

A journey
through
**the planes of
development**



Nienhuis
MONTESSORI

7th European
Nienhuis Montessori Retreat



'A journey
through the **planes**
of development'.

9-10-11 November 2018
at the head office of Nienhuis
Montessori **in Zelhem,**
The Netherlands



7th European Nienhuis Montessori Retreat

For many years already Nienhuis Montessori has been organising Montessori events.

These events have become more and more popular. The main reason for this increasing popularity probably is the quality of the programme and the affordable price. We have always had the support of AMI trained teachers or very experienced Montessorians with another background.

Seven years ago Nienhuis Montessori introduced a new format. The main idea was to gather, share and exchange experiences and ideas in an informal setting and to extend the knowledge of Montessori education. The name chosen for this event was Montessori Retreat.

The 7th edition of this event we will have the same team of speakers, namely AMI trainers Patricia Wallner, Madlena Ulrich and Carla Foster. This year however we are delighted to have Jenny Marie Höglund as well who will focus on adolescence.



I have found that in his development, the child passes through certain phases, each of which has its own particular needs. The characteristics of each are so different that the passages from one phase to another have been described by certain psychologists as 'rebirths'.

(Montessori, "The Four Planes of Education", p.1, reprinted in 2004)

Montessori termed the stages from birth to adulthood "The Planes of Development." While other developmental theorists focused on one particular aspect of development, or stages of development, Montessori's view is holistic; it takes into account the social, cognitive, moral, and biological changes of the individual from birth to maturity.

These stages address the ways that personality, cognitive ability, and behavior change during each distinct phase. It is important that we fully understand this framework because it explains and justifies Montessori's idea of education as "an aid to life".

Understanding the characteristics and needs of the child at each stage allows the adult to support the natural unfolding of life.



Friday 9 November

17:00	Welcome	
17:30	Significance of the theory of the four planes of development	Madlena
	Characteristics of the different planes	Carla
	Short films for age group 0 - 3 and 12 - 15	Patricia and Jenny Marie
19:00	Dinner	

Saturday 10 November

9:30	Similarities and differences between the children's house and the elementary - Part I	Madlena and Carla
10:30	Break	
11:00	Similarities and differences between the children's house and the elementary - Part II	Madlena and Carla
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	A comparison of the 2 first subphases of the first and third plane of development - Part I	Patricia and Jenny Marie
14:30	Break	
15:00	A comparison of the 2 first subphases of the first and third plane of development - Part II	Patricia and Jenny Marie
16:00	Unscheduled time	
18:00	Dinner	

Sunday **11 November**

9:00	The Role of the adult in the children's house and elementary	Madlena and Carla
10:15	Break	
10:45	The adult role for the 2 subphases	Patricia and Jenny Marie
12:15	Closing remarks	



Patricia Wallner

Patricia Wallner has been working in Montessori since 1970. She took her AMI 3-6 diploma in Washington D.C. and the 0-3 diploma in Houston, Texas with Dr. Silvana Montanaro. For 17 years she worked in a bilingual Infant Community in Amsterdam, The Netherlands where she lives.

In 1995 she began the Training of Trainers program supported by the Association Montessori Internationale and during her training earned a Master's degree in Education. She has trained students and lectured in Europe, Asia and the U.S.A. Her goal is to promote Montessori, especially for the 0-3 age group in Europe.



Madlena Ulrich

Madlena Ulrich spent her childhood in Germany and attended a Montessori Elementary school there. She moved to Norway as an adolescent and later obtained a Bachelor's degree as a preschool teacher and is about to finish a Master's degree in pedagogy at the university College of Vestfold, Norway. She took her original AMI 3-6 training at Mount St. Mary's Montessori College in Dublin, Ireland.

Since 1995 she has worked in the classroom and has been involved in the development of Montessori in Norway by giving lectures and serving as Vice President on the board for the national association NMF. In 2008 she started on her Training of Trainers, spending two years with Molly O'Shaughnessy in Minnesota and a Summer course with Ulla Wikefeldt in Sweden. She is currently part of the AMI faculty in China and trains and lectures in Norway as well as in many other countries.



Carla Foster

Carla Foster is originally from California, but has lived the last 14 years in Norway. She graduated from UC Berkeley, California with bachelor's degrees in Social Anthropology and Scandinavian Studies and a masters in Old Icelandic Literature and Norwegian Literature.

She has her AMI 3 - 6 diploma from the MMTO in London in 1984 and her AMI 6-12 diploma from Milwaukee in 1990 and has been working with elementary children since 1990. She had her own class in Norway for 12 years before joining the AMI Training of Trainers programme.

Since then she has assisted on the AMI 6-12 summer course in London with Ann Dunne and the AMI 6-12 course in Chennai with Jean Miller. She is now training and lecturing in Norway and several other countries. Any spare time is spent doing various forms of dance.



Jenny Marie Höglund

Jenny Marie holds AMI diplomas for the ages 3-6 and 6-12. She has mainly worked with the 6-12 and 12-18 (adolescents). She also holds a M.Ed. and she is an established AMI Elementary trainer.

Jenny Marie was one of the founders of the Montessori School “Lära för Livet” in Varberg, Sweden in 1995, teaching children from 1 till 16 years of age. She founded and runs the first and so far the only Swedish Montessori Farm School. Jenny Marie has taught elementary and adolescent students for over twenty-three years.

She has been serving as head of school since 2006. She has also lectured at the International Centre for Montessori Studies Foundation-Bergamo (CISM), in Italy since 2006.





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