

The Helen K. Billings Educational Foundation was incorporated in the state of Florida in 1976. The purpose of the foundation was to promote global peace through Montessori education. Dr. Billings often used a portion of the writings of Edward Markham in conjunction with her signature bluebird and its golden thread of an ever-widening circle. Dr. Billings believed in the umbrella concept of Montessori—room for everyone with peace, respect, celebration of diversity, beauty, and 'quiet elegance' as hallmarks of her emphasis. MEPI was founded on the legacy of Dr. Billings and in 2005 celebrates 10 years of excellence in Montessori education.

OUTWITTED

-by Edward Markham

He drew a circle that shut me out:
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle that took him in.





Dr. Sheryl Sweet
Educational Director

Teacher Education Programs

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Maria Varela
Infant & Toddler



Paula Ilami
Early Childhood



Beti Wyn Holcombe
Elementary



Melody Mosby
Adolescent



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Friday's Keynote

The Soft-Drink Dilemma: Finding Win-Win Solutions in a Win-Lose World
Have you ever noticed how the majority of restaurants, hotels and even schools that sell soft drinks typically have a contract that allows them to serve **either** Pepsi products or Coke—and almost always at the exclusion of the other? This is a great example of the kind of scarcity thinking that suggests that in order for one entity to be successful, others have to lose.

Even the simplest things, like getting the kind of soda you like, can be a challenge in a win-lose environment! So if your world sometimes seems to focus on win-lose (or no-win) approaches to problems, you're in good company! This presentation will examine how difficult it can be to fulfill our most noble intentions to resolve conflicts in a way that respects our needs as well as the needs of the people around us, all without using aggression, manipulation or having to surrender our own needs for "peace at any price."

We'll look at common ways we create conflicts and how some of our best efforts—and commonly-accepted conflict-resolution tools—can actually make things worse. And we'll examine the kind of abundance thinking and a variety of tools that can seriously increase the possibilities for finding a satisfactory answer to the magic question: **How can we ALL get what we want?**



Dr. Jane Bluestein heads Instructional Support Services, Inc. a consulting and resource firm in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Her words will touch your heart; her ideas will change your life.

Saturday's Keynote

MOVING TOGETHER THROUGH PEACE: A participatory, interactive keynote presentation!

This presentation will be an experience of the power of the circle, of music, of movement and of honoring the diverse traditions of the earth to create an atmosphere of peace and healing. Based on the Dances of Universal Peace which have been taught across the world, our time is guaranteed to be fun, educational and community building.

Akbar Eric Manolson has taught the Dances of Universal Peace for over 25 years to groups of all ages. Eric has studied in India, the Middle East and Canada and



works for the State of Georgia's Department of Human Resources as a program specialist in music and expressive arts and also as a consultant to the health care system, using music and movement in education with people living with special needs. He has coordinated the therapeutic music program for a number of mental health facilities and for the Shepherd Center in Atlanta. Eric has also been trained in reevaluation counseling and is a seminar leader in the prejudice reduction/ welcoming diversity model of the National Coalition Building Institute.

MEPI Hands for Peace 2005 Thursday February 24

9:00 – 3:00 Teacher Education Committee Meeting – Eton Room
4:00 – 7:00 Board Meeting – dinner to follow – Eton Room
3:00 – 6:00 Early Registration – Towers Hall

Friday February 25

7:45 – 8:30 REGISTRATION – Towers Hall
EXHIBIT HALL – Kensington A-C
8:30 – 9:15 Welcome/Announcements – Dr. John Moncure
Opening Ceremony – Dr. Sheryl Sweet

Session I 9:30 - 11:00

- A. Training the Assistant Teacher.....EC, ADM
Pam Crisman
- B. Montessori: Relating to ECERS and Other Governmental Interference....ALL
Dr. Linda Mims (35 Max Attendance)
- C. Antarctica.....EC, EL1
Susan Scheibenzuber
- D. Speechmaster Program.....EL1, EL2, AD
Johna Ropel, Tom Ropel and Kim Hardin
- E. Personal Care for the Very Young Child.....IT
Maria Varela
- F. Master Teachers - Model Programs Part 1.....ADM
Tim Seldin

11:00 – 11:30 EXHIBITOR BREAK

Session II : 11:30 - 1:00

- A. Beauty in the Best.....EC
Leila O'Neal
- B. Balanced Literacy in the Montessori Environment.....EC
Linda Wessel, Kena Cox, & Leanne Broughton
- C. Drama & Improv for the Elementary Class(30 Max Attendance).. EL1, EL2, AD
Warren McPherson
- D. Carve and Color Story Stones.....ALL
Beth Langley
- E. Daily Riches: An Abundance of GratitudeALL
Dr. Jane Bluestein

F. Master Teachers - Model Programs Part 2.....ADM
Tim Seldin

1:00 – 2:00 Lunch

2:00 – 3:00 Keynote – Dr. Jane Bluestein
The Soft-Drink Dilemma Finding Win-Win Solutions in a Win-Lose World

3:00 – 3:30 EXHIBITOR BREAK

Session III 3:30 - 5:00

- A. Who Said all Children can Learn The Same Way?ALL
John Topping
- B. Building Classroom CommunityIT
Nicole Vigliotti
- C. Developing a Parent Education ProgramALL
Pam Crisman
- D. The Road to Peace Requires Research..... (24 Max Attendance)ALL
Dr. Darlene Maxwell
- E. Nurturing Creativity in Children and Adults... (30 Max Attendance)ALL
Joy Smith & Melody Mosby
- F. Building Community Through Music.....ALL
Clark Montessori Steel Band

5:30 – 7:00 Clark Montessori Steel Drum Band concert
Munch-N-Mingle

Saturday February 26

7:45 – 8:15 REGISTRATION
EXHIBITOR BREAK

8:30 – 9:30 GENERAL SESSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Session IV 9:45 - 11:15

- A. Children's Perspective on Death and Dying... (16 Max Attendance)ALL
Cynthia Trapanese
- B. Montessori Method of Teaching Early Reading Part 1EC, EL1
Teri Canaday & Dottie Feldman

C. Hang with Tough Nuts Without Going Nuts... (25 Max Attendance) ...EL2, AD
Mavis McLeod

D. Emergency Preparedness in Schools.....ALL
Edgar Spencer

E. How Do I Handle All of These Different Learning Styles?ALL
John Topping

F. Beautiful Handwriting Begins At Four.....EC, EL1
Susan Scheibenzuber

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch

12:30 – 1:30 Keynote – Akbar Eric Manolson
MOVING TOGETHER THROUGH PEACE: A participatory, interactive keynote presentation!

1:30 – 2:00 EXHIBITOR BREAK

Session V 2:00 – 3:30

- A. Teaching Curriculum Through Music.....IT, EC, EL1, P
John English
- B. Montessori Method of Teaching Early Reading Part 2EC, EL1
Teri Canaday & Dottie Feldman
- C. North America Biome Curriculum.....EC, EL1
Sharon Duncan
- D. Administrators Round Table.....ADM
Dr. John Moncure
- E. Moving Deeper in Peace.....ALL
Akbar Eric Manolson
- F. Hang with Tough Nuts Without Going Nuts... (25 Max Attendance) ...EL2, AD
Mavis McLeod

Session VI 3:45 – 5:15

- A. End of Life: When Our Desires Return to Childhood.....ALL
Dr. Julie Hammond
- B. Creative Continent Connections.....EC
Karen Kissell & Leann Varon
- C. The 3 M's – Movies, Matters of the Mind and Montessori.....EL1, EL2
Betwyn Holcombe

- D. Speak the Speech: Nurturing the Budding Thespian(35 Max Attendance)..ALL
Jody Scott
- E. The Home-School Connection: Key to a Successful Classroom.....ALL
Cheryl Spencer
- F. Montessori's Guiding Principles..... (40 Max Attendance)ALL
Melody Mosby & Joy Smith

5:30-6:30 Open Space

7:00 – 11:00 Dinner with Entertainment by Bil Krauss

Sunday February 27

9:30 – 11:00 Recognition of Certified Schools and Adult Guides

Door Prize Drawings

Closing Ceremony

MONTESSORI EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS INTERNATIONAL

Mission Statement

MEPI exemplifies authentic Montessori education and promotes excellence through accredited schools, professional training, and certified classroom directors.

Our Mission Focus is:

To foster and encourage authentic Montessori education.

To furnish information, guidance, instruction and consultation.

To help each child reach his/her full potential.

To offer and apply developmentally appropriate and educationally sound principles of learning.

To promote peace through education.

Legend

Infant Toddler = IT, Early Childhood = EC

Lower Elementary = EL1, Upper Elementary = EL2

Adolescent = AD, Administrative = ADM, Parents = P and ALL.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY February 25th

Session I 9:30 - 11:00

A. Training the Assistant Teacher – ALL

Your assistant teacher's success is dependent upon your ability to communicate what is needed in the classroom. Not all assistant teachers have had the benefit of Montessori training. Learn how to identify the needed skills, organize a program in educating the assistant teacher toward best practices in the Montessori classroom, as well as assess and evaluate the outcomes.

Pam Crisman is the Executive Director of Santa Monica Montessori School, Carlsbad Montessori School and Carlsbad Children's House in Southern California. She serves on the board of directors of IAME and previously on the MACTE Commission. Pam has worked in Montessori education for over 30 years.

B. Montessori: Relating to ECERS (Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale) and Other governmental Interference – ALL

This workshop gives a description of ECERS and history of its requirements as well as strategies for top-notch Montessori Programs when Governmental/state or federal agency requirements seem to ignore the quality of Montessori.

Dr. Linda Mims has a Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education, Masters in School Administration and Early Childhood Education, BA in English. She was Montessori trained by MEPI and taught in the first public school Montessori program in the state of SC. Linda is currently Director of the Office of Early Childhood Education, SC Department of Education.

C. Antarctica– EC, EL1

Antarctica is the only continent that has never had a war fought on its land. It is the only continent that is not owned or colonized. It is the only continent that is designated as a place of peace by 42 nations that have signed the Antarctic Treaty. Participants will discover how it symbolizes peace and will explore the many less known attributes of the Land of the Midnight Sun.

Susan Scheibenzuber has over 20 years experience as an AMS certified 3 - 6 Montessori teacher. She has created a Native American Summer Program and founded and co-founded several Montessori schools. Susan has experience and expertise across a broad range of Montessori education, including ownership and material maker for Laughing Star Press.

D. Speechmaster Program – EL1, EL2, AD

Students will learn how to plan, organize and orate speeches with interest and excitement allowing them to express, debate and compete through positive public speaking. Dr. Kellogg created the program that is proven successful and used throughout the country.

Johna Ropel completed her 6-9 Montessori training in San Diego, California and began teaching at the Mission Bay Montessori Academy. Johna came into contact with Dr. Ralph E. Kellogg's Speechmaster program and noticed that the Speechmaster program fell directly in line with the Montessori curriculum.

She spearheaded the adoption of the program in the elementary classrooms at Mission Bay. Johna currently teaches in an upper elementary class at ABC Montessori, located in McDonough, Georgia and is working on her 9-12 Montessori certification.

Tom Ropel met Dr. Ralph E. Kellogg and was a student of the Speechmaster program in Dr. Kellogg's class during his master's work in Management from National University in San Diego, California. Tom now serves as an ambassador of the Speechmaster program and truly believes that everyone should be exposed to public speaking in some capacity throughout his or her life. Tom, a former Marine, is currently an employee with the Department of Justice in Atlanta, Georgia.

Kimberly Hardin is the owner and director of Academy for the Brilliant Child Montessori, located in McDonough, Georgia. The school was established in 2002, and now offers early childhood through the sixth grade. Kim has also formed an alliance with ABC Montessori in the country of India, consulting and promoting global truths in education. She is also the director of the ACE Education Project, which manages private and public Montessori schools. Her specialty is writing petitions implementing the Montessori Method into the Georgia Charter school law.

E. Personal Care for the Very Young Child – IT

Join Teacher Preparation Program Director, Maria Varela as she explores the personal care skills and developing habits of very young children. How to determine when children are ready for toilet training and how to begin the process with each individual child is a major focus of this lively workshop.

Maria Varela, a native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Puerto Rico and holds an AMS credential. Maria is the Program Director of the IGS Infant/Toddler Teacher Preparation Program and a classroom Director at Palmetto Montessori School of Ridgeway in South Carolina.

F. Master Teachers - Model Programs Part 1–ADM

Every great school provides a coherent program that is consistent from year to year, from class to class, and from one level to the next. This workshop will describe how effective Montessori schools develop a formal curriculum, evaluate their programs, and coordinate several classrooms at a different levels into a unified team.

Tim Seldin is the President of the Montessori Foundation and Chair of the International Montessori Council. His more than 30 years of experience in Montessori education includes 22 years as Headmaster of the Barrie School in Silver Springs, MD, his own alma mater (age 2 through high school graduation). Tim is the author of two books, *The World in the Palm of Her Hand* and *Celebrations of Life*. Tim served for many years on the board of the American Montessori Society.

Session II : 11:30 - 1:00

A. Beauty in the Best – EC

This workshop discusses creating a culture and climate in the classroom that responds to the uniqueness of our students. We will examine the universal research-based teaching and learning strategies that enhance the quality of instruction and

ensure improved student achievement.

Leila O'Neal has been teaching 27 years with 16 years in private school and 11 in public school. She is National Board certified, Reading Recovery certified and a graduate of MEPI. She currently serves Allendale County Public Schools as the Montessori Teacher Specialist. Leila is a member of the MEPI Board of Directors.

B. Balanced Literacy in the Montessori Environment – EC

Participants will receive information, based on research, regarding implementing a Balanced Literacy program in the Montessori environment.

Linda Wessel, Kena Cox, & Leanne Broughton are Early Childhood Montessori teachers certified by MEPI. They all currently teach in Laurens County Public Schools in South Carolina.

C. Drama & Improv for the Elementary Class – EI 1, EI 2, AD

Learn theatre exercises for developing performance skills, creativity and fun at circle time.

Warren McPherson is the co-founder and current director of the Athens Montessori School in Athens, Georgia. He trains teachers for three international Montessori associations and serves as a consultant to schools and non-profits. He is also an MEPI Board member.

D. Carve and Color Story Stones.....Beth Langley – ALL

We will carve and color plaster of paris "story stones." The stones can also become symbols of personality traits and power totems or focus objects for meditation. Fun for all!

Beth Langley is the Administrative Assistant at the Montessori School of Camden. She enjoys many creative hobbies including quilting, songwriting, playing the guitar and piano.

E. Daily Riches: An Abundance of Gratitude – ALL

An inspiring presentation to help develop an "attitude of gratitude," a life-affirming process that not only brings greater awareness of the wonder and magic that can occur in the course of a day, but can help us reframe negative thinking—and events—and help us develop healthy and positive alternatives to scarcity consciousness and victim thinking. Topics range from tangible, concrete blessings to more abstract and challenging dimensions of gratitude: beauty and wonder in the physical environment, "angels" who make our lives richer, the power of our intuition and desires, the blessings of service and creativity, the gift of perspective and self-acknowledgement, and the silver linings or benefits of more challenging life experiences. Get your thinking on a positive track. This program will change the way you look at life

Dr. Jane Bluestein, see keynote bio.

F. Master Teachers - Model Programs Part 2–ADM

Every great school provides a coherent program that is consistent from year to year, from class to class, and from one level to the next. This workshop will describe how effective Montessori schools develop a formal curriculum, evaluate their programs, and coordinate several classrooms at a different levels into a unified team.

Tim Seldin – See bio in Session 1F.

Session III 3:30 - 5:00

A. Who Said All Children Can Learn The Same Way? (Better known as "That's Why My Spouse Gets On My Nerves!") - ALL

This session will focus on an introduction to learning styles. Participants will be introduced to a variety of identified learning styles and how to recognize them. Any thing that you learn that describes or is similar to your children, kinfolk, or spouse will be purely coincidental, but probably true.

John Topping is currently director of School to Work and Lifelong Learning for Laurens School Districts 55 and 56. He has also taught on the Junior High Level and served as Director of Secondary Education for Laurens District 55. John's wife, Cheryl, is a Montessori public school teacher and graduate of MEPI.

B. Building Classroom Community- Best Practices of the Infant/Toddler Teacher - II

Learn techniques in building alliances between children, teachers and parents in support of consistent and authentic care of the young child in your environment. Practical tools will be discussed to aid in putting theory into practice for infant/toddlers while in group care. Be able to link children with environment, to resource assistant teachers effectively and to utilize parents in bridging home with school life.

Nicole Vigliotti is the Head of School at Little Learner's Lodge and Montessori of Mt. Pleasant. A mother of one, Nicole has served in the capacity of 3-6 Montessori Directress and Clinical Coordinator. She received her RIE™ training under the guidance of Magda Gerber and is committed to its implementation in the birth-3 program.

C. Developing a Parent Education Program - ALL

This workshop will examine the important components and benefits of creating a Parent Education Program. It will include how to effectively involve parents in supporting the school's educational program, enhance the parents' understanding of the Montessori philosophy and demonstrate how the parents may extend the philosophy into the home.

Pam Crisman, see bio in Session 1A.

D. The Road to Peace Requires Research - ALL

As Montessorians, we are all astute observers. With the research techniques shared in this session, everyone will grow in their ability to problem solve in classrooms and schools. Learn to research your problems to find pathways to peace.

Dr. Darlene Maxwell is the Director of Education at the Montessori School of Camden in South Carolina.

E. Nurturing Creativity in Children and Adults - ALL

Ignite the creature personality in this fun and interactive workshop. We will explore strategies for nurturing creativity in the adult and child in the Montessori classroom.

Joy Smith began her work with adolescents as an adventure based counselor working with at-risk youth. She holds AMS credentials at the secondary level. Joy is currently teaching in a Montessori Adolescent Program in Athens Georgia.

Melody Mosby holds the AMI Advanced Diploma from the Washington Institute

in Washington, D.C. She is committed to education for peace and has developed a personal practice for transformation in her own life. Melody, an MEPI Board member, currently directs and teaches in the Athens Montessori Middle School.

F. Building Community Through Music: Steel Drums in the Montessori Curriculum - ALL

In this completely hands-on workshop, you will learn to play at least one song on steel drums as part of a 25 person band. Fear not! Every participant will have a band member. Be ready to perform at Friday night's concert. You will also receive extensive information on how to start and run a steel band as part of your Montessori program. Build community through music!

Bruce Weil is the director of the **Clark Montessori Steel Band** from Clark Montessori, the first public Montessori High School in the country. Bruce received his B.A. from the University of Michigan and M.A from Ohio State. He is the founder of the Over-The-Rhine Steel Band and the Clark Montessori Steel Band. He has composed music for five CDs. Most of all, Bruce enjoys working with students, bike riding and reading stories with his children, Julia and Mei Li.

Saturday February 26

Session IV 9:45 - 11:15

A. Children's Perspective on Death and Dying - ALL 16 Participant Maximum Attendance

Death is experienced by all living beings. What do children know about death? What do children want to know? How do children experience dying? The death of another? How do children grieve? These questions and more will be explored in this workshop.

Cynthia Trapanese is a Spiritual Care Coordinator at Hospice Atlanta (including Pediatric Hospice Program) and a Board Certified Chaplain with specialty in Pediatric Oncology. She is also an ordained minister in Universal Worship, author of "Soul Midwifery" and an educator on end-of-life spiritual care.

B. Brain Research and the Montessori Method of Teaching Early Reading Part 1- EC, EL1, ADM, P

Current brain research informs educators of effective methods for teaching. This session will examine these methods and correlate Montessori language activities to support contemporary brain-based learning, explore beginning reading skills from a Montessori perspective, bridge the range from early childhood through early elementary and offer strategies for helping children who have unexpected difficulty learning to read.

Teri Canaday is the director of the Montessori Center of Jackson, a teacher educator for several teacher education programs in the area of Language Arts,

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and a national consultant. She is AMS certified for 3 – 9 year olds and has been involved in Montessori education for over 30 years. **Dottie Feldman** is co-owner of Educational Sounds and Images. She lectures in the area of Language Arts and has been a life-long learner as a teacher of adults and children. She is Montessori certified for 3 – 12 year olds.

C. Hang with Tough Nuts Without Going Nuts- EL2. AD 25 Participant Maximum Attendance

This workshop offers instructional and behavior management techniques that work with challenging students who are "hard nuts to crack". We will reinforce current effective practices, learn new techniques and resources, discuss and network. Not the sage on the sage, but the nutty teacher in the "nut nut" class.

Mavis McLeod started teaching in 1968 at Camden High School in South Carolina. In 1976 she moved to Columbia with her husband, Thomas, and began teaching at the Department of Juvenile Corrections and has been there ever since. Mavis taught social studies until the onset of PL94-142 when she began teaching special education. She is currently the special education coordinator at Willow Lane School and its only special ed teacher with a population of adjudicated delinquent girls.

D. Emergency Preparedness in Schools - ALL

All schools need to be prepared for emergencies. This workshop will deal with how children and school personnel react to community and national emergencies and offer strategies to prepare for them.

C. Edgar Spencer, M.Ed., MSW is director of Emergency Management for the SC Department of Mental Health and co-founder of the Renaissance Center for Personal Growth.

E. How Do I Handle All of These Different Learning Styles (Better known as "Where's the Asprin?") - ALL

This is a follow-up to "Who Said All Children Can Learn the Same Way?" This session will focus on those most easily identified learning styles and how to address them. Participants will be able to return to their classroom and make adjustments in instruction at virtually no cost. Any benefits in improving family or marital bliss will be purely coincidental

John Topping - See bio in Session 3A

F. Beautiful Handwriting Begins At Four – EC, EL1

Written Language can be acquired more easily by children of four years than those of six. While children of six usually need at least two years to learn how to write children of four years learn this second language within a few months. Explore the second language of writing with simple, sequenced curriculum. Children learn to trace, copy and compose with great delight.

Susan Scheibenzuber – See bio in Session 1C

Session V 2:00 – 3:30

A. Teaching Curriculum Through Music-IT, EC, EL1, P

John's workshops are all about learning through involvement. Using pieces of string, bottles and movement he shows how basic curriculum like math, sequence,

body awareness and science can be taught through the arts, particularly music. **John English** is an artist with the South Carolina Arts Commission and has pioneered a series of teacher workshops, school residency programs and participatory musical performances for children. He has recorded five critically acclaimed solo CDs.

B. Brain Research and the Montessori Method of Teaching Early Reading Part 2 – EC, EL1, ADM, P

Current brain research informs educators of effective methods for teaching. This session will examine these methods and correlate Montessori language activities to support contemporary brain-based learning, explore beginning reading skills from a Montessori perspective, bridge the range from early childhood through early elementary and offer strategies for helping children who have unexpected difficulty learning to read.

Teri Canaday & Dottie Feldman – see bios in Session 4B.

C. North America Biome Curriculum – EC, EL1

Weave Montessori elementary and early childhood curriculum through a study of the biome of the continents and integrate geography with zoology, botany, language and physical science.

Sharon Duncan is Montessori certified in EC and EL with NCME and has been a classroom teacher for 23 years. She is the Director of Waseca Preschool in Athens, Georgia and creator of Waseca Biome materials.

D. Administrators' Round Table – ADM

"Head of School" can be a lonely position. This workshop allows school directors and other administrators a place and time to gather to compare challenges, to share solutions, and to discuss how MEPI can support them more effectively.

Dr. John Moncure is Director of the Apollo Task Force and Vice President of the Apollo Hospitals Education and Research Foundation. John was Headmaster of The Montessori School of Camden from 1998 until 2004, and was a member of the boards of directors of First Steps of Kershaw County, the Kershaw County Historical Society, and the South Carolina Montessori Alliance. He is also president of the board of directors of MEPI. He has authored two books and numerous articles, graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and holds a Ph.D. in European history from Cornell University. John resides in New Delhi, India with his wife Anne, who is CEO of Indraprastha Apollo Hospital.

E. Moving Deeper in Peace – ALL

Come learn skills so that you can share movements and music for the Dances of Universal Peace, similar to what we experienced in our keynote session! No prior dance or music experience necessary.

Akbar Eric Manolson – see keynote bio.

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**F. Hang with Tough Nuts Without Going Nuts – EL2, AD 25 Participant
Maximum Attendance**

This workshop offers instructional and behavior management techniques that work with challenging students who are "hard nuts to crack". We will reinforce current effective practices, learn new techniques and resources, discuss and network. Not the sage on the sage, but the nutty teacher in the "nut nut" class.

Mavis McLeod – see bio in Session 3C.

Session VI 3:45 – 5:15

A. End of Life: When Our Desires Return to Childhood – ALL

This session will highlight stages people and their caregivers face at the end of life. Discussions will include facing the death of a child as well as adults and the impact both can have on those who love them.

Dr. Julia Hammond, is the Oncology Pharmacy Coordinator at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina.

B. Creative Continent Connections – EC

This workshop explores different geography ideas that can be easily used in a 3-6 classroom. Learn ideas to add an awareness of diversity in your class.

Karen Kissell is an EC and EL trained Montessori teacher with 19 years teaching experience. She is currently the director at the Children's Meeting House in Ohio and a member of the MEPI Board of Directors. **Leann Varon** is an EC trained Montessori classroom guide with 19 years experience in teaching. She has a Masters in Education from Xavier University.

C. The 3 M's – Movies, Matters of the Mind and Montessori – EL1, EL2

Movies challenge our minds and our personal philosophies. Meet the challenge - question your own mind and, hence, your Montessori Philosophy.

Beti Wyn Holcombe is a member of MEPI's Council of Elders and an IGS Elementary Teacher Preparation Program Director. She is the Head Directress of the Elementary and Middle School Programs at Clay Platte Children's House in Kansas City, Missouri.

D. Speak the Speech: Nurturing the Budding Thespian – ALL

This will be a hands(and body)-on workshop in discovering the actor in your students (and you!). Learn theater games, body/vocal warm-ups, how to perform a monologue, and how to plan a beginning drama curriculum.

Jody Scott has a BFA - Theater from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. She is a former professional actress/singer/dancer and has appeared in 30 musical productions including CBS-TV "Jim Jones: Guyana Tragedy." Jody is currently the Director of Christian Drama at St. John's Lutheran Church and teaches music/drama at the Montessori Academy of Spartanburg in South Carolina.

E. The Home-School Connection: Key to a Successful Classroom – ALL

The successful Montessori classroom cannot function without a dynamic relationship between student, parent and teacher. Explore ways of connecting with parents.

Cheryl Spencer, M.A. is teacher/administrator at the Columbia Montessori Children's House with over 30 years experience in Montessori education. She has

an AMS credential (3-6).

F. Montessori's Guiding Principles: Preparing Nurturing Environments for Life – ALL

Dr. Montessori left us with a framework of her overall vision of "holistic education" for the developing human being from birth to maturity. This workshop addresses that vision, then the role of the Montessori Guide and the prepared environment. **Melody Mosby & Joy Smith – see bios in Session 3E.**

5:30-6:30 Open Space

7:00 – 11:00 Dinner with Entertainment by Bill Krauss

Sunday February 27

9:30 – 11:00 Recognition of Certified Schools and Adult Guides

Door Prize Drawings

Closing Ceremony

Check our web site, www.mepiforum.org, for conference updates.

REGISTRATION FEES

Full Conference price includes all meals, entry to all workshops, one free tape from EGAMI A/V and a tote bag.

Full Conference

	Early Bird	Pre-Registration	At-The-Door
Members	\$195.00	\$235.00	\$275.00
Non-Members	\$250.00	\$300.00	\$350.00
MEPI Interns	\$160.00	\$185.00	\$200.00

Single Day price includes meals and entry to workshops for that day only.

Single Day Rates

Members		
Friday	\$110.00	\$180.00
Saturday	\$145.00	\$220.00
Non-Members		
Friday	\$180.00	\$220.00
Saturday	\$200.00	\$250.00

MEPI Interns

Friday	\$ 90.00	\$110.00	\$130.00
Saturday	\$130.00	\$140.00	\$170.00

*A discount of 10% will be given to groups of 10 or more. This applies to the Full Conference only. A registration form must be completed for each person attending. If the total attendee count falls below the 10 person minimum, the difference in cost must be paid prior to the conference.

Register and pay online beginning January 3, 2005 at www.mepiforum.org.

Deadlines

Early Bird.....	Midnight 01-28-05
Pre-Registration.....	Midnight 02-11-05

Registration accepted on site only after 02-11-05 and At-The-Door prices will apply.

Join MEPI for only \$35.00

AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MEMBER DISCOUNTS.

WORKSHOP SELECTION

Please place a circle around your first and second choice for each session.

Friday, February 25

Session I 9:30 - 11:00

A. Assistant teacher	1 st	2 nd
B. ECERS	1 st	2 nd
C. Antarctica	1 st	2 nd
D. Speech	1 st	2 nd
E. Personal Care	1 st	2 nd
F. Master Teachers 1	1 st	2 nd

Session II 11:30 - 1:00

A. Beauty	1 st	2 nd
B. Balanced Literacy	1 st	2 nd
C. Drama	1 st	2 nd
D. Story Stones	1 st	2 nd
E. Daily Riches	1 st	2 nd
F. Master Teachers 2	1 st	2 nd

Session III 3:30 - 5:00

A. Children	1 st	2 nd
B. Best Practices	1 st	2 nd
C. Parent Education	1 st	2 nd
D. Road to Peace	1 st	2 nd
E. Creativity	1 st	2 nd
F. Steel Drums	1 st	2 nd

Saturday, February 26

Session IV 9:45 - 11:15

A. Death and Dying	1 st	2 nd
B. Brain Research 1	1 st	2 nd
C. Tough Nuts	1 st	2 nd
D. Emergency	1 st	2 nd
E. Learning Styles	1 st	2 nd
F. Handwriting	1 st	2 nd

Session V 2:00 - 3:30

A. Music	1 st	2 nd
B. Brain Research 2	1 st	2 nd
C. Biome	1 st	2 nd
D. Administrators	1 st	2 nd
E. Peace	1 st	2 nd
F. Tough Nuts	1 st	2 nd

Session VI 3:45 - 5:00

A. End of Life	1 st	2 nd
B. Geography	1 st	2 nd
C. The 3 M's	1 st	2 nd
D. Thesplan	1 st	2 nd
E. Connection	1 st	2 nd
F. Principles	1 st	2 nd



Can't Decide? Remember most workshops will be recorded and available on cassette for purchase at the EGAMI A/V table.

Cancellation Policy – A written request with your name and address should be sent to the MEPI Business Office.

- Refund of registration fee less \$35.00 processing fee if received by February 11, 2005.
- After February 11, 2005 the cost of meals will also be deducted from the refund.
- Cancellation of your hotel room is the attendees' responsibility.
- Membership fees paid along with conference registration will not be refunded.

REGISTRATION

Register online at www.mepforum.org or complete and mail this form along with payment to: **MEPI • PO Box 2199 • Gray GA 31032**

☐ Member ☐ non-Member ☐ Intern ☐ Food Events Only

Name _____

(if a child, please give age)

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Affiliated School _____

FOOD EVENTS

Conference Participants: Full conference registration includes the cost of all food events. Single day registrations include the food events for that day only. Name badges will be required to attend food events and must be presented to the host/hostess to enter the dining hall.

Non-Conference Participants: Please use a separate form for each person or child attending only the food events. Children under the age of 10 pay half price on all meals. Only those with food event tickets or budgets will be allowed to enter the dining hall during meals.

Any changes must be sent to the MEPI Business Office prior to February 11, 2005 in writing.

Conference Participants:

	QTY	Cost Each	Total
Full Conference	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Friday Only	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Saturday Only	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total Enclosed		\$ _____	\$ _____

Non-Conference Participants:

Friday Keynote Lunch	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
Munch-N-Mingle	_____	\$15.00	\$ _____
Saturday Keynote Lunch	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
Dinner with Bil Krauss	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Total Enclosed			\$ _____

Checks and Money Orders

should be made payable to MEPI.

EXHIBITORS

I.S.S. Publications, Inc.

1709 Father Sky Ct NE
Albuquerque NM 87112
505-323-9044 Phone
505-323-9045 Fax
jblue@janbluestein.com
www.janbluestein.com

Kaplan Early Learning Company

10407 Centurion Pkwy Ste #102
Jacksonville FL 32256
904-642-6889 Phone
904-642-6890 Fax
ksteedman@kaplanco.com
Pam Cutright

Kaybee Montessori Inc.

7895-K Cessina Ave
Gaithersburg MA 20879
301-963-2101 Phone
301-963-2197 Fax
service@montessoricollection.com
Pat Sinopoli

Laughing Star Montessori

8725 Davis Road
Mainville, OH 45039
513-683-5682
laughingstarpress@fuse.net
Susan Scheibenzuber

LiteBooks.net

3626 Woodshire Chase
Marietta GA 30066-8719
970-321-4066 Phone
866-302-2759 Fax
rick@litebooks.net
www.litebooks.net
Rick and Lori Lite

Lord Company

103 Methodist Street
Cecilia, KY 42724
270-862-4537 Phone
270-862-4379 Fax
lordequip@aol.com
Denny & Darlene Whitworth

Artist-In-Residence

132 Montgomery Road
Columbia SC 29203
803-735-0781 Phone
803-735-0781 Fax
2cougars@two-cougars.com
John English

Edu Aids USA

2060 E Cray Street
Pasadena CA 91104
626-794-5481 Phone
eduaids@aol.com
Kavan Moonesinghe

Educational Sounds & Images, Inc.

4101 Rushmore Place
Beavercreek OH 45430
937-431-0900 Phone
937-431-0082 Fax
esii@juno.com
www.esii.com
Dottie Feldman

Elanbe Publishing Services

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Placitas NM 87043
505-291-8022 Phone
505-291-1252 Fax
yonder@unm.edu
Lillian Kroenke

Fun Science

1388 Lanier Place
Atlanta GA 30306
404-885-9778 Phone
funscience@mindspring.com
Andrea Alexander

Hello Wood Products

PO Box 307
Rickman, TN 38580
931-498-2432 Phone
931-498-2949 Fax
www.hellowood.com
hellowood@twlakes.net
Dave Olszewski

EXHIBITORS

Montessori Handmade

PO Box 1182
Manchester Ctr, VT 05255
800-426-3022 Phone
montessorivt@yahoo.com
Robin Jaffee

Montessori Services

11 West Barham Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95407
877-975-3003 Phone
kbeoka@montessoriservices.com
www.montessoriservices.com
Krissy Beoka

PaperCuts Blackline Masters

1428 SE 4th Avenue #1-267
Deerfield Beach FL 33441
800-995-0014 Toll Free
954-428-6893 Fax
papermont@aol.com
Roger Brown

Priority Montessori Materials

3920 P Road
Paonia, CO 81428
970-527-7588 Phone
970-527-7590 Fax
pmmaterials@aol.com
Contact - Ruth and Ed Pryor

Sound It Out

914 Laurie Drive
Madison WI 53711
608-273-1941 Phone
608-231-2322 Fax
elc@charter.net
Mary Anne Mayhew

The Juliana Group, Inc.

7 Drayton Street #208
Savannah GA 31405
912-236-3779 Phone
800-959-6159 Toll Free
juliana@julianagroup.com
www.julianagroup.com
Courtney Lerch

HOTEL INFORMATION

Kingston Plantation Resort

9800 Queensway Boulevard
Myrtle Beach, SC 29572
www.kingstonplantation.com
TOLL FREE: 877-360-0799
PH: 843-497-7319
FAX: 843-497-4488

Kingston Plantation specializes in meetings! Touted as the largest oceanfront meeting facility on the Mid-Atlantic Coast, Kingston Plantation featuring an Embassy Suites has been recognized by meeting peers as the best in the business. Winners of the Gold Key Award by *Meetings & Conventions Magazine* and The Pinnacle Award by *Successful Meetings* this resort offers a specialized staff to assist you in planning any type of event. Our flexible meeting space and variety of accommodations offer viable options for any group.

As you enter the gates of Kingston Plantation featuring an Embassy Suites Hotel you become part of a world removed from ordinary distractions. First impressions record an immediate feeling of natural beauty and serenity. Surrounded by 145 acres of park-like gardens, woods and lakes, you'll notice black swans, snowy white egrets and colorful mallard ducks. Here you and your family can enjoy nature as well as luxurious accommodations.

Rates:

Embassy Suites Resort Hotel	\$119.00
Kingston Plantation Lodge	
One Bedroom Lakeside Lodge	\$104.00
Two Bedroom Lakeside Lodge	\$129.00

Rooms rates quoted above do not include local taxes and fees for hotel/lodge or food and beverage. The rates do include a complimentary buffet breakfast and manager's reception per person, per day based on occupancy restrictions.

The Embassy Suites Hotel rates are double occupancy. An additional \$20 will be added per adult, per suite above double occupancy.

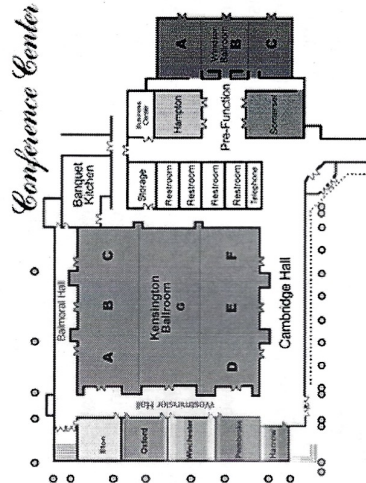
There is no upcharge for double plus occupancy in the Kingston Plantation Lakeside Lodges.

Reservations received after January 25, 2005 will be confirmed on a space available basis. Please state that you are attending the MEPI conference in order to receive the above discounted rates.

Airport Shuttle Service - Tropical Taxi 843-268-7778

Map of Conference Meeting Facilities

Workshops will be held in Eton, Oxford, Winchester, Pembroke and Kensington A-C.
Exhibitors will be located in Kensington Ballroom A-C.
Food Events will be held in Kensington Ballroom A-C.
Registration will be held in Towers Hall outside Somerset.



Directions

From Highway 501 via Highway 22 East-
Follow Hwy 501 past Aynor to Hwy 22 East. Follow Hwy 22 East for 28 miles. Take Kings Road exit and turn right at bottom of ramp. Plantation entrance is 1.2 miles on left.

Directions from I-95 North:
Follow I-95 North to Highway 327, Exit 170. Follow Highway 327 to the end, turning left onto 76/301 which will lead to Highway 501 South. Follow Highway 501 South to the exit for Highway 22 East, continuing on Highway 22 East for approximately 26 miles. Take the Kings Road exit, turning right at the bottom of the exit ramp. Kingston Plantation will be approximately 1.2 miles on the left.

Directions from I-95 South & Hwy 9:
Travel I-95 South to Dillon, SC. Take Hwy 9 East to North Myrtle Beach, picking up Hwy 31 south, toward Myrtle Beach/Georgetown. Follow Hwy 31 South for 7 miles to Hwy 22 East exit marked Myrtle Beach (left lane). Follow Hwy 22 East, taking Kings Road exit. Turn right at bottom of ramp onto Kings Road and follow for approximately 1.2 miles. Plantation entrance is on the left.

Directions from Myrtle Beach Airport:
Leaving airport, turn right at first light onto Robert M. Grissom Parkway. Continue approximately 7 miles then merge onto Hwy 31 North. Follow Hwy 31 North for approximately 5 miles to Hwy 22 East. From Hwy 22 take the Kings Road exit, turning right at bottom of ramp. Follow Kings Road for 1.2 miles and the Kingston Plantation entrance is on the left.

Directions from Highway 501:
Follow Hwy 501, picking up Hwy 31 North just after the Myrtle Beach Factory Stores. Follow Hwy 31 North for approximately 11 miles to Hwy 22 East (toward North Myrtle Beach). From Hwy 22 East, follow the Kings Road exit, turning right at the bottom of the ramp. Follow Kings Road for 1.2 miles and the Kingston Plantation entrance is on the left.

Carolina Map Links:

<http://tripinfo.com/maps/SC.htm>
<http://tripinfo.com/maps/SC-MyrtleBeach.htm>

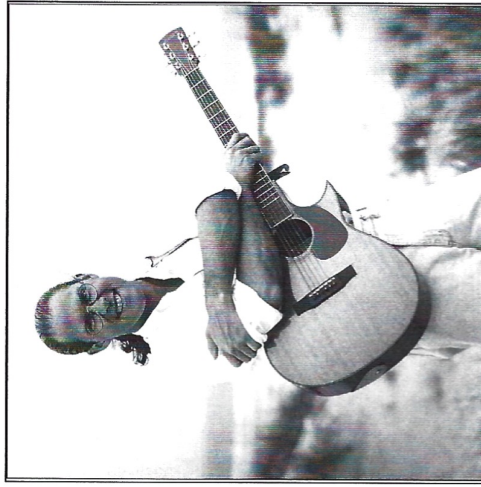
MEPI proudly presents of

Bil Krauss

Interactive Acoustic Music & Comedy

Zen Master of
Lounge Lizardry, &

Tough Love,
Musical Mayhem



Sat, Feb 26th

Opener for Tim Reynolds of "The Dave Matthews Band"; The Charlie Daniels Band; 10,000 Maniacs with Natalie Merchant; Comedian Michael Winslow ("Police Academy", "Space Balls"); Commander Cody & His Lost Planet Airmen, Hot Tuna, Jerry Jeff Walker, Jay Mohr (Saturday Night Live & "Jerry Maguire"); Comedians Tim Wilson of John Boy & Billy; Lewis Black from Comedy Central; Richie Minervini & Gary Valentine from "King of Queens;" Winner of the 1989 Music City Song Festival, Nashville, TN; Finalist in the 2001 "Sing to Win" Competition in Nashville, TN; featured entertainer of Vail Ski Resort Colorado (1995-1997), Litchfield Beach & Golf Resort in Pawleys Island, SC (1996-1999), Wild Dunes Resort, Isle of Palms, SC; Kiawah Island Resort, Kiawah Island, SC; Comedy Cabana, Myrtle Beach, SC, Norwegian Cruise Lines; Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville; Universal Studios, Orlando, FL; Irish Kevin's, Key West.

www.bilkrauss.com