



The Montessori OBSERVER

Creating a
Montessori School

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Participate in the New Education

IMS membership programs enable participation of individuals and schools with the creation of the *new education*. The three basic programs offer a variety of benefits and opportunities to participate.

Individual Membership

Individuals are invited to participate with IMS in the creation of the "new education" through the IMS individual membership program. Benefits include:

- One year, eight issue subscription to the *Montessori Observer*
- 20% discount on Montessori publications
- Membership card
- IMS program and activity information
- Listing in Fall, 1981 IMS membership directory

To apply, send name and address with \$15.00 membership fee to IMS.

Free Materials for Teachers

TIMAR (Teachers' Inventory of Materials and Resources) offers a unique resource guide for teachers which lists over 300 items available free in quantity for classroom use. This TIMAR guide, entitled *Master List of Free Materials in Quantity*, includes also a supplemental listing of materials available in single copies only.

The *Master List* is an extensive compilation of educational and informative materials provided by government agencies and education and public relations departments of U.S. companies. Many of such materials may be useful in Montessori elementary classrooms where a wide

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Montessori Schools

The IMS Montessori school membership program is established to enable Montessori schools to participate more actively in the world-wide Montessori community and to provide a public demonstration of the school's commitment to Montessori principles. Benefits include:

- One-year, eight issue subscription to *Montessori Observer*
- 20% discount on Montessori publications
- Certificate of membership
- IMS program and activity information
- Coordination with IMS teacher training programs
- Eligibility for group medical and dental insurance
- 10% discount on special school materials
- Listing in IMS Montessori School Directory

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Montessori Threatened in New Zealand

Rosalie Hay, IMS member and Montessori educator in New Zealand, reports that new government regulations could be established to adversely affect Montessori education in that country. Included among the new regulations proposed in a report by the Advisory Committee on Child Care Centers, are restrictive staff-child ratios, potentially inappropriate staff training requirements and a limitation of 40 children per facility.

The New Plymouth Montessori Association, with which Ms. Hay is associated, has advised New Zealand Montessori schools of the potential threat posed by any such new regulations. Ms. Hay noted "...it is much harder to change the law AFTER it is passed than before..."



Spring, 1981 Directory listing 62 IMS Montessori school members

New IMS Directory

The new *IMS Membership Directory*, due for publication in November, 1981, will provide a complete listing of all IMS members in good standing, as of November 1, 1981. This new directory extends the current *IMS Montessori School Membership Directory* (Spring, 1981) to include all classes of membership; Montessori schools, associated schools, and individuals.

The current IMS directory, published in Spring, 1981, lists sixty-two (62) IMS Montessori school members in 27 states and Canada. IMS employs this directory to respond to inquiries from the general public and government agencies regarding Montessori schools. School information provided includes name, address, telephone, administrator and other program features such as enrollment and age level.

The new Fall, 1981 *IMS Membership Directory* will maintain a separate section for each of the three membership classes. This more complete listing will extend the usefulness of the directory to further enhance communication and participation throughout the Montessori education community.

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Creating a Montessori School

The beginning of the new school year is a unique opportunity to directly confront the dynamics of creating a "Montessori" school. Such a school is not found inherently in its facilities, certification of teachers, proper equipment, or name identification. Rather, the fundamental essence of a "Montessori" school is intangible—a commitment to Montessori principles. Without such a commitment, the school is fundamentally inadequate and ineffective—form without substance.

A Created Construction

The construction of a "Montessori" school is the development of a commitment to Montessori principles, arising from a commitment created within a single individual—spontaneously, here, now, from nothing. Such a created construction is completely independent of external circumstances and conditions, such as money, other people and facilities. A commitment to Montessori principles, created within an individual, expresses itself outward from the individual in a natural process of confrontation with circumstances and conditions which deter its spontaneous development. Each deterring circumstance is not inherently a burdensome problem but rather an opportunity to realize the powerful outward effect of a created reality within.

Normalizing Process

Creating a Montessori school is essentially the same creative process with which a teacher is engaged during the normalization process in the classroom with children. This engagement is creative in that such process *allows* the child's true nature to spontaneously reveal itself. The teacher's commitment to Montessori principles establishes the necessary psychic environment around the child.

Likewise, an effective school environment, committed to Montessori principles, *allows* the various components of the school

(teacher, staff, students, facilities, parents) to function together harmoniously. However, confrontation and engagement with the detrimental aspects of such functioning is essential and necessary to the development of the school.

Confrontation Inevitable

Confrontation in creating a "Montessori" school inevitably involves choosing between a commitment to the "form" of a school (facilities, students, equipment, name, institution) and a commitment to its substantial essence (the effective application of Montessori principles). Such confrontation normally involves resentment, fear and anger which can readily emerge in the resolution of pertinent issues such as loss of employment, losing/terminating a teacher, and license approval/rejection.

IMS Support

Responsible communication and participation regarding Montessori principles is a vital support for successful confrontation with detrimental conditions in the functioning of the school. In this regard, IMS is committed to providing opportunities for such effective communication and participation. Notably, IMS expresses its support for the creation of effective Montessori schools through its intention to provide teacher training programs to communicate a commitment to Montessori principles.

A Single Individual

However, creating a "Montessori" school is not dependent on the availability of effectively trained Montessori teachers. A Montessori school can be created by any individual; teacher, staff, management or parent. The only essential quality of such individual is a commitment to Montessori principles. Such commitment within a single individual naturally expresses itself to other adults

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**Participate in the
New Education**

JOIN IMS

Benefits include:

- 8 issues of the *Montessori Observer*
- Montessori publications at discount
- IMS program information
- Listing in Fall, 1981 Directory
- Membership card

* BONUS

- Free "Montessori" bumper sticker

**Complete and submit the
Reader Response Form**

** Bonus offer guaranteed only
while supplies last.*

**Look for the
October Observer
featuring
Legal Issues**

The Montessori Observer

published by
INTERNATIONAL MONTESSORI SOCIETY
912 Thayer Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 589-1127
Lee Havis, Executive Director

The Montessori Observer is mailed eight times each year to Montessori schools in North America and IMS members throughout the world. The *Observer* is sent during the following months: Jan., Feb., March, April, May, Sept., Oct., and Nov. The purpose of this publication is to provide news and information about the development of Montessori education to extend awareness of Montessori principles and promote harmony within the Montessori community.

INTERNATIONAL MONTESSORI SOCIETY

The International Montessori Society is sponsored by Educational Services, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized in Maryland, U.S.A. The purpose of IMS is to support the effective application of Montessori principles throughout the world.

IMS ADVISORY BOARD

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SUBSCRIPTION

The *Montessori Observer* is provided at no cost to Montessori schools in North America. Subscription to this publication may be obtained by requesting IMS membership which is open to all individuals for a \$15 yearly fee. Complete the membership application form to obtain an individual subscription and other benefits of IMS membership.

ADVERTISING

Advertising space is available for services and products relating to Montessori education. Marketplace ads are \$7/line. Position and Placement ads are \$10 each and will be set and edited by us to conform to space requirements. Write for our advertising outline for rates and other information about design advertising.

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Marketplace

New Orleans Area: Beautiful and fully equipped Montessori primary school for sale. Full enrollment and waiting list. Write Mr. Brostelli, 427 Bourbon St., New Orleans, LA 70103.

"Montessori" bumper stickers. Order from IMS. \$1 each. \$0.60 each for quantities over 10. One free to IMS members.

IMS School Directory—listing IMS Montessori school members with information about each school. To obtain copy, send \$5.00 with request to IMS.

Outdoor Activity Equipment Backyard BigToys®—attractive, natural-looking equipment featuring sturdy construction of round logs in combination with simple coordinated component system. 10% discount to IMS school members. Contact IMS for further details and order form.

Advertise in Observer: Place ad here for sales, offers to buy, services and products relating to Montessori education. *Marketplace* ads are \$7/line. *Position and Placement* ads are \$10 each. *Observer* reaches Montessori schools in all states, Canada and Mexico and IMS members throughout the world. Send ad request now to reserve space in October issue.

Creating a Montessori School

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in contact with the school through participation with such individual.

Government and Society

Beyond the school itself, the commitment of an individual naturally creates the *new education* by confronting issues in government, law and society. IMS recognizes its role in such a creative effort through support for the establishment and effective operation of state-wide Montessori organizations and other similar support services. However, within the larger issues of government and society, creating a Montessori school is a foremost contribution to realization of the *new education*.

Free Materials

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variety of subject matter resources is particularly needed. Included on the list are travel posters, kits, wall charts, stamps of the world and history and science books for children on a wide variety of subjects.

The cost of the *Master List* is \$7.95 plus \$1 postage and handling. To order, contact: TIMAR Products Company, P.O. Box 68, Centuck Station, Yonkers, NY 10710.

"Master List" noted for information of readers only. IMS does not necessarily endorse such list or materials available therefrom.

Legal Briefs

Educational Freedom: A Fundamental Right

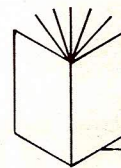
Private Montessori schools, confronted by repressive governmental regulations, have a friend in the U.S. Constitution—the First Amendment. In recent court cases, notably since the Supreme Court decision in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479 (1964), increasing concern is being expressed for the protection of the rights of parents and teachers in education, free from state interference and control. In *Griswold*, the Supreme Court clearly established educational freedom within the bounds of the First Amendment.

"...the right to educate one's children as one chooses is made applicable to the states by the force of the First and Fourteenth Amendments...In other words, the state may not, consistent with the spirit of the First Amendment, contract the spectrum of available knowledge. The right of freedom of speech and press includes ...freedom to teach..."

Griswold, p. 482

Since courts normally consider rights encompassed within the First Amendment as "fundamental," state regulation and control of educational freedom is examined more closely than usual. States may even be required to show a *compelling state interest* to justify the abridgement of such fundamental rights.

Note: IMS has prepared a legal memorandum regarding rights of private schools and will provide such document to IMS members free on request.



Book Review

A Book About Anna

Pub. Parent Child Press (Altoona, PA), 1981
by Aline Wolf

A Book About Anna is a book about all young children—for parents, particularly. The reader can readily gain insight into the nature of the young child by following 2½ year old Anna during a single day of her "ordinary" activities around the home.

Anna is the latest in a series of publications by Aline Wolf intended to extend and enhance communication between the parent and the child. Such publications, which include *A Parent's Guide to the Montessori Classroom*, reveal Ms. Wolf's unique ability to communicate Montessori principles to parents in a simple, concise manner.

Ms. Wolf has created in *Anna* a story whose direct, concise text joins with the ample photographs provided to communicate equally well to parents as to children. A section in the back of the book entitled "An Afterword for Parents" uniquely highlights underlying notions of the young child revealed in Anna's experiences. Such notions readily relate to Montessori education: e.g., concentration, coordination, independence, and recognizing differences.

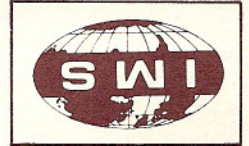
Anna also contains a brief discussion of Dr. Montessori and additional references and ideas for further study. Ms. Wolf in *Anna* shows the reader how the most simple everyday experiences in the life of a young child profoundly affect fundamental human development—a powerful message and a significant contribution to the work of extending Montessori principles beyond the classroom into the home and society.

A Book About Anna is available from IMS. Price: \$5.95, soft cover, 56 pages.

Address correction requested

912 Thayer Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910

OBSERVER
The Montessori



Positions & Placements

Montessori teachers: (2-6). Two certified Montessori teachers for school established in 1970 in completely equipped, established classes in suburban Westchester County. Salary negotiable, commensurate with educational background and experience. Contact: Janine Flynn, Montessori Children's Room, P.O. Box 68, Armonk, NY 10504 (914) 273-3291.

Montessori teacher(s): (2-6) teacher for second class in Fall, 1981. (6-12) teacher to launch new elementary class. Send resume to Stepping Stones Montessori, 552 Terry Parkway, Gretna, LA 70053.

Montessori teacher: (3-5). To begin January 4, 1982. Full day. Bachelor's degree and Montessori certification required. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume and salary requirements to: Bonnie Dorsey, Chairman, Search Committee, Montessori Society of Westminster, Inc., P.O. Box 864, Westminster, MD 21157 (301) 848-0755.

Montessori teacher: (2-6) Head Start Montessori Program. Salary range: \$20,000-\$25,000 based on experience. Send resume to: Early Learning Center, 3823 Spring Garden St., Philadelphia, PA 19104 (215) 387-6226.

New IMS Directory

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The *IMS Montessori School Membership Directory* (Spring, 1981) can be obtained by request to IMS for \$5.00 prepaid. Orders for the Fall, 1981 directory will be accepted in October. Montessori school members may obtain a copy of the Spring or Fall directory free upon request.

Participate

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IMS Montessori school membership is limited to programs applying Montessori principles as specified by the established IMS Montessori school membership criteria. Membership fee is \$45.00 per year. Contact IMS to obtain membership application and criteria.

Associate School Membership

Any program, center, school or other organization serving children is eligible to participate in the IMS associate school membership program. The purpose of this program is to extend awareness and application of Montessori principles beyond the Montessori school community to include the entire field of education. Benefits include:

- One-year, eight issue subscription to the *Montessori Observer*
- 20% discount on Montessori publications
- Membership card
- IMS program and activity information
- Eligibility for group medical and dental insurance
- 10% discount on special school materials
- Listing in Fall, 1981 IMS membership directory
- **BONUS! FREE "Montessori" bumper sticker with any membership.**

IMS Montessori School Membership

Benefits include:

- discount on publications and materials
- eligibility for group medical plan
- listing in IMS school directory

Apply by Oct. 1, 1981 and receive the following items **FREE** upon request:

- **Montessori bumper sticker**
- **Back issue(s) of *Observer***
- **Copy of *IMS Spring 1981 School Directory***

For application and membership criteria, contact:

**IMS, 912 Thayer Ave.
Silver Spring, Md. 20910**

New IMS Mailing Address

New postal regulations will soon prohibit use of the regular IMS Washington, D.C. mailing address: "P.O. Box 4338, Washington, D.C. 20012". Therefore, the IMS office address in Silver Spring, MD (a Washington, D.C. suburb) will now also serve as the IMS mailing address: "912 Thayer Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910".

Although mail will continue to be received normally at the old Washington, D.C. postal box for a period of about one year, IMS requests that the Silver Spring mailing address be used whenever possible in future correspondence.