....	Shanon Flowers	All
F-2. Create Peace and Honor Culture: Peacemaking Circles*.	Claire J. Salkwski	All
F-3 Early Childhood Round Table: Classroom Management.....	Jen Fuller	EC
F-4. Montessori and the Regulatory Environment	John Moncure	Admin
F-5. Culture and Creativity in the Montessori Classroom	M Mosby & H Mosby	EL/AD
F-6 The Year Through the Medicine Wheel	Maggie Hunter	All

12:15—1:45pm **Lunch** - A list of lunch establishments may be viewed at the registration area.

1:45—2:45	Session G	
G-1. Around the World in 180 Days: Part 1	Cheryl Spencer	EC, EL
G-2. Establishing Responsible Habits Early: The Financial Proj....	Sharon Vincent	AD
G-3. Original Lessons for Your IT Classroom on a Budget.....	C Muehlbauer & M Hines	IT
G-4. Elementary Round Table: Challenges.....	LaVonne McPherson	EL
G-5. The Magic of the First Day of School	Jayanthi Rajagopalan	IT, EC, EL
G-6. Breath - the Bridge to a Peaceful Classroom.....	Mercedes Stewart	All

2:45—3:15 Visit **Exhibitor Hall** during the break and the **Silent Auction Bidding** ends.

3:15—4:45	Session H	
H-1. Around the World in 180 Days: Part 2.....	Cheryl Spencer	EC, EL
H-2. Dirt and Worms	Antoinette Ursits	EL, AD
H-3. A Mindful Approach to Leading with Passion	Tequila E. Howard	All
H-4. FS Protocol, Communications, Evaluation and Ethics	Mary Helen Cline w/ IGS Staff	C/T
H-5. Creativity in Performance	Warren McPherson	EL, AD
H-6. International Folkdances for Children.....	D Jutras & J Rajagopalan	All

5:00—6:00 **Closing Ceremony**

Need a Maria Moment? Head to the Reflection Room!

Hosted by Susan Putnam, Tina Childress, and Beth Langley, the environment is prepared for reflection and meditation, a place to come when you would like a little sanctuary to absorb the ideas that have been shared with you during the conference and to think about new lessons learned. As a professional it is important to take time to observe and reflect, and we invite you to utilize this peaceful spot to look within yourself, find connections to others and ideas, and recognize the Montessori Spirit that inhabits the Hands for Peace Conference.

Sunday Bonus at Brookgreen Gardens!

9:30	Gates open		
10:00 – 11:00	BG-1. Ultimate Gullah: More Than Storytelling	Veronica Gerald	All
	Lunch on your own, Brookgreen has several lunch venues available, take this time to enjoy the Gardens and have some lunch!		
11:15 – 12:45	BG-2. Mentoring with Grace	Mary Helen Cline w/ IGS Staff	Field Supervisors & Supervising Directors

**Admin = Administrators | IT = Infant/Toddler | EC = Early Childhood
EL = Elementary | AD = Adolescent | C/T = Certified/Trainers**

Cancellation Policy

A written request for all refunds must be sent to the MEPI business office no later than March 5, 2010. Requests received after this date will not be honored. Membership fees are non-refundable.

a. Refund of registration fee less \$35 processing fee if received by Feb. 1, 2012.

b. After Feb. 1, 2012 an additional \$45 for food and beverages will also be deducted from the refund."

Workshops & Presenters—Friday, February 24

Session A

A-1. Who's Afraid of the Golden Beads: Part 1—Golden bead work is the foundation for computation in the Montessori classroom. Unfortunately, in many classrooms, students do not get enough. Some teachers do not feel confident about how to present the lessons. This workshop will review the importance of this work. Participants will learn to present the lessons in a systematic and practical fashion and discover the pleasure of working with the material.

Teresa Noble—Teresa is a 28 year veteran of SC public schools. She holds a BA in Early Childhood Education, an MA in Special Education, and is Certified as an Early Childhood Classroom Guide by MEPI. She is an Early Childhood Program Director for the Institute for Guided Studies.

Luanne Hendricks—Luanne is a Primary Montessori Directress at Gray Court Owings Elementary in Laurens District 55 schools and a member of the IGS teacher training staff.

A-2. Parent Talk: The Language of Response-Able Parenting—

This session will give parents and teachers the language to use when praising or criticizing children that will nurture, uplift, inspire, and create a strong internal sense of self-esteem.

Sarah Wilson—Sarah Wilson is the Upper Elementary teacher and Director at Montessori School of Pawleys Island. She's been a part of the Montessori community since 1993.

A-3. Skip, Step...Sweep?—A toddler's every action involves movement. They learn through manipulating their physical strength to create the process of activity. Often, through hurried experiences, the toddler misses opportunities to define his own confidence and independence. Learn ways to communicate with parents how they can easily incorporate the idea of 'process' in their toddler's daily experiences.

Sarah Forseth & Carolyn Leslie—Sarah Forseth and Carolyn Leslie are experienced Infant Toddler directors. Sarah is an IGS Infant Toddler program director and Carolyn often assists with field supervisions.

A-4. Origami: Art of Japanese Paper Sculpture*—An introduction for the beginner to the fundamental folds of origami, the art of Japanese paper sculpture. Learn to use the basic tools and language of origami, to decipher symbols and instructions, to make basic folds and several bases from which more complex figures are created, and to create a few more complex figures.

*** This workshop will be limited to the first 18 participants. If you are selected you will receive a "ticket" to enter.**

Alice Clark—Alice Clark has served as Upper Elementary lead teacher at The Montessori School of Camden since 1988 when she moved from the Primary level, which she entered in 1983. Her interests include learning Spanish, exploring how discoveries in neuroscience can enhance our learning environments, and achieving a truly four-season food garden.

A-5. A Diverse Science and Culture Curriculum: Part 1—We have taken the common core curriculum and merged it with all of our Montessori Cultural/Science/Peace lessons. There are lessons planned for each day of the week, themed under ten categories.

Jessica Engle & Annie Bolander—Jessica Engle, director of Dancing Moose Montessori, EC teacher and Montessori teacher educator also instructs Love and Logic for Parents and classrooms. Annie Bolander is in her 5th year at Dancing Moose and is an EC intern.

A-6. Stress Reduction Through Mindfulness—Engage with the mindfulness practices of Yoga and Meditation which have been clinically proven in stress relief. Breathwork, walking meditation, and simple chair yoga poses will be offered. Come and enjoy the benefits.

Janet Wepner—Janet has an associate's degree in Sociology, a Bachelor's degree in Brennan Healing Science, and certification as a Montessori teacher. She is also trained as an instructor in hatha yoga and specializes in beginner and chair yoga classes.

Session B

B-1. Who's Afraid of the Golden Beads: Part 2—Refer to A-1.

Teresa Noble & Luanne Hendricks—Refer to A-1.

B-2. Building Community From the Ground Up—Learn techniques to build community in your classroom (all ages) and in your school. First we will focus on classroom management through community building at each level, and second, we will discuss techniques to bring students, parents, staff and extended families together to build a cohesive school community.

Jen Fuller—Jen is the Director of Primary Education at Clay-Platte Montessori School. She has a BS in Business Administration; she is a certified Montessori 3-6 Guide and she is currently pursuing her Montessori Elementary Certification.

Lisa Bergrud—Lisa has been the Director of Community Relations at Clay-Platte Montessori School since 2009. Lisa dedicates her time and efforts to building a strong base of parent and family involvement to strengthen customer satisfaction at the school. Lisa holds a Public Relations degree from the University of Kansas and a Master's Degree in Public Affairs.

B-3. Early Learning of Foreign Language the Montessori Way—the New Paradigm—Research shows speaking a second language can improve children's overall school performance and problem-solving skills and increase their awareness of the vocabulary and structure of their first language. Exposure to a second or third language is best at the earliest age possible.

Sandra Pokos—Sandra is the Little Heart Montessori School of Zagreb, (Croatia, Europe) Early Childhood director, Teacher trainer and Trainer of the trainers for International Educational Management Studies. She founded the Montessori school 15 years ago and has been training adults for 10 years. She is on the board of MEPI and a member of MEPI Teacher Education Committee.

B-4. Adolescent Round Table—Round table discussions are a valuable opportunity for guides to share their challenges and concerns with colleagues who may have had similar situations and can offer support and ideas.

Susan Putnam—Adolescent Montessori guide at Laurens Middle School with thirty years of teaching experience, the last eight of which have been in this public school Montessori setting. Member of MEPI Board of Directors.

B-5. A Diverse Science and Culture Curriculum: Part 2—Refer to A-5.

Jessica Engle & Annie Bolander—Refer to A-5.

B-6. Music Makes Me Happy and Smart—Construct a calendar of music for your curriculum and each month of the year.

Warren McPherson—Warren is a lifelong Montessori educator, teacher trainer, school director and consultant.

Workshops and Presenters—Friday, February 24

Session C

C-1. Planning and Record Keeping. Are You Kidding?—The best individualized instruction must be guided by record keeping and planning. But how is that accomplished while allowing the teacher to have a life? Participants will learn how to painlessly plan and keep up-to-date records without infringing on precious personal time. They may even discover that there are many benefits and that teaching is easier and more effective.

Teresa Noble & Luanne Hendricks—Refer to A-1.

C-2. Journey of Peace Through Timelines—An interactive discussion regarding an object, a person and a place and how each of these areas can be utilized through a timeline. With a focus on peace we will brainstorm extensions as well as other topics and how to involve a timeline cosmically.

Katherine Schweizer—Katherine Schweizer has over 30 years teaching experience in all levels of Montessori. She has completed casa, lower and upper elementary training. She has taught for 7 years at the Canadian Montessori Teacher Education Institute.

C-3. Games for the Upper Elementary—Need some fun games for the upper elementary students? LaVonne will share some of her favorites that support the curriculum and are perfect for use during transitions or on rainy days.

LaVonne McPherson—LaVonne McPherson is the Co-Director of Athens Montessori School in Athens, GA. After spending two years in the Peace Corp, she continued as a director and teacher guide in Montessori for over 35 years.

C-4. Philosophy and Intentions for Field Supervision—This workshop is for certified teachers thinking about becoming a field supervisor and those just beginning this important service of giving back to the Montessori community. Requirements to be a field supervisor, the philosophy and intentions, and an introduction to the "MEPI way" of field supervision. Excellent for classroom directors with interns. Facilitated by Mary Helen Cline and IGS Staff.

C-5. Culture of Caring—How do we create a caring classroom? Let's identify the essentials and discuss practical ways of creating a culture of caring in the primary classroom.

Leila O'Neal—Leila O'Neal is a MEPI certified 3-6 teacher with 35 years teaching experience. She is National Board Certified and a DSS Master Certified Trainer for SC Child Care. She is currently teaching the first public school Primary Montessori Class in Berkeley County.

C-6. Energy Awareness and Responsibility—Let's check the gauge on our energy levels and take responsibility for our intentions, and teach the children how to do the same. Participants will learn tools of self evaluation, breathing and other tools to redirect excessive, low or negative energies. We'll explore how to allow children to embrace these same practices in their lives and in the classroom.

Mercedes Stewart—Mercedes Stewart is the owner and Directress of Mercy's Garden, Richlands Montessori Preschool and holds a MEPI certification as well as Yoga Teacher certification from Kavalayadhama, Yoga Institute in Lonavla, India. She has taught Yoga for more than 10 years.

Session D

D-1. Dem Bones, Dem Bones, Dem Dry Bones—Children are fascinated by bones. A study of vertebrates is incomplete without them. This workshop will feature lessons and activities using bones. Though obviously a science oriented

topic, connections to language, music & movement, art, & math will be presented.

Teresa Noble & Luanne Hendricks—Refer to A-1.

D-2. Exploring the World Through Labyrinths—Participants will collaboratively create a timeline or map using provided research/source materials. We will look at historical and contemporary labyrinths from around the globe and search for common threads in the very diverse world of labyrinths.

Beth Langley—Beth was introduced to labyrinths over ten years ago, and began studying them intently. Soon this calling from the labyrinth became an obsession, and much of her time is now spent on all things labyrinthine. Beth Langley has a BA from Columbia College, a MEPI credential at the Primary Level, is a Veriditas certified labyrinth facilitator, and has a love of art—all things creative.

D-3. Simple Lessons Learned Through Cultural Experiences—Sometimes the most important lessons in life are learned through the simplest of means. Andrea will share some of the life lessons she has learned through her experiences with people around the world.

Andrea Scott—Andrea Scott is the owner and director of Clay-Platte Montessori School and Montessori Teacher Preparation in Kansas City, Missouri. She has a BS in psychology and a MS in community counseling. She received her Montessori early childhood certification in 1981 and has six years experience in elementary Montessori. She was co-founder of the first Montessori school in the Vail Valley and has been training adults in Montessori education since 1995. A Montessori child herself, Andrea was a student in the first class at Clay-Platte Montessori School in 1966.

D-4. Infant/Toddler Round Table: Environments—Each infant-toddler environment is in a sense its own individual culture. All together, each of us, as infant-toddler Montessorians, are preparing and creating our individualized cultures-and by following the child, are guiding them to experience their immediate world and enhance their desire to explore. Let's share ideas, challenges, and triumphs!

Sarah Forseth & Carolyn Leslie—Refer to A-2.

D-5. Timeline of the Form of Letters of our Alphabet—Are you curious why we are forming our 26 letters this way? Was it always the case? Come and discover the traveling and the transformation of each letter of our alphabet through the ages from the Egyptians, the Phoenicians, the Greeks, the Etrusques, the Romans and the monks in the Middle-Age. It is an amazing journey full of discoveries. Don't stay uninformed.

Dr. Daniel Jutras—Dr. Jutras, founder, director and Teacher Trainer at the Canadian Montessori Teacher Education Institute has prepared for the last 20 years over 1,400 Montessori teachers and tutored Montessori courses in many places. He has a Ph.D. in Education from Ottawa U. (1979) and two international Montessori Diplomas: AMI diploma(3-6) from Perugia, Italy(1987) and St., Nicholas Mont. Advanced diploma(6-12) from England(1989).

D-6. Orff Music in the Montessori Classroom—Learn to implement Orff music into your curriculum. Playing music, making instruments, learning about rhythm... all can take the fear of bringing music into your classroom.

Oscar Avila—Oscar Avila is a certified Montessori guide at the Early Childhood level and certified Orff instructor. He plays classical guitar and is in his third year at the Montessori School of Camden.

Workshops & Presenters—Saturday, February 25

Session E

E-1. Be Peace: Full Implementation of the Pyramid Model—In our Montessori classrooms, we strive for peacefulness, yet sometimes it doesn't come easily. This workshop is designed to discuss how positive behavior support (PBS) can be integrated and implemented to help with these challenges. We will focus on Toddler and Early Childhood behavioral challenges.

Shanon Flowers—Shanon is certified at the Early Childhood level and a teacher educator with the AMS Kansas City Center for Montessori Education. She is the director of Sunshine Acres Montessori School in Lawrence, KS and co-owner of Young Artists Ink, and consultant for the CSEFEL Model in school wide implementation.

E-2. Simple Lessons Learned Through Cultural Experiences—Refer to D-3.

Andrea Scott—Refer to D-3.

E-3. You Know More Science Than You Think—This motivational workshop encourages staff to conduct hands on science experiments using simple and inexpensive materials. Spruce up your science area and learn to use open ended questions and the six basic process skills as a guide for teaching and motivating your students.

Andrea Alexander—Author of *The Frugal Scientist*, Andrea Alexander is a masters level organic chemist and owner of Fun Science, Inc.

E-4. Exploring Books Using Brown Paper Bag Project—"Brown Bag Project" encourages students to read and recommend books to peers through their presentations. It's a fun way to spark creativity and bolster public speaking skills.

Brenda Coleman—Brenda is a Lower Elementary classroom director at the Montessori School of Camden and holds a BA in Public Affairs from Columbia College and an MA in Education from University of Phoenix. She has elementary certification from MEPI and is an Orton-Gillingham tutor.

E-5. The Universal Appeal of Montessori—What is Montessori really like in other parts of the world? How does culture influence the way a classroom looks and feels? Come find out about Montessori in Russia, South Africa, Mexico, South Korea and China, with a focus on Russia, where Mary Ellen Maunz has been teaching every summer for nine years.

Mary Ellen Maunz—Mary Ellen has 40 years of experience in Montessori, as an early childhood and elementary teacher, administrator and teacher educator. She holds a B.S. in Child Development, M.Ed. in Integrative Education, and Montessori credentials for 3-6 (AMI) and 6-12 (PAMS). She is founder and Program Director of Age of Montessori, an online and in-person early childhood course, and trains every year in St. Petersburg, Russia.

E-6. The Art of Storytelling—Larry will share myths about storytelling and how to find ideas to develop a story line—building a strong story with a beginning, middle, and end! He will warn us of pitfalls and how they may occur. He will cover the use of music and sound effects in storytelling and explain the types of stories and present several to us, too! Everyone has a story, so come learn how to share yours at this bound to be fun and interesting workshop!

Larry A. Groves—Larry is a "musician/storyteller from East Tennessee way" who employs drums and a flute in many of his stories.

Session F

F-1. Be Peace: Full Implementation of the Pyramid Model—Refer to E-1.

Shanon Flowers—Refer to E-1.

F-2. Create Peace and Honor Culture: Peacemaking Circles—Based on ancient practices of aboriginal peoples, the peacemaking circle creates an intentional space for purposeful processing based on the specific needs of the community. Participants will learn the structural elements, sequence, and applications of the Peacemaking Circle.

*** This workshop will be limited to the first 20 participants. If you are selected you will receive a "ticket" to enter.**

Claire J. Salkowski—Claire is an educator, professional mediator, Circle facilitator, and conflict coach with over 35 years experience in education—toddlers through graduate students. She is a well known teacher trainer and has written and developed curriculum in peace education, conflict resolution and peer mediation.

F-3. Early Childhood Round Table: Classroom Management—

Round table discussions are a valuable opportunity for all to share their challenges and concerns with colleagues who may have had similar situations and can offer support and ideas. Early Childhood guides and assistants are welcome!

Jen Fuller—Refer to B-2.

F-4. Montessori and the Regulatory Environment—This round-table discussion addresses the challenges faced by administrators as they attempt to practice authentic Montessori in a regulatory environment designed for traditional institutions.

John Moncure—Dr. Moncure is Headmaster of the Montessori School of Camden (SC) and president of the Board of MEPI. A retired Army colonel, he is the author of numerous articles on topics of Montessori administration and holds a PhD from Cornell University.

F-5. Culture and Creativity in the Montessori Classroom—This lively and interactive workshop provides many creative and innovative means of introducing culture to Montessori students. Be prepared to travel the globe through the arts.

Melody Mosby & Heather Mosby—Melody and Heather co-teach in the Montessori School of Athens, GA With Heather's background in ethnicity and sociology and Melody's lifetime experience as a Montessori educator and teacher trainer, together they have developed innovative lessons and extensions merging world culture and the creative arts for the young child and the adolescent.

F-6. The Year Through the Medicine Wheel—Maggie will share her experience using Sun Bear's Medicine Wheel in the cosmic curriculum. Rocks, minerals, biomes, poetry researches and art can be integrated within this Native American concept.

Maggie Hunter—Maggie has been a 6-9 class directress for 20 years, performs with blue grass and folk groups, and has hosted a folk radio show on WUGA, an NPR station, for almost as long.

Session G

G-1. Around the World in 180 Days: Part 1—Cheryl will lead participants in a tour of the world demonstrating her cultural program that emphasizes the culture of several countries from each continent highlighting music, food, clothing, art, dance, and literature. A wealth of ideas and handouts to

Workshops & Presenters—Saturday, February 25

take back to the classroom for immediate use will be shared.
Cheryl Spencer—Cheryl is an AMS certified Montessori teacher with 38 years of experience. She loves to read and learn about other cultures and share her experiences with the children in her school and the adult students she trains.

G-2. Establishing Responsible Habits Early: The Financial Project—This workshop presents a fun and interesting way to foster financial awareness in the adolescent. Be prepared to take away knowledge applicable to today's economic issues.

Sharon Vincent—Sharon Vincent is a MEPI certified Adolescent guide at Laurens Middle School. She loves math and has been hooked on Montessori since taking a philosophy course with Sister Anthonita Porta.

G-3. Original Lessons for Your IT Classroom on a Budget—We'll share a variety of creative lessons for the IT environment that are effective and economical. Practical Life, Sensorial and Art will be the focus of these lessons.

Christina Muehlbauer & Meredith Hines—Both Christina and Meredith work at the Montessori School of Camden. Meredith is the Toddler and Extended Day Director and certified at the IT and the EC level. Christina is the Infant Director and is enrolled in the IGS Infant Toddler Program.

G-4. Elementary Round Table: Challenges—Round table discussions are a valuable opportunity for guides to share their challenges and concerns with colleagues who may have had similar situations and can offer support and ideas. Elementary guides and assistants are welcome!

LaVonne McPherson—Refer to C-3.

G-5. The Magic of the First Day of School—The first day of school can be traumatic for a young child and chaotic for an inexperienced Montessori guide. How may you set the tone for the year ahead so the children enter your classroom with a sense of wonder and joyful anticipation. Participants will gain hands-on insight into making the first day the start of a magical journey.

Jayanthi Rajagopalan—Jayanthi is a teacher-trainer, a Montessori guide at the early childhood level and the owner of two Montessori schools in Toronto, Canada. She has presented at IMC conferences and conducts seminars for parents.

G-6. Breath - the Bridge to a Peaceful Classroom—Learn the foundations of Pranayama (breathing exercises) and how it is the key to balance in one's personal life and in the classroom.

Mercedes Stewart—Refer to C-6.

Session H

H-1. Around the World in 180 Days: Part 2—Refer to G-1.

Cheryl Spencer—Refer to G-1.

H-2. Dirt and Worms—We'll review the anatomy and life cycle of worms, and we'll discuss how they contribute to our earth! We'll also create a mini environment that demonstrates the "niche" of "work" of worms. Work of producers and consumers will also be addressed.

Antoinette Ursits—Antoinette Ursits has held a variety of positions in the Montessori community since 1991. She's experienced in the Early Childhood and Elementary levels as well as in teacher training. She loves sharing activities and lessons with other Montessori professionals at conferences.

H-3. A Mindful Approach to Leading with Passion—Creating peaceful student communities is the center of Montessori leaders. Yet, we can be hesitant to address the art of navigating successful adult relationships. This workshop will explore some inbuilt tensions of school life and offer solutions relating to team building, leading through coaching, and overcoming conflict evasion. Join us for this interactive, honest, and productive discussion about the importance of leading with passion in mind and how to strategize ways to better help faculty and staff experience a world of peace as they move about their day.

Tequila E. Howard—Tequila E. Howard, Ed.D, is an author, teacher, teacher educator, consultant, program director, and Montessori researcher for the past 17 years. Her most recent publication is entitled, "The Silent Voice: What my Staff Isn't Telling Me?" A Board member of the Phi Delta Kappa educational organization, she is the Founder and Leading Director of Omo Ile Montessori.

H-4. FS Protocol, Communications, Evaluation and Ethics—For current and prospective field supervisors, this class will provide details of the processes and protocols involved in being a successful field supervisor. From introductory calls or notes to communicating with the head of school, the importance of communication skills and ethics is essential to building a good relationship and a strong future for the next generation of Montessori guides. Facilitated by Mary Helen Cline and IGS Staff.

H-5. Creativity in Performance—Learn drama and improv exercises for the classroom. Learn to build self esteem and maximize creativity in the expressive artist.

Warren McPherson—Refer to B-6.

H-6. International Folkdances for Children—Bring your "dancing shoes" and join us to learn some folk dances for children originated from many countries around the world that you can model to the children of your classroom. A CD containing a dozen of folk dances will be available (\$5.00). Come for the pleasure of "putting our feet in the shoes of children" and for the enjoyment of learning.

D Jutras & J Rajagopalan—Refer to D-5 & G-5 respectively.

Sunday Bonus, Feb 26

BG-1. Gullah is more than storytelling—come have a taste of the rich Gullah culture. All are welcome.

Veronica Gerald—Veronica is a descendant of African slaves brought to the Brookgreen and Longwood rice plantations in Georgetown County, S.C. Her story begins with her African great grandmother Bina who, according to family lore, was kidnapped from her yard and brought to Brookgreen Plantation. Veronica's life's work has focused on the Gullah culture. She is considered a foremost scholar on Gullah history, culture and the South Carolina Low Country. Most recently, she was appointed by the Department of Interior to the Gullah Geechee Heritage Corridor Commission. Her lectures and performances present a unique blend of scholarship, Gullah stories and personal experiences. She also stars in the one-woman show Brookgreen People and is completing her forthcoming book, Healing Pots.

BG-2. Mentoring with Grace—This workshop for teacher trainers, field supervisors, and supervising directors will review the differences between evaluation and field supervision, help you with ideas of what to do when problems arise, and emphasize the building nature of field supervision. Facilitated by Mary Helen Cline and IGS Staff.

Hands for Peace - Registration - February 24th and 25th

Participant Information - please print all information

Name: _____ Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Email: _____

A confirmation will be sent to this email address

School you are affiliated with: _____

Emergency contact name and phone: _____

* Session Selections *

Friday Workshops - please circle first and second choices

Session A—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
 Session B—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
 Session C—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
 Session D—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6

Saturday Workshops - please circle first and second choices

Session E—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
 Session F—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
 Session G—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6
 Session H—1st - 1 2 3 4 5 6 2nd - 1 2 3 4 5 6

Sunday Bonus - please check if you plan to attend

BG-1. Ultimate Gullah _____
BG-2. TEC: Mentoring _____

Volunteers are needed!

Please check one if you would like to volunteer.

Friday ___ Saturday ___

<u>MEPI Members</u> —circle your choice (s)	<u>Advance</u>	<u>After Feb 15th</u>
Full Conference—Friday and Saturday	\$160.00	\$260.00
Friday or Saturday only	\$110.00	\$210.00
MEPI membership	\$40.00	\$40.00
Total Conference Fee	\$____.00	\$____.00

<u>Non-Members</u> —circle your choice (s)		
Full Conference—Friday and Saturday	\$210.00	\$310.00
Friday or Saturday only	\$160.00	\$260.00

<u>MEPI Interns</u> —in good standing		
Full Conference Fee	\$85.00	\$185.00
Friday or Saturday only	\$75.00	\$175.00

Checks/money orders made payable to: **MEPI** or Pay by credit card via **PayPal** at our website: mepiforum.org

Mail competed registration form and check (if applicable) to: **MEPI**
PO Box 6
Smithville, IN 47458

Cancellation Policy

A written request for all refunds must be sent to the MEPI business office no later than March 5, 2010. Requests received after this date will not be honored. Membership fees are non-refundable.

- Refund of registration fee less \$35 processing fee if received by Feb. 1, 2012.
- After Feb. 1, 2012 an additional \$45 for food and beverages will also be deducted from the refund."

Space is Limited!

This conference sold out last year. Make sure to get your Registration form in by **February 15** to ensure you can attend!

Conference Location

Litchfield Beach & Golf Resort
www.litchfieldbeach.com

14276 Ocean Hwy
 Pawleys Island, SC 29585
 1-888-766-4633

Prices range from \$79.00 to \$99.00 if you mention MEPI. Room block is effective until Feb 15th. After that date, the price will increase.

Friday Lunch and Keynote

Boxed Lunch Selection:

- Turkey
- Roast Beef
- Veggie
- Not attending lunch