



MONTESSORI INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS NATIONAL SUMMIT

Wednesday, 31 August to Friday, 2 September 2016

Schedule & Registration



Sails in the Desert, Uluru, Northern Territory



MONTESSORI AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SUMMIT, ULURU

The National Summit for Montessori Independent Schools will provide an opportunity for MAF, principals, business managers and boards to collectively set the future direction for the sector and address key opportunities and challenges.

This extraordinary Summit places the needs and aspirations of the leaders of Australia's Montessori community front and centre, and at the red heart of the Australian continent, Uluru. Focused upon the shared and local challenges of leadership, in this unprecedented period of reflection in education, this retreat will provide a unique opportunity to network and learn from Montessori school leaders and business managers from around Australia.

Drawing from the 2014-2016 Montessori Independent Schools Australia strategic plan and review process, we will collectively determine future directions for the Montessori Independent Schools sector addressing key issues such as leadership development, training, financial resilience, marketing, governance and MAF services. The Summit is open to school board members, principals, business managers, other school leaders and interested Montessori leaders and educators from non-school settings. We hope that every Montessori independent school will be represented so that future directions will reflect the collective agreement of the entire community.



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MONTESSORI AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SUMMIT, ULURU SCHEDULE

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST 2016

5.00pm – 8.00pm

Open House Welcome

Come and enjoy drinks, nibbles and great conversation with colleagues at an informal 'Open House' welcome. We have arranged for a hospitality suite where you can pop in and out at your leisure and enjoy the sunset and relaxed atmosphere – open anytime from 5:00pm to 8:00pm in room 263 at Sails in the Desert.

DAY TWO: THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2016

9.00am – 9.30am

Welcome – Megan Tyne, Executive Director, MAF
Introduction – Christine Harrison, President, MAF
Summit Strategy Day 1 – Steven Gould, Facilitator

9.30am – 10.45am

Session 1: Financial Viability
Grant Vayro, Montessori International College

10.45am – 11.15am

Morning Tea

11.15am – 12.30pm

Session 2: Growing Our System
Vanessa Aikins, Rockingham Montessori School

12.30pm – 2.00pm

Lunch

2.00pm – 3.15pm

Session 3: Leadership and Governance
Bill McKeith, Inner Sydney Montessori School

3.15pm – 3.45pm

Afternoon Tea

3.45pm – 5.00pm

Session 4: Training
Bill Conway, Montessori East and Karen Bennetts, Montessori Australia

5.00pm – 5.30pm

Break

5.30pm – 8.00pm

Sounds of Silence Dinner
Bus will leave the hotel at 5:45pm (20 minute drive).
We recommend all guests assemble in the lobby at 5:30pm and look for the signs for the Montessori group booking.



MONTESSORI AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SUMMIT, ULURU SCHEDULE

DAY THREE: FRIDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2016

9.00am – 9.15am	Introduction – Christine Harrison, President, MAF Summit Strategy Day 2 – Steven Gould, Facilitator
9.15am – 10.30am	Session 5: Government Regulation and Compliance Gay Wales, Melbourne Montessori School
10.30am – 11.00am	Morning Tea
11.00am – 12.30pm	Session 6: Marketing, Public Relations and Parent Education Anthony Vandermolen, Canberra Montessori School Cathy France, The Hills Montessori School
12.30pm – 2.00pm	Lunch
2.00pm – 3.15pm	Session 7: Conclusion 1 – 2017-2019 Strategic Plan Steven Gould
3.15pm – 3.45pm	Afternoon Tea
3.45pm – 5.00pm	Session 8: Conclusion 2 – Action Items Steven Gould



MONTESSORI AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SUMMIT, ULURU SPEAKERS



VANESSA AIKINS has been an administrator in the Western Australian secondary government school sector since 1999. Her roles have included deputy principal in two regional schools, associate principal in three large government secondary schools, principal of an Education Support Centre and Curriculum Development Officer in a metropolitan regional office for the Department of Education. In 2010 Vanessa undertook the role of principal of Rockingham Montessori School and she proudly commenced the Adolescent Program for the school in 2012. Vanessa completed the AMI Montessori Orientation Program to Adolescent Studies (12-18) with NAMTA in 2013.



KAREN BENNETTS has been involved in the Australian Montessori community for over 20 years. She was a founding principal of a Montessori school for ten years and taught 6-12 children for eight years. Karen has completed the AMI 3-6 Diploma, the AMI Orientation to Adolescent Studies as well as two Montessori Diplomas covering the early childhood and primary years from MWEI. Karen is currently completing her PhD in Montessori Leadership at Monash University. She has three children who all attended Montessori programs. Karen is developing MAF's new Montessori Independent Schools division, and also coordinates MAF's publications.



BILL CONWAY has been in the field of education for over 30 years. His career path within education has included roles in teaching, counselling, and administration within schools in the US, Colombia, New Zealand and Australia. He became interested in school reform early in his career, working on programs which enhanced children's self-awareness and personal development. His work in South America led to a focus on bilingual education and the need to respond to the needs of children from varied cultural backgrounds. Finding Montessori education symbolised for him the most significant discovery and most precious regard for children's education and development. He has been the head of school at Montessori East in Bondi since 2007.



CATHY FRANCE has worked at The Hills Montessori School in the Adelaide Hills since 1994. Prior to working in Montessori education Cathy worked in city and country/public and independent schools in South Australia and also spent four years teaching in London UK. Cathy worked in the Cycle 3 classroom at The Hills Montessori School for 10 years and for seven of those years was also assistant principal. In 2004 Cathy became principal and during her time as principal has established an Infant Program and an Adolescent program located at a second campus.



STEVEN GOULD is a competent, inspirational and professional facilitator. Initially from a Human Resource background, he has facilitated a wide range of seminars focused around leadership, people management, strategic business, organisation change and futures studies. He has partnered, consulted and delivered seminars/symposium/workshop/lectures on a range of futures studies initiatives covering diverse applications in both public and private industry sectors. A member of the Association of Professional Futurist and a full institutional member of the World Futures Studies Federation, Steve is currently undertaking his doctoral studies (PhD) at the University of the Sunshine Coast with his thesis titled "Strategic Foresight Leadership: Critical Elements". Steve currently lectures at the University of the Sunshine Coast where he developed and co-ordinates the "Futures Research Methods & Techniques" (FUT710) and "Strategic Foresight Leadership" (FUT720) courses.



CHRISTINE HARRISON has been involved in Montessori education since 1985 and was principal of the Canberra Montessori School, one of the largest Montessori schools in Australia, for over ten years. She is the founding Chair of Montessori Australia and was Chair of the Association of Independent Schools in the ACT and on the Board of the Independent Schools Council of Australia. Christine has been involved in policy development, compliance, student care, curriculum development and educational leadership in schools and has a background in mediation, conflict resolution, adult education and a particular interest in governance in community organisations.

MONTESSORI AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SUMMIT, ULURU SPEAKERS



BILL MCKEITH has been principal of Inner Sydney Montessori for two years and recently joined Barrenjoey Montessori as a Board member. Bill has a BA Dip Ed from Macquarie University, Masters (MA) degrees from University of Sydney and Leicester in the UK (MBA) and a Doctorate in micropolitics from Leicester. He holds various fellowships and for service to education was awarded an Order of Australia (AM) in 2008. Bill has been a principal and executive principal of four schools since the age of 33 when he began as PLC Sydney principal, serving there for twenty five years, and has consulted on leadership and governance to over thirty Australian and Asian schools and universities.



MEGAN TYNE holds the AMI 3-6 Diploma and a BA Dip Ed and has been involved in Montessori education since 1985. She has three grown children, all of whom attended Montessori. With a professional background in computers, finance and marketing she has assisted numerous Montessori associations both in Australia and overseas. She was Chairperson of the International Montessori Centenary Committee and is website designer for several Montessori organisations including the Association Montessori Internationale. Megan also assists with Indigenous Montessori projects in Australia and attended the 2004, 2011 and 2015 Educateurs sans Frontières assemblies. She is currently Executive Director of the Montessori Children's Foundation and Montessori Australia, CEO of the Australian Centre for Montessori Studies and Project Manager for the Association Montessori Internationale.



ANTHONY VANDERMOLEN has developed his career in education through a range of roles including, Teacher of English, Physical Education and Sciences, as well as senior roles in Learning Support and Guidance & Counselling, before transitioning into School Leadership. With a broad range of leadership experience in both state and independent sectors, Anthony is committed to ensuring the best possible outcomes for students. Anthony is passionate about lifelong learning and is currently undertaking Doctoral studies with a focus on the effectiveness of Montessori education and enhancing communication within the triad of learning (parent, student, teacher). This study augments his previous qualifications including BSc (Psych), BEd (MidYsSch), MEd (Leadership), MEdSt (Guidance & Counselling), CertIV (TrngAssmnt), MACEL, MACA.



GRANT VAYRO holds a Bachelor of Business with a Major in Accountancy, is a qualified Chartered Accountant, obtained a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance as well as most recently a Graduate Diploma in Education (also holding Teacher Registration in Queensland). Grant's working experience spans over 25 years including his time in Professional Practise with National Accounting firms, as well as commercial work within the Water infrastructure, Information Management and the Property Management industries. Since 2004, Grant has worked in senior financial roles within independent schools. He has been with Montessori International College in an advisory capacity since 2009 and a full time business manager role since 2013.



GAY WALES has been the principal at Melbourne Montessori School for 4 years. After her two half-brothers attended international Montessori schools she believes that she has always been trying to make every school into a Montessori school. Her focus is on working with leaders and teachers to develop children into life-long learners who are fully prepared for the 21st century. After thirteen years in industry and having two children, Gay took up teaching and came to MMS from deputy principal at Christ Church Grammar School in South Yarra where she was head of curriculum and introduced authentic inquiry and child-centred learning across the school. She holds an honours degree in Medieval French and Latin and is currently studying a Masters of Education in Leadership. Above all, Gay talks passionately about her belief that every individual has deep potential and ability and she is determined to develop Montessori education further so that we can meet the needs of all children in the best environment.

MONTESSORI AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SUMMIT, ULURU VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION

AYERS ROCK RESORT

Ayers Rock Resort is an oasis within the middle of Australia's central desert region. Nestled in the desert like a giant mythical snake and hidden below the level of the highest red sand dune, everything about the Resort reflects sensitivity to the environment and respect for the area's traditional owners.

Ayers Rock Resort encompasses five individual accommodation options from the 5 star Sails in the Desert Hotel, award winning Desert Gardens Hotel, self-contained Emu Walk Apartments, the authentic Outback Pioneer Hotel & Lodge and Ayers Rock Campground.

The Resort also offers an impressive spectrum of internationally acclaimed experiences for guests in and around Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, including the award winning Sounds of Silence dining experience under the stars. Most recently, the introduction of a free daily Indigenous Guest Activities Program has proven popular, featuring an interactive cultural dance performance, didgeridoo playing lessons, spear and boomerang throwing lessons, guided garden walks and bush yarns at the Circle of Sand.

Special discounted rates available to delegates if booked by 31 July
Book online using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y5RPV8B>

SAILS IN THE DESERT **from \$297.50**

Yulara Drive, Ayers Rock



DESERT GARDENS HOTEL **from \$235.00**

Yulara Drive, Ayers Rock



EMU WALK APARTMENTS **from \$308.75**

Yulara Drive, Ayers Rock



OUTBACK PIONEER HOTEL & LODGE **from \$180.00**

Yulara Drive, Ayers Rock



MONTESSORI AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SUMMIT, ULURU REGISTRATION

'Sounds of Silence' Dinner

The Sounds of Silence Dinner on Thursday evening is included in the Summit registration fee and features:

- Outback style canapés
- A three course bush tucker inspired buffet
- Beer, wine, non-alcoholic drinks, tea, coffee and port
- An introduction to traditional Indigenous dance
- A guided tour of the night sky by our resident Star Talker
- Return transfers from your hotel
- Didgeridoo performance



REGISTER ONLINE at www.montessoriaustralia.org.au or fill in and return the form below

RATES	SUBSCRIBERS*	NON-SUBSCRIBERS
Montessori Australia National Summit, Uluru	<input type="checkbox"/> \$660	<input type="checkbox"/> \$880

*Discounted rates for Montessori Australia School/Centre Subscriber staff.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 17 AUGUST 2016

Name: _____

Facility: _____

Position: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Phone – Home: _____

Phone – Mobile: _____

Phone – Work: _____

Email: _____

Please indicate if you have special dietary requirements:

☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free ☐ Other _____

Cheques payable to **Montessori Australia**. ABN: 46 104 887 309

Payment Method: ☐ Cheque Or: ☐ Invoice School or Centre

Or charge my: ☐ Visa Card ☐ Mastercard

Cardholder's Name: _____

Card N°: _____ CCV: _____

Signature: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Please see our website for our cancellation and refund policy.

Phone: 02 9986 2282 Fax: 02 9986 2281

Email: info@montessori.org.au

Register online or send registration form to:

Montessori Australia

PO Box 82 Five Dock NSW 2046

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