



Canadian  
Association of  
Montessori  
Teachers

*Presents*

# **WALK THE TALK**

*Featuring*

*Maren Schmidt*

*and*

*Jennifer Morgan*



**CAMT 2015 Annual Conference**  
**Friday, November 6, 2015**  
**The Old Mill, 21 Old Mill Road, Toronto**  
**REGISTER ONLINE AT [www.camt100.ca](http://www.camt100.ca)**

## CAMT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 8:00 am – 8:55 am   | Registration and Coffee                |
| 8:55 am – 9:00 am   | Opening Remarks                        |
| 9:00 am – 10:00 am  | Keynote Presentation – Maren Schmidt   |
| 10:00 am – 10:20 am | CAMT Annual General Meeting            |
| 10:30 am – 12:00 pm | Workshops A-E                          |
| 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm  | Luncheon & Displays                    |
| 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm   | Keynote Presentation – Jennifer Morgan |
| 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm   | Workshops E-I                          |
| 4:00 pm – 4:30 pm   | Displays/Tea                           |

*NOTE: Displays will be open from 11:30 am to 5:00 pm*

### **Morning Keynote Speaker – Maren Schmidt** ***Walking Our Talk: Living our Montessori Principles***

As Montessori practitioners we specialize in turning theory into practice.

When we implement Montessori principles correctly in our classrooms, we see children who are happy, cooperative, self-motivated, assertive and self-aware.

In this session, we'll look at the essentials of living and working the Montessori way.

- What happens when we apply our Montessori principles to our personal lives?
- How are we transformed as adults?
- On which principles should we focus?

#### **About Maren Schmidt M.Ed...**

*As an award winning teacher and author, Maren leverages her talents writing and creating online workshops. Montessori school communities enjoy her weekly Kids Talk Newsletters and Workshops that are full of put-it-into-action advice about children. Maren is an elementary trained Montessori guide with AMI. She founded a Montessori school and her Montessori roles include parent, teacher, and school administrator. Visit [MarenSchmidt.com](http://MarenSchmidt.com).*



### **Afternoon Keynote Speaker – Jennifer Morgan** ***Cosmic Education: A Continuum Across All Levels***

Cosmic Education is the foundation of the Lower and Upper Elementary levels. But how does the Primary level support the work in the next plane of development? How can Infant/Toddler teacher see their work inside a continuum that spans all levels? And how is Cosmic Education a continuum at the secondary level with the Big History Curriculum? A growing number of Montessori schools and training centers teach Cosmic Ed, in age appropriate ways, at all levels. This workshop will bridge information across the planes and will focus on the preparation of the teacher through immersion in a scientific narrative, the Cosmic Education Curriculum, planes of development, storytelling, and ways to talk to parents about Cosmic Education.

#### **About Jennifer Morgan...**

*Speaker Jennifer Morgan is an award-winning author, storyteller, educator, and president of the Deep Time Journey Network ([www.deeptimejourney.org](http://www.deeptimejourney.org)), a global network of educators and others contextualizing all subjects and levels inside an Evolving Universe as the fundamental context, and Earth as our matrix. She gives programs around the world for adults and children. Her Universe Story Trilogy (*Born With a Bang*, *From Lava to Life*, and *Mammals Who Morph*) is used in Montessori classrooms around the world, and have received numerous awards (including Learning Magazine's Teachers Choice Award) and endorsements from renowned scientists, educators and thinkers. For more information about the books, go to [www.universestories.com](http://www.universestories.com).*



## **MORNING Workshops (10:30 am – 12:00 pm)**

### **A - Experiencing Awe Through Cosmic Storytelling (ALL)**

#### **Jennifer Morgan – Princeton, New Jersey USA**

Maria Montessori said that storytelling comes first to ignite the imagination of the student and “enthuse him(her) to his(her) inmost core.” Unleash your inner storyteller, or take it to new heights if it’s already unleashed. Through storytelling we experience a sense of communion with our students and with the Universe itself. Studies show that “Awe” increases cooperation and a sense of purpose. See how storytelling taps very directly into experiences of awe and motivates students to learn more on their own. Storytelling will be modeled, fears/concerns and storytelling voice discussed, and teachers will have a chance (if they want) to try out storytelling in small groups. This is sure to be a powerful and moving experience.

About Jennifer Morgan...

*Speaker Jennifer Morgan is an award-winning author, storyteller, educator, and president of the Deep Time Journey Network ([www.deeptimejourney.org](http://www.deeptimejourney.org)), a global network of educators and others contextualizing all subjects and levels inside an Evolving Universe as the fundamental context, and Earth as our matrix. She gives programs around the world for adults and children. Her Universe Story Trilogy (Born With a Bang, From Lava to Life, and Mammals Who Morph) is used in Montessori classrooms around the world, and have received numerous awards (including Learning Magazine’s Teachers Choice Award) and endorsements from renowned scientists, educators and thinkers. For more information about the books, go to [www.universestories.com](http://www.universestories.com).*

### **B - Practical Life (Casa/Toddler)**

#### **Zahra Foroud – Lethbridge, Alberta**

Young children are highly motivated by learning through imitation. We see this in two major areas of early education: practical life and social communication. Young children have a special joy for practical life tasks which adults consider to be ordinary –washing dishes, paring vegetables, polishing, etc. Children concentrate and also learn to pay attention to details as they follow a regular sequence of actions. They learn good working habits, how to take care of the environment, and become independent. Young children also model adult communication therefore the skills for conflict resolution are best introduced at an early age.

In this workshop Zahra will present materials that are attractive and that enhance the child’s physical, emotional, social and academic development. She will guide you through group activities that will explore how to use your creativity to prepare an environment where children can discover the joy of learning and the value of the peace table.

About Zahra Foroud...

*Zahra Foroud has been the Montessori teacher/principal of The Lethbridge Montessori School since 1986. She received her Montessori Diploma from St. Nicholas College, England and her Bachelor of Education from The University of Lethbridge, Alberta. Zahra is passionate about early education as the early years of a child’s life has a tremendous impact on development throughout the lifespan. She believes a well prepared environment can help children reach their potential and become active “life-long learners”. She has seen this in practice for over 30 years. Zahra is a MACTE verifier since 2009 and an instructor with The Montessori Teachers’ College, Toronto. Zahra has also presented many workshops all over the world. Some of them can be viewed in her School’s web: <http://lethbridgemonessori.ca/>*

## **C - Developing Leadership Skills (ALL)**

### **Paula Glasgow–Toronto, Ontario**

*When the best leader's work is done, the people say, 'We did it ourselves!'" – Lao Tsu, Chinese philosopher*

Why are leadership skills necessary for Montessori teachers? Are we born with leadership qualities or can we develop them through experience?

*"Leadership and Learning are indispensable to each other."( John F. Kennedy)*

This workshop will empower you to become a leader in the Montessori community by identifying clear personal values. It will teach you 5 skills to become an authentic leader, and will relate leadership skills and values to past, present and future. This workshop aims to inspire you to contribute positively to the Montessori and wider communities by becoming an active part of a network of influence. We, Montessorians, have a duty to share what we know about the benefits of the Montessori Method. We do this by developing and sharing our knowledge using confident leadership skills. We step out in confidence and walk the talk!

About Paula Glasgow ...

*Paula Glasgow is Dean of Montessori Teachers College in Toronto. She has been involved in the Montessori Method of Education since 1971. Her Montessori Diplomas cover the Infant Toddler, Early Childhood and Elementary levels. She holds a B.A. in English Literature and Philosophy, and an M.Ed.in Educational Management. Paula has conducted Montessori training in Europe, Asia and North America. She ran her own Montessori school in Ireland, and taught children at the St. Nicholas Montessori School, Ireland prior to becoming Principal of the St. Nicholas Montessori Training College. She has served on several educational Boards, including the MACTE Board.*

## **D - Eco-Allies (Adolescent)**

### **Derek Forgie – Toronto, Ontario**

Everyone cares about the environment to some extent. The question is, what are they willing to do about it? Even the most enthusiastic environmentalist can find their attempts to advance positive change daunting and frustrating at times. Eco-allies hones in on what your specific eco-passion is and streamlines it to a laser-point. We augment peoples drive and focus their enthusiasm. In short, we turn: "I want to help the planet" into: "I am now effectively helping the planet."

About Derek Forgie...

*When Derek Forgie is not busy entertaining daily in-studio television audiences for Bell Media, he balances a hardy diet of stand-up comedy and activism. He even pops up in the occasional television commercial. Recently, Derek was the travelling host for Clara's Big Ride. He and Let's Talk spokesperson/Olympian Clara Hughes shared the mic and the stage for over six weeks in thirty three towns/cities. If you were to add up every time he's been a keynote speaker, warm-up act, DJ, comic, emcee, host, and actor in front of a crowd, it adds up to a staggering 2000+ different audiences.*

## **E – Movement Matters!**

### **Fundamental Movement Presentations and Physical Activities for Children (ALL)**

**NOTE: THIS SESSION IS A 2 PART SESSION, FROM 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM AND 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM**

**YOU ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND BOTH SESSIONS AND ARE NOT PERMITTED TO JOIN THE SESSION AT 2:30 IF YOU HAVE NOT TAKEN THE 10:30 AM SESSION**

#### **Melani Fuchs – Freeville, New York USA**

The Movement Matters Workshop is designed to support educators in their efforts to direct children's natural need to move, to influence children's motor development and to use movement to enhance thinking and learning. This Conference Overview Presentation gives Montessori teachers, an inspiring opportunity to actively participate and to personally experience the work contained in Movement Matters, A Movement Album for Montessori Early Childhood Programs.

Participants are given an overview of motor development, safety and presuppositions for implementing movement in a classroom. At the core of the workshop are the Initial Presentations for Stability, Balance and Flexibility, and 13 Fundamental Movement Lessons including: 8 Locomotor Movements and 5 Object Control Skills.

Participants are shown 3 Additional Ways to implement movement: design a classroom Movement Shelf, create concrete movement materials for Individual Work from the Movement Shelf, play and lead Large Group Activities. Participant's learning is supported by a power point with poignant pictures and videos from Montessori classrooms. Participants observe or play the role of 'child' in the Initial Lessons and play Large Group Activities which supports a kinesthetic experience of games and a clear experiential model of teaching strategies and techniques.

About Melani Fuchs...

*Melani has been teaching at the Elizabeth Ann Clune Montessori School of Ithaca for thirty years. She holds a B.S. Ed. in Physical Education from SUNY Cortland. Melani created and implemented the first physical education program at the EACMSI, then took her Montessori Primary training in 1985 at NAMPTA in Boston. She later completed her 6-9 training at CMTE/New Rochelle in 2000. Melani completed initial training in Brain Gym ® and is certified in Movement Based Learning. She implements this work for our staff and for the entire student body. In addition, Melani shares her love of movement and supports and teaches Physical Education to the Primary classes. She has co-authored Movement Matters, A Movement Album for Montessori Early Childhood Programs. Melani presents Movement Matters workshops for early childhood professionals at schools and educational programs internationally. She gives full day workshops at Montessori Trainings and presents at National Montessori Conferences. Melani enjoys playing the guitar and piano and singing with the children. She is an artist and brings a passion for water color to her work in the classroom. Her background in music and theatre support her commitment to her choreography and direction of the end of the year school musical.*

## **AFTERNOON Workshops (2:30 – 4:00 pm)**

### ***E – Movement Matters! Fundamental Movement Presentations and Physical Activities for Children (ALL)***

**NOTE: THIS SESSION IS A 2 PART SESSION, FROM 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM AND 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM**

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### ***F - Building Brains the Montessori Way (Casa)***

#### **Maren Schmidt - Kamuela, Hawaii**

What do our children need to build better brains? What do we do in properly prepared Montessori environments that helps build better brains? In this talk, Maren Schmidt will help us find answers to these questions:

- What are the important things for our children to learn?
- What do children's brains need to maximize learning?
- How do Montessori principles, methods and materials support brain development?
- What factors create effective skill building?

About Maren Schmidt M.Ed...

*As an award winning teacher and author, Maren leverages her talents writing and creating online workshops. Montessori school communities enjoy her weekly Kids Talk Newsletters and Workshops that are full of put-it-into-action advice about children. Maren is an elementary trained Montessori guide with AMI. She founded a Montessori school and her Montessori roles include parent, teacher, and school administrator. Visit [MarenSchmidt.com](http://MarenSchmidt.com).*

### ***G - Teacher Stages of Growth (ALL)***

#### **Zahra Foroud – Lethbridge, Alberta**

In a Montessori classroom, classrooms are prepared with materials that are age appropriate, attractive and challenging at the same time. The teacher prepares this classroom very carefully, by being sensitive to the child's needs and considering the planes of development. The teacher teaches when the time is right. The lessons are given using the Montessori "three period lesson" method consisting of *presentation, practice* and *progress*. The teacher is also learning and progressing consistently using the three inner period lessons involving *perception, recognition* and *expression*.

For this workshop Zahra will guide you through group activities and will focus on the teacher's growth and understanding the planes of development.

About Zahra Faroud...

*Zahra Foroud has been the Montessori teacher/principal of The Lethbridge Montessori School since 1986. She received her Montessori Diploma from St. Nicholas College, England and her Bachelor of Education from The University of Lethbridge, Alberta. Zahra is passionate about early education as the early years of a child's life has a tremendous impact on development throughout the lifespan. She believes a well prepared environment can help children reach their potential and become active "life-long learners". She has seen this in practice for over 30 years. Zahra is a MACTE verifier since 2009 and an instructor with The Montessori Teachers' College, Toronto. Zahra has also presented many workshops all over the world. Some of them can be viewed in her School's web: <http://lethbridgemonessori.ca/>*

## **H - Incorporating Applied Behaviour Analysis in Montessori Settings (ALL)**

### **Shawn Carter – Whitby, Ontario**

Using the handout titled “Incorporating Applied Behaviour Analysis in Montessori Schools” (Next page), I would address each of the ten tips provided while using interactive and hands-on activities to facilitate learning in the area of Applied Behaviour Analysis.

#### *What is Applied Behaviour Analysis?*

ABA is the application of the principles of behaviour to improve an individual's quality of life to a meaningful degree. It involves the assessment and treatment of challenging behaviour but also puts a large emphasis on the teaching of functional and adaptive behaviours to ensure the individual is successful in meeting developmental and social milestones. ABA has a long history of being applied to children with developmental disabilities but has much evidence to support its application to many other populations.

About Shawn Carter M.ADS., BCBA ...

*After completing his Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in Psychology at Trent University in Durham, he completed a Masters in Applied Disability Studies at Brock University with a specialization in Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA). Having worked over 8 years in the field of ABA, he has experience working with a variety of populations, including:*

- *Children, adolescents, and adults with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)*
- *Children and adolescents with behaviour challenges in the home, school, or community*

*In addition to his work at New Roots Therapy, he has worked as an Instructor therapist providing Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) with children with an ASD, a Consultant working in homes, school boards, Montessori schools and community settings and currently as Behaviour Therapist on the Dual Diagnosis Services and Adolescent Eating Disorders units at Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences in Whitby.*

## **I – Promoting Peace - How the Montessori Method and Indigenous Knowledge Can Compliment Each Other in the Classroom (ALL)**

### **Dawn Penrose-Woodruff – Kitchener, Ontario**

*“Establishing lasting peace is the work of education; all politics can do is keep us out of war.”* Maria Montessori- Education and Peace

Based on the recent recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report tabled in Ottawa in June 2015, this workshop will enable educators to envision how Indigenous ways of knowing, culture, perspectives, and pedagogies can be made part of classrooms, schools, and communities in ways that are thoughtful and respectful. This examination will not only facilitate the need for reconciliation in Canada but also demonstrate how Indigenous culture and ways of knowing can complement and promote peace in the Montessori classroom. This workshop promises to be a fun and engaging experience for Montessori educators. We will examine aboriginal awareness and culture through conversation, drumming, cultural artifacts, aboriginal storytelling and lessons from the land. We will also examine holistic learning using the First Nations Holistic Learning model and Montessori's Cosmic Education with an emphasis on the interconnectedness of all things.

*“Let us put our minds together and see what kind of life we can build for our children” - Sitting Bull*

About Dawn Penrose-Woodruff...

*Dawn is a graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University with a BA in Psychology and English. She holds a Montessori Diploma of Early Childhood Education (MACTE) from Montessori Teachers College, Toronto and has been a Montessori Casa guide for 8 years. Dawn has recently completed a certificate program entitled Reconciliation through Indigenous Education from the University of British Columbia.*

*Dawn is a proud Anishinaabe kwe (Ojibway woman) of the Alderville First Nation. She is a member of the Aboriginal Professional Association of Canada and is a current representative on the Waterloo Regional Aboriginal Academic Advisory Council (WRAAAC), serving both the Waterloo Region District School Board and the Waterloo Catholic District School Board. She is passionate about human rights and diversity and enjoys speaking to youth and adults alike about finding her indigenous roots and how we can learn from our past.*

# WALK THE TALK

**Friday, November 6, 2015**  
**The Old Mill, 21 Old Mill Road, Toronto**  
**REGISTER ONLINE AT [www.camt100.ca](http://www.camt100.ca)**

## Registration Fees

*Registration Fee includes admission to the keynote presentation, luncheon, workshops, and access to the displays.*

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| CAMT Member                                | \$190.00 |
| Non-Member                                 | \$275.00 |
| Student (proof of student status required) | \$50.00  |

**Send the enclosed completed registration form to:**  
**CAMT 312 Oakwood Court, Newmarket, ON L3Y 3C8**  
**OR Register Online at [www.camt100.ca](http://www.camt100.ca)**

## NOTES

- **SPACE IS LIMITED – Register Early to Avoid Disappointment**
- No refunds will be issued.
- A service charge of \$20 will be levied on all cheques returned NSF.
- Program subject to change.
- All workshops have limited space. Register early to ensure you are accepted into the workshops of your choice!
- **Confirmations will be sent via email 5 business days prior to the conference**