

*You're invited.....*

To the **United Montessori Schools of  
Indiana** 2013 Fall Conference in  
Indianapolis, Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am to 4:30pm

Our Keynote Speaker is  
**Jonathan Wolff**

*The Rewards & Responsibilities of the  
Parent-Teacher Partnership in a Montessori Program*

Please join us for a very special day!



[www.umsindiana.org](http://www.umsindiana.org)

## Conference Information

### **When: Saturday, October 5, 2013**

8:00 AM Registration, Breakfast, Networking, Vendors Open

8:45 AM First Session Starts

4:30 PM Conference Ends

### **Where: Forest Manor Professional Development Center**

4501 E. 32<sup>nd</sup> St.

Indianapolis, IN 46218

**Registration:** \$75.00 /person until Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> • \$85.00/person after Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> • \$25 with student ID  
Group Rates = after 5 paid registrations from one organization the cost will be \$50 /person

- Final date for early registration is Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013
- Registration after Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 will be \$85.00
- Registration is available on the day of the conference for \$85.00
- Cost includes a light breakfast and a sandwich buffet for lunch
- Please make your check payable to UMSI. Purchase Orders are accepted. Please indicate on the comment section of the check your name and school. Registrations are also accepted on-line at [www.umsindiana.org](http://www.umsindiana.org) through PayPal
- The first 25 registrations received will be entered in a drawing for a free conference entry for the 2014 Fall Conference. One teacher and one parent will be given a free registration for 2014.

Mail your registration form with your workshop choices clearly marked and fees to:

Sandy Strantz

9921 Niagara Dr.

Fishers, IN 46037

Fax registrations: 317-251-6675 Attn: Tara Slagel

### **Questions:**

If you have any questions about the conference please email Tara Slagel at [taralb\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:taralb_2000@yahoo.com) or call Sandy Strantz at 317-627-4623.

### **Hotel Information:**

**Accommodations:** These are only suggestions. UMSI has **NOT** made any arrangements with these facilities.

- Hampton Inn Indianapolis-East  
2311 N Shadeland Ave, Indianapolis, IN  
(317) 359-9900
- Ramada  
6990 W 21st St, Indianapolis, IN  
(317) 359-5341
- Candlewood Suites Indianapolis East  
7040 E 21st St, Indianapolis, IN  
(317) 495-6600

# WORKSHOP SESSION 1

8:45-9:45

(CHOOSE ONE)

<b>1A Bringing Life Into Your School</b>	ALL
Wondering where to begin with classroom pets and small livestock? Get tips from Seton's Living Lab Caretaker, Montessorian and livestock farmer. Gwen will exhibit how animals can enrich the life of your school.	<u>Presented by:</u> Gwen Carr
<b>1B Assistant's Duties</b>	3-6 & Elementary
Leave this session with an understanding of the value an assistant adds to the development of the whole child. Learn more about the role of the assistant, record keeping, and the collaboration between the teacher and the assistant.	<u>Presented by:</u> Ethel Billingsley & Nancy Kumfer
<b>1C Beginner Spanish for the Montessori Classroom</b>	Parents, Infant/Toddler, 3-6
Come and receive an introduction to teaching Spanish in a Montessori Classroom. Set the stage for a child to be able to explore another language & learn it naturally so they may retain it longer & be able to build upon a solid foundation.	<u>Presented by:</u> Stephanie Jordán-Cain
<b>1D A Trip Around the World</b>	3-6, Elementary
Enrich your 3-6/6-9 cultural lessons with a trip around the world. The children will discover each continent through literature, arts, crafts, games, food and music.	<u>Presented by:</u> Jennifer Darmogray
<b>1E Keys to a Successful Admissions Process</b>	Admin
The presenter will walk through the admission process, from initial call to long-term retention, sharing insights and techniques for developing strategic admissions practices and maintaining healthy enrollment.	<u>Presented by:</u> Jennifer Nolan
<b>1F Incorporating Improvisation Activities into Your Montessori Classroom</b>	Elementary & Middle/High School
Kids need movement, self-expression and finding ways to be comfortable with their body. Improvisation activities can be used to warm up before play practice or be incorporated into the classroom formally or informally as a way to deal with down times like dismissal. Come see how improvisation can help and fit into your classroom.	<u>Presented by:</u> Peter Wissman & Erika Eicholz
<b>1G Visual Thinking Strategies in the Montessori Classroom</b>	Primary
In VTS discussions, teachers support student growth and cover core standards in critical and creative thinking by facilitating discussions of carefully selected works of visual art.	<u>Presented by:</u> Angela Polk

**KEYNOTE SESSION**

**10:00 – 11:30**

*The Rewards and Responsibilities of the Parent – Teacher Partnership in a Montessori Program*

**Presented by Jonathan Wolff**

When parents and teachers in a Montessori program share the same educational outcomes, the same vision of human potential; when they adhere to the same approach to learning and development; and when they have established open and honest relations and communications with one another – when these three elements are firmly in place, students feel supported and nurtured at home and at school. In this keynote address Jonathan Wolff explores the rewards and responsibilities of respectful and responsive parent- teacher partnerships.

Jonathan is a consultant, trainer, speaker and author who infuses his work in leadership development with 30 years of experience as an educator and administrator.

Founder and Director of Learning for Life and Montessori Leadership, Jonathan provides retreats, workshops, consultations and coaching for parents, educators, leaders, Boards of Directors, community organizations and learning communities around the globe.

Jonathan’s incisive ability to apply Dr. Montessori’s educational constructs to training adults led him to positions as a teacher trainer, as the director of education and training for various education and business organizations, and as the administrator for several nationally recognized schools. Thirty years in the field have provided him with solid first-hand experience in leading and managing rapidly growing for-profit and not-for-profit schools, education institutions and business organizations.

**Jonathan’s Mission Statement**

To provide models of learning that facilitate personal and organizational transformation and effectiveness.

To honor the uniqueness of each individual and the aggregate wisdom of the collective.

---

**WORKSHOP SESSION 2 • 11:35-12:15 (CHOOSE ONE)**

Heads of School/Administrators	Mark Nardo & Denise Brown
Toddler	Sandy Strantz
Early Childhood	Brenda Huth
Elementary	Vyju Kadambi
Secondary	Juli Cooper
Parents	Beth Hutton

By request, this session is reserved for facilitated networking. Below you will see the categories that you can choose to attend. Each session will be facilitated by an UMSI volunteer or board member. Please come prepared to meet colleagues from across the state, share your ideas, reflect upon the keynote address and gain new insights. Please indicate your preference on the conference registration form so that we can plan space accordingly.

# WORKSHOP SESSION 3

1:05-2:05

(CHOOSE ONE)

<b>3A “We Trust You With Our Child”</b>	All
We will explore four aspects of conferencing with parents: 1. Writing progress reports that communicate the child’s gifts, gains, and goals, not their deficits, delays & difficulties 2. Conducting conferences that celebrate the child’s progress as well as identify the next steps in their learning & development 3. The best ways to prepare for conferences involving children with challenges 4. Effective ways to share “difficult news” about a child’s learning or behavior with parents	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Presented by:</u></b> <b>Jonathan Wolff</b></p>
<b>3B Leveled Reading in the Montessori Environment</b>	Parents, Admin, 3-6, Elementary
How do I fit leveled reading lessons and Montessori Lessons into my weekly routine? Join us for an in-depth look at scientifically based reading research and its implementation into the Montessori Classroom.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Presented by:</u> Heather Fry &amp; Julie Spradling</p>
<b>3C How to Handle the Challenging Child</b>	Parents, Infant/Toddler, 3-6
Do you need additional strategies for dealing with the challenging student? Let us share some of our recent experiences and strategies with you. There will be specific focus on Autism and emotional issues within the Montessori Classroom.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Presented by:</u> Tiffany Fennig &amp; Jennifer Witzgreuter</p>
<b>3D Learning How to Access Title I &amp; II Funding</b>	Private Admin
This session will help schools in learning about funding that covers conferences, seminars and materials for ALL students. It will also help schools meet the needs of children with IEPs.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Presented by:</u> Lynn Boone</p>
<b>3E State Standards in Language &amp; Math K-3 (1 of 2)</b> <b>*This is a 2 session workshop*</b>	Elementary
Do you feel overwhelmed meeting state standards? Learn how your Montessori Materials in the Language area meet the state requirements. Come and receive tips to aid you in your classroom. The second session will cover Math.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Presented by:</u> Regina McShea</p>
<b>3F Documenting Lessons in a 3-6 Classroom</b>	3-6
Presenters will discuss suggestions and ideas for documenting lessons and how to accomplish it effectively. <b>Please bring any materials or ideas you have for documenting for a sharing session at the end of the presentation.</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Presented by:</u> Alison Birkmeier &amp; Jodi Lambert</p>

## WORKSHOP SESSION 4

2:15-3:15

(CHOOSE ONE)

<b>4A Art for All Ages (Pre-K – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade)</b>	All
Explore art activities and projects Montessori Classroom Teachers and art teachers use when working with students. The projects will focus on numerous artists, art techniques and a myriad of different art mediums. This is a BRAND NEW presentation that will include a take home project with materials!	<u>Presented by:</u> Jim Buchler & Gail Royse
<b>4B Teaching Knitting</b>	Elementary
Want to add knitting to your classroom? Learn how to teach basic knitting in the Montessori Environment. It will include organizing and structuring a knitting program as well as some very basic knitting instructions. Leave with ideas for projects to be knitted, knitting for charity, and doing a larger scale project where all the children can contribute.	<u>Presented by:</u> Mary Anne Schager
<b>4C What Montessori Teachers Need to Know About the 5 Components of Teaching Reading</b>	3-6, Elementary
The 5 Components of Reading Instruction: <b>Phonological Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary, Comprehension</b> We will look at each of these components and their importance in learning to read. We will also identify which Montessori Materials and Lessons help to teach each component.	<u>Presented by:</u> Jamie Sellhorn
<b>4D State Standards in Language &amp; Math K-3 (2 of 2)</b> <b>*This is a 2 session workshop*</b>	Elementary
Do you feel overwhelmed meeting state standards? Learn how your Montessori Materials in the Math area meet the state requirements. Come and receive tips to aid you in your classroom.	<u>Presented by:</u> Regina McShea
<b>4E Let's Get "Practical" in the Infant-Toddler Environment</b>	Toddler
Do you ever want meaningful, manageable and motivating practical life in your environments? If so, then you don't want to miss this session. We will learn how to get practical and creative while having fun together.	<u>Presented by:</u> Angela Polk
<p><b>Make N' Take Opportunities</b>            There is an additional \$15 charge for each class            Limited to 30 participants            The Make N' Take Room will be open all afternoon</p>	
<b>4F Language</b>	Admin, 3-6, Elementary
Come see, explore, and make 18-20 extensions. There will be 8-10 primary and 8-10 elementary extensions, each with their own lesson plan write-up. Come in and spend as much time as needed making the works. Or, gather the materials and make them at home.	<u>Presented by:</u> Brenday Huth & Deb Cyrier
<b>4G Cultural &amp; Science</b>	Admin, Elementary
Come see, explore, and make 5-10 extensions for your Elementary Classroom. Come in and spend as much time as needed making the works. Or, gather the materials and make them at home.	<u>Presented by:</u> Deb Cyrier & Diana Crisler

## WORKSHOP SESSION 5

3:30-4:30

(CHOOSE ONE)

<b>5A The Conversations with Parents I Hate to Have</b>	All
This workshop will focus on 17 essential elements for having a successful and result-oriented discussion with parents about a challenging issue with their child's learning or behavior. Participants will learn how to advocate for the child while cultivating and preserving parent trust and support.	<b><u>Presented by:</u></b> <b>Jonathan Wolff</b>
<b>5B Songs of Resilience: Music for Early Childhood Social and Emotional Development</b>	All
Explore and learn songs that promote internal protective factors of attachment, initiative, and self-control, which Maria Montessori saw as crucial to the child's first stage of development, and are designed to reinforce the positive social-emotional potential already in each child.	<u>Presented by:</u> David Kisor  David is also a vendor
<b>5C Introduction to Positive Discipline</b>	All
This session will offer an introduction to how Positive Discipline principles align with the Montessori Curriculum and how to use them in your classroom.	<u>Presented by:</u> Vyju Kadambi
<b>5D GET OUT! Ecology in the Elementary Classroom</b>	Elementary
Ecology, the perfect way to integrate your cultural curriculum, engage students, rejuvenate yourself and meet curriculum standards. Join our effort to connect children with nature.	<u>Presented by:</u> Nancy Bradtmiller & Suzy Ulmer
<b>5E Learning in Different Ways Through our Hands</b>	All
Use clay and tools to create a plate that you can take home. This is a "hands on" session. It will show how to use clay in individualized lessons. You will also see how to use clay in creating teamwork.	<u>Presented by:</u> Jeremy South  Jeremy is also a vendor
<b>Make N' Take Opportunities</b> <b>There is an additional \$15 charge for each class</b> <b>Limited to 30 participants</b> <b>The Make N' Take Room will be open all afternoon</b>	
<b>5F Language</b>	Admin, 3-6, Elementary
Come see, explore, and make 18-20 extensions. There will be 8-10 primary and 8-10 elementary extensions, each with their own lesson plan write-up. Come in and spend as much time as needed making the works. Or, gather the materials and make them at home.	<u>Presented by:</u> Brenday Huth & Deb Cyrier
<b>5G Cultural &amp; Science</b>	Admin, Elementary
Come see, explore, and make 5-10 extensions for your Elementary Classroom. Come in and spend as much time as needed making the works. Or, gather the materials and make them at home.	<u>Presented by:</u> Deb Cyrier & Diana Crisler

## **VENDORS**

**(as of publication; more are always being added)**

Bruins  
Jeremy South – Pottery \*  
Growing Sounds \*  
KDA Furniture  
Bluestem Environmental Education/ Naturalist in a Box  
Educational Sounds & Images Inc  
Laughing Star  
UMSI  
Books by Michael and D'Neil Duffy

\*Vendor is a presenter

### **UMSI Board of Directors**

President	Sandy Strantz
Vice President of Public Relations and Comm.	Tara Slagel
Vice President of Educaiton (Public)	Mark Nardo
Vice President of Education (Private)	Denise Brown
Secretary	Brenda Huth
Treasurer	Deb Cyrier

UMSI meetings are held monthly, typically in the Indianapolis or Peru region. All who are interested may attend. Make sure that you are on the UMSI e-mail list by updating your information through the conference registration form.





REGISTRATION FORM  
 UNITED MONTESSORI SCHOOLS OF INDIANA  
 Fall Conference – October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Registration may be submitted on-line or mailed to the address below**

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>City, State, Zip</b>	
<b>Phone Number</b>	
<b>E-Mail</b>	
<b>School Affiliation</b>	

**Workshop Selections:**                      Please indicate your first and second choices. (example: 1.A or 1.D)  
 We will make every effort to provide your first workshop choice

	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4*	Session 5*
<b>First Choice</b>					
<b>Second Choice</b>					

REGISTRATION:                      \$75.00 /person until Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> • \$85.00/person after Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Group Rates = after 5 paid registrations from one organization the cost will be \$50 /person until Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 \$25 with a student ID until Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>

\*Add \$15 to your registration for each Make N' Take classes in Session 4 and/or Session 5

Registration includes a light breakfast and lunch

PAYMENT:                              Checks and money orders – made payable to UMSI  
 Registrations are also accepted on-line at [www.umsindiana.org](http://www.umsindiana.org) through Pay Pal  
 (note that the payment is for the conference)

Please complete this form on-line or mail to:

Sandi Strantz  
 9921 Niagra Dr.  
 Fishers, IN 46037  
[www.umsindiana.org](http://www.umsindiana.org)

Email Tara at [taralb\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:taralb_2000@yahoo.com) with questions  
 Or call at 317-850-5899

Names of the first 25 teachers/assistants/administrators to register  
 will be placed in a drawing for a FREE conference registration next year.