

FME Initiatives

The staff and Board of Directors at FME have been working hard to meet the needs of the Montessori Community in Toronto. As a result, you will see several new initiatives in this newsletter. We would like to provide further support to not only AMI graduates, but to the classroom Assistants, Administrators, and Parents. We hope that you will find some of these new ideas of interest and we look forward to seeing you at one of our workshops or events in the coming year.

Faculty News

Congratulations to Sandra Giralto on 20 years at FME. We are very fortunate to have Sandra at the Foundation as she possesses a phenomenal breadth of knowledge, as well as an inspirational, humorous and extraordinary skill for imparting information. Sandra has also completed a 10 year term with the AMI Scientific Pedagogy Committee (SPC) in April. We applaud all that Sandra has done not only on the SPC but also the Translation Committee and the Materials Committee.



Sandra Giralto
Director of Training



Lynn Woodward
Course Assistant

Congratulations to Lynn Woodward who has recently achieved AMI Auxiliary Trainer status. The seminars are over and the real work begins. Lynn will be joining Sandra in lecturing on the course this year, and will continue to work toward full trainer status by writing research papers and completing her degree at the University of Waterloo.

Professional Development for AMI Graduates

Audit Theory Lectures

FME will be offering AMI diploma holders the opportunity to audit theory lectures during the academic year. **Auditing these lectures can help remind us of the greater vision Dr. Montessori held for humanity.** Please see the attached form with regard to dates and fees for auditing lectures.

Effective Parent Education Workshop

The key to finding and keeping parents is a sound parent education program. As a result, **FME has designed a program that will help provide effective and pertinent information to parents.** We will discuss how to effectively talk to parents both individually and in groups, planning and executing successful parent evenings, how and what current research supports Dr. Montessori's ideas about education, recommended reading for parents, how to talk about everyday issues that arise at home and school. This one day workshop will take place on October 23, 2010. Please contact the FME at fme@montessori-ami.ca or by phone at **416-769-7457** for registration details.

2011 Annual AMI Refresher Course

Mark your calendars for the **Sixteenth annual AMI Refresher Course** to be held at the Foundation for Montessori Education **February 4, 5 & 6, 2011.** This year we will delve into the importance of **Practical Life as the Stepping Stone to Normalization.** Registration forms are available on the FME Courses page of our website at www.montessori-ami.ca.

Parent Enrichment Mornings

The **Understanding the Child parent series** was a huge success. Many parents expressed an interest in learning more about Child Development and Montessori Education. To be able to accommodate more in-depth information and the opportunity for further discussions; FME is pleased to announce **Parent Enrichment Mornings**. These Saturday morning gatherings will provide for small group get-togethers with plenty of opportunity for questions. The first gathering will be Saturday, October 2, 2010, 9am -12pm, and the presentation will be on the **Stages of Child Development** up to age 18. Subsequent presentations will include the **Power of Observation, Your Child's Social Development and What is Montessori Education?** Please contact the FME at **fme@montessori-ami.ca** or by phone at **416-769-7457** for registration details.

Please note that the above lectures would be suitable for classroom assistants who were unable to attend the full Assistants' Course offered in the summer.

Do you know anyone interested in becoming a Montessori teacher?

If you do, please give them a copy of our brochure "Become a Montessori Teacher" available at the Foundation, or suggest that they visit our website at www.montessori-ami.ca, or invite them to one of our **Information Sessions held at FME the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm from February to June.**

News for Administrators

FME would like to thank you for your support. We appreciate that you accommodate our students for observation and practice teaching, and we appreciate that you send us wonderful candidates for the course. As a result we would like to offer our practice teaching schools **some discounts on the courses and workshops** that you have read about in this newsletter. We would also like to offer those schools that do not yet support student teachers some incentive as well; therefore, we will be offering **group rates** for many of the events to all schools working in support of the child. We would ask that you contact us directly for information about these special offers.

We hope that you will find some of our new workshops and course offerings of interest to your school and to your staff. **Together we can build a strong AMI Montessori Community in Toronto.**

We have also realized that many schools have staff members who would like to take the training but are also committed to their work at your school. The following announcement might be of interest to such individuals.

Part-time AMI Primary Teacher Training?

We often receive calls from people who are interested in taking the AMI Primary Course, but are unable to participate on a full-time basis. **We are currently investigating the possibility of conducting an evening course to be held over 2 years.** If you know anyone who might be interested please have them contact FME at **fme@montessori-ami.ca** or by phone at **416-769-7457**