

MONTESSORI INNOVATION SUMMIT

Wednesday, 3 October – Montessori for the Digital Age Symposium

Thursday, 4 October – Marketing & Communications Forum



Daily Rates: Member \$300, Non Member \$400



SYDNEY
CLIFTONS C-SUITE
Level 3, 10 Spring Street, Sydney NSW 2000

MONTESSORI INNOVATION SUMMIT

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE DAY 1

Montessori for the Digital Age Symposium

Wednesday, 3 October 2018 8:00am – 5:30pm

8:00am – 9:00am **Registration & Breakfast**

9:00am – 10:30am **Plugged-in Childhoods: How Technology is Shaping Early Childhood – Dr Kristy Goodwin**

Children's digital wellness expert, researcher and author (and mum!) Dr Kristy Goodwin helps early childhood professionals understand how young children's digitalised childhoods are impacting on their health, learning and development. She arms professionals with facts, not fears, about what today's kids (0-8 years) really need to thrive online and offline in a digital world (based on neuroscience and developmental science). Kristy provides research-based information about how technology is changing the ways kids learn and develop. She explores the impact of technology on children's sleep, attention spans, play, language skills, physical development, relationships, and even their nutrition. She also shares how early childhood educators can compensate and cater for children's changed learning preferences in their learning environments.

10:30am – 11:00am **Morning Tea**

11:00am – 12:30pm **Keeping the Faith in the Digital Age
Ray Girn & Dr Matt Bateman, Higher Ground**

Maria Montessori developed her pedagogy during a time of tremendous cultural and also technological change, such as the rapid spread of portable automotive power and cheap electricity. After her death, her pedagogy experienced a renaissance in the English-speaking world during a time of (relative) cultural and technological stability. The digital age presents contemporary Montessorians with their first major, culturally fundamental paradigm shift – a world of computation that extends automation and mathematicization far more deeply and intimately into human lives than ever before. Does this shift challenge the very foundation of Montessori theory, or does it remain true that we can trust the child to adapt to and navigate the coming techno-centric world? This talk explores the question as to whether or not digital technology requires a fundamentally different approach, or whether the tried and tested principles of Montessori pedagogy hold and can provide us with all the answers and pedagogical guidance we need to nurture children in the digital age.

12:30pm – 1:30pm **Lunch**



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PROGRAMME SCHEDULE **DAY 1** CONTINUED

Montessori for the Digital Age Symposium

Wednesday, 3 October 2018 8:00am – 5:30pm

1:30pm – 2:15pm **SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS SESSION 1 (select 1 of 2 options)**

Modernising Montessori: How to Use Digital Devices to Engage Learners in 21st Century Montessori Classrooms – Mark Powell, Montessori Noosa

The Internet has changed the old relationships between the producers of knowledge and consumers by providing a platform where anyone can publish easily and where the entire opus of human knowledge can be accessed by anyone with an Internet-connected device. Excluding or marginalising digital technologies in Montessori classrooms ignores the reality that the Internet is now part of the air most of our students breathe when they are not in the classroom. When the potential and limitations of digital technologies are understood, they can help facilitate experiences that engage students for the same reasons that traditional Montessori materials have for a century. Children are engaged by activities that respect their *autonomy*, that are *authentic* because they matter, that connect them with other individuals or with causes or institutions greater than themselves, and which invite *inquiry* into intriguing questions or problems.

Applying Montessori Theory to Computational Thinking Through Code

– Rachel Ammundsen, Moturoa School, New Zealand

A practical, interactive workshop about sharing the language of coding with our children. Participants will revisit the basic tenets of our Montessori theory and leave with practical ways to teach computational thinking, learning about algorithms and debugging without any screens or devices.

2:15pm – 2:30pm **Mini Break**



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MONTESSORI INNOVATION SUMMIT



PROGRAMME SCHEDULE DAY 1 CONTINUED

Montessori for the Digital Age Symposium

Wednesday, 3 October 2018 8:00am – 5:30pm

2:30pm – 3:15pm **SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS SESSION 2 (select 1 of 2 options)**

Digital Literacies and Digital Technologies in the Montessori Classroom

– Bronwyn Hope, Cathy Woodhouse & Kath Meisinger, Beehive Montessori School

Beehive Montessori School has been engaging in an Action Research project with Curtin University, titled 'Digital Literacies and Digital Technologies in the Montessori Classroom'. They will present results of their action research showing the ways Montessori classrooms are already developing Digital Literacies, and ways that we could use digital technologies to enhance this learning, while staying true to Montessori pedagogy.

Full STEAM Ahead: Integrating a purposeful Digital and Design Technologies programme into an already full Montessori Curriculum

– Jasmine Mann and Lisa Fenton, Margaret River Montessori School

Schools are now forced to face the tide of change in major technological advancements. To bury one's head in the sand is not an option, schools must embrace the change head on. Education and technology need to find a symbiotic relationship to ensure that students and schools are equipped for a highly digital and technological age.

Montessori Schools need to find a way of enhancing technological advancements and demands in the curriculum, whilst staying true to Montessori values and practices. At Margaret River Montessori School, we wanted to create a way to amalgamate these ideas together to produce a Digital and Design Technologies programme that embraced the ethos of Maria Montessori to inspire children to be independent, responsible, life-long learners.

Research into future educational trends using ideas from transformative educational thinkers like Lee Watanabe-Crockett, Global Digital Citizen Foundation and UNICEF's Global Goals for Sustainable Development paved the way to our new whole school Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) programme.

The STEAM programme harnesses the talents of the Visual Arts and Digital and Design Technologies Teacher to deliver a programme that highlights real challenges in society. It guides students to create solutions to real world problems using both design and digital technology capabilities to become ethical global citizens in a digital world.

3:15pm – 3:30pm **Mini Break**

3:30pm – 4:30pm **Panel Discussion**

4:30pm – 5:30pm **Happy Hour & Networking**

Following the sessions, Montessori Australia will be preparing a Position Paper on Montessori for the Digital Age.

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MONTESSORI
AUSTRALIA

MONTESSORI INNOVATION SUMMIT



PROGRAMME SCHEDULE DAY 2

Marketing & Communications Active Learning Forum

Thursday, 4 October 8:00am – 5:30pm

8:00am – 9:00am **Registration & Breakfast**

9:00am – 10:30am **Why the Best Leaders Lead with the Brain in Mind**
Linda Ray, NeuroCapability

Why do the best leaders and educators lead and educate with the brain in mind? Because they know when it comes to influencing, educating, engaging and motivating others, what's happening in the brain makes all the difference. Neuroscience is unlocking secrets to what really matters when leading and educating others, but more importantly why it matters.

In this workshop we explore the fundamental components of Human-Centred Brain Based Leadership, a contemporary leadership model which is informed by the latest insights about how the brain drives behaviour and underpinned by 10 key leadership capabilities. The content is relevant to leaders and educators who want to try something new and create better 'brain-friendly' environments.

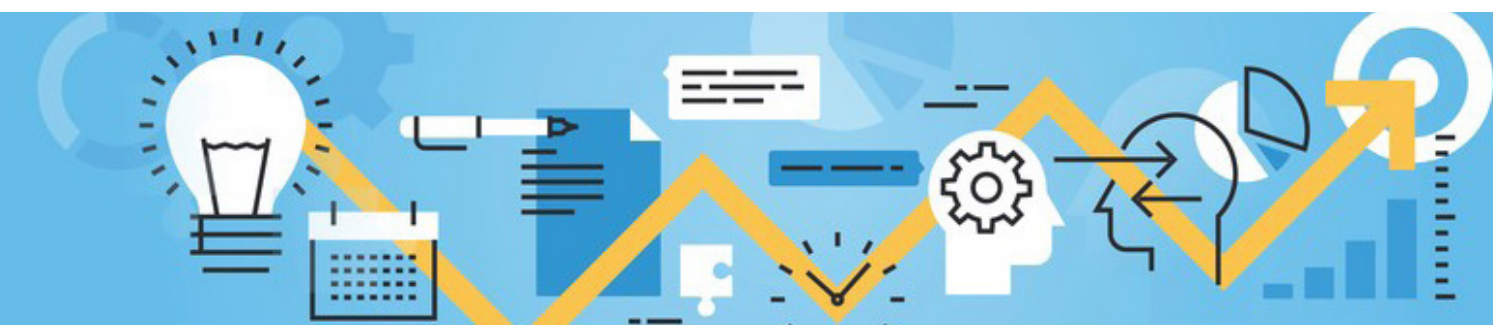
10:30am – 11:00am **Morning Tea**

11:00am – 12:30pm **Signal vs Noise: How to Grow Your Montessori School with Digital Marketing** – Matt Hillis, Nido Marketing

Welcome to a world where attention is a valuable currency. Your school's marketing and communications are now competing with email, Facebook, Instagram and a myriad of other media. How do you cut through the chatter and deliver a message that resonates with prospective parents?

The rules of marketing are changing as parents will most likely first engage with you online. Join to us to learn what works, what doesn't and the best practices to leverage digital communication to your advantage. Participants will leave with actionable advice on tools and strategy to bolster your school's online profile, increase admissions inquires and influence prospective parents.

12:30pm – 1:30pm **Lunch**



MONTESSORI INNOVATION SUMMIT

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE DAY 2 CONTINUED

Marketing & Communications Active Learning Forum

Thursday, 4 October 8:00am – 5:30pm

1:30pm – 2:15pm **Getting the Messages Right in Communicating with your Whole School Community** – Tara Wood, Canberra Montessori School & Montessori Australia Board Member

This marketing and communications session will feature an overview on co-design and its links to marketing and communications opportunities for Montessori schools. Tara Wood first worked with co-design as a Future Service Design Director in federal government, leading national innovation pilots worth more than \$10million. Key marketing and communications challenges specific to Montessori schools will then be agreed upon and co-design solutions will be developed through Action Learning Groups. All solutions developed on the day will feature in a marketing and communications strategy for all member schools to tailor to your individual circumstances.

2:15pm – 2:45pm **Afternoon Tea**

2:45pm – 4:00pm **Group Discussions: Marketing**
Facilitated by Matt Hillis & Tara Wood

4:00pm – 4:30pm **Whole Group Wrap-up Session**

4:30pm – 5:30pm **Happy Hour & Networking**

Following the sessions, Montessori Australia will be preparing a Position Paper on Marketing Montessori.



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VENUE

CLIFTONS C-SUITE

Cliftons C-Suite is a luxury conference venue and meeting destination designed to be experienced. Step from the hustle and bustle of Sydney's CBD into the serenity of C-Suite's elegant interiors. With versatile spaces thoughtfully designed for productive meetings or reinvigorating breaks, the venue offers the advantages of a luxury hotel with the functionality of a purpose-built conference facility.

With all-inclusive hospitality, you'll enjoy the finest cuisine created by resident chef and all-day Barista made coffee. Relax between sessions in the ambient lounge and dining area and socialise with new acquaintances and colleagues over drinks at the bar at the end of the day.

Start the day with breakfast in the spacious and luxurious lounge and dining area, enjoy gourmet dining and all-day refreshments, finishing with a happy hour at the bar (including drinks and bar snacks, as well as canapés on Day 1). The conference rooms have natural lighting and ergonomic seating make for an inviting and comfortable setting in which to spend your day.



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MONTESSORI INNOVATION SUMMIT

SPEAKERS



RACHEL AMMUNDSEN completed her A.M.I. 3-6 and 6-12 training in her native Dublin and then moved to New Zealand in 1993 to begin her teaching career at the Casa level. Rachel has taught in France and Ireland also. She gained her B. Ed. (Teaching Primary), Graduate Diploma in Teaching (E.C.) and Post Graduate Special Education Certificate through Massey University, NZ. Rachel has taught toddler communities through to 9-12, in private, state and Catholic integrated schools. She currently teaches an amazing community of 6-12 year old children in New Plymouth, New Zealand. They are a single Montessori class in a public state school. Rachel has 4 children of her own, between the ages of 16 and 9, she has taught 2 of her own children at Casa and elementary levels



DR MATT BATEMAN earned his bachelor's degree from Sarah Lawrence College in 2004, studying philosophy and developmental psychology. He went on to earn his Ph.D. in Philosophy in 2012 from the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied the history of thought in philosophy and psychology, as well as conducting research in cognitive science. He taught and continued his research at Franklin and Marshall College in the Department of Psychology, on topics ranging from neuroscience to evolutionary theory to philosophy. In 2014 he joined LePort Schools as its Director of Curriculum and Pedagogy, overseeing research and development of the school's approach to education. In 2016, Dr Bateman became a founding member of Higher Ground. He is the Vice President of Content, providing intellectual and pedagogical guidance across the organisation. Dr Bateman ensures depth, quality, and consistency across curricular development projects, training, educational technology partnerships, and even strategic growth and messaging. He is closely involved with the development of new programming, such as language immersion and high school and is involved in writing position papers, engaging with researchers, giving lectures, and engaging with the larger educational community.



RAY GIRN received an BSc with honors from the University of Toronto, with a focus on philosophy and neuropsychology, as well as an AMI Montessori teaching diploma from the Montessori Institute of San Diego. Prior to founding Higher Ground, Ray had a 13-year career with LePort Schools, teaching science and math across the elementary and middle school ages, while developing and documenting a unique, discovery-learning approach to these subjects systematically. In 2010, he took over LePort as CEO, where, in 5 years, took the company from a small, local family business of 3 schools to the largest Montessori operator in the United States. In 2016, Ray founded Higher Ground Education, to create an international platform to drive the spread of high quality, high fidelity Montessori programmes.



DR KRISTY GOODWIN is one of Australia's leading digital wellness experts (and mum who also has to deal with her kids' techno- tantrums!). She's the author of Raising Your Child in a Digital World, a speaker, researcher and media commentator. Dr Kristy arms parents, educators and health professionals with research-based information about what today's young, digital kids really need to thrive online and offline. Kristy takes the guesswork and guilt out of raising kids in the digital age by arming parents and educators with facts, not fears about how screens are impacting on children's health, wellbeing and development. She empowers parents and professionals to find the positive potential technology offers kids, whilst also mitigating some of the potential pitfalls.



MATT HILLIS is the Executive Director of the Bergamo Montessori School, an AMI school in Sacramento, California. His job role focuses on organisational development, training, marketing and strategic growth. Since assuming the position in 2004, the enrolment of the school has grown 200% to nearly 500 students. Matt developed and manages MariaMontessori.com, one of the highest trafficked Montessori information sites in the world. He is co-founder of Nido Marketing, a digital marketing agency that helps Montessori schools grow with online marketing, strategy and deployment. Matt is the current Vice Chair of the Montessori Administrators Association. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in History from the University of California at Davis as well as a Primary Montessori diploma.



MARK POWELL started playing with Legos in the late 1960s but back then there were no intelligent bricks! He moved to New York City in 1994 to take Montessori training and taught in Montessori schools in Boston and the San Francisco Bay Area for the next 22 years. Several workshops at the Center for Digital Storytelling in Berkeley gave him a sense of the potential for digital technology to add modern and compelling elements to contemporary Montessori classrooms. Mark spent 3 years as Technology Coordinator at a school which allowed him to think deeply about how to utilise digital technology meaningfully in Montessori classrooms. This is where he met his first intelligent Lego brick and discovered robotics and coding. Mark was a teacher trainer with the Center for Montessori Teacher Education, New York and has published articles, designed classroom materials, delivered workshops and consulted for Montessori schools across the U.S. and in Australia and New Zealand. Mark has returned home to Queensland and is currently the 9-12 director at Montessori Noosa.

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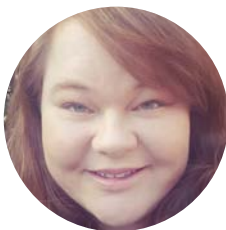


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SPEAKERS



LINDA RAY is NeuroCapability's Chief Translator of the science into the 'so what does that mean'. Linda has a passion for translating complex science into easy to understand and apply concepts. She has pioneered the spread of the practical application of neuroscience to leadership and organisational development and for the past 11 years has witnessed first-hand how it makes a difference in how leaders and individuals work, live and interact positively with others. In her quest to share this knowledge she developed Australia's only nationally accredited Diploma of Neuroscience of Leadership which has been delivered to students around the globe and the success of this programme inspired her to continue this path with the development of an Advanced Diploma of Neuroscience of Leadership. Linda is an engaging facilitator and has presented on a range of topics supporting people to harness their most important asset – their brain. She has spoken at Australian and international leadership, business and education conferences.



TARA WOOD became involved with Montessori in 2012 when her daughter began her early and primary education at the Canberra Montessori School (CMS). Tara was elected onto the CMS Board in 2015 and was elected to Board Chair in 2018 following contributions as a Sub-committee Member, Sub-committee Chair and Deputy Chair. Tara joined the Montessori Australia Board in 2018, with 14 years in federal government, more than a decade at executive levels, periods of acting in the Senior Executive Service and supervising up to 250 staff nationally, as well as a Post Graduate qualification in Human Resources Management. Tara teaches speech and drama at four ACT schools under her own business, coaches privately in public speaking and mentors teenagers living in state care who are preparing for independence, leveraging a Montessori ethos across all of her work. Tara's key strengths for the Montessori Australia Foundation lie in the areas of communications, change management, governance, HR, strategic planning and programme delivery. Tara works from a foundation of authentic two-way engagement and enjoys supporting stakeholders to collaborate effectively.



BRONWYN HOPE holds a Bachelor of Science (Marine Biology), a Graduate Diploma in Education and an AMI Montessori Diploma (6-12yrs) from CISM in Bergamo, Italy. Bronwyn has also attended the NAMTA AMI Montessori Orientation to Adolescent Studies (ages 12-18yrs) in Cleveland, Ohio. Bronwyn first attended the Beehive Montessori School as a child and returned to teach over 15 years ago. Currently she is working in the adolescent programme, and has also taught in middle and upper primary classrooms. She has a deep love of Montessori Methodology and feels extremely privileged to be a part of such an amazing school community; as a child, a teacher and a parent.



KATH MEISINGER worked in many fields and travel the world extensively before she embarked on her Montessori journey after being inspired by reading many of Dr Montessori's books. She has been working at the Beehive Montessori School in Western Australia for the past 24 years in a variety of positions. She is currently working in one of the upper primary classes. She completed her Montessori training in Bergamo (AMI 6-12) in Italy in 2009 and has been teaching full time ever since. Kath has put her three children through Montessori education and is still passionate about teaching with such a dedicated team of educators.



CATHY WOODHOUSE grew up in Melbourne, where she first studied Musical Theatre (BA) at the University of Ballarat and later discovered her passion for Montessori education. This led her to India where she obtained her AMI 3-6 Montessori Diploma and caught the travel bug. Over the years she has lived and taught in Melbourne, South Korea, Myanmar, India, the USA, New Zealand and now at Beehive Montessori in Perth. Cathy is very excited to be a part of such a wonderful school and to nurture a beautiful learning environment in which each child can fulfil their potential.



LISA FENTON has been principal at Margaret River Montessori School since 2014 and holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Italian and a Graduate Diploma in Education, both from UWA, and is working towards a Diploma of Montessori Teaching (Primary) 6-12 Years from the Montessori Institute. She previously taught secondary English, Literature, Italian and English as a Second Language in both Catholic and Independent Schools in Perth prior to making the move with her family to Punmu Aboriginal Community in the Pilbara's Western Desert region. Lisa also has worked for the Association of Independent Schools (AISWA) as an Education Consultant.



JASMINE MANN started at Margaret River Montessori School in 2010 as a directress in Middle Primary, then in an education support role in 2017, following an interest and training with the Dyslexia SPELD Foundation. In 2018 she moved into a leadership position as the Coordinator of Teaching and Learning. She has a Bachelor of Science in Business Management and Economics, a Post-Graduate Degree in Broadcast Journalism, a Post-Graduate Degree in Primary Education, an International Montessori Teaching Diploma for 6-9 year olds, is a qualified tutor for the Dyslexia SPELD Foundation. Jasmine is currently undertaking a Master's in Education Leadership.

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RATES	MEMBER*	NON-MEMBER
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Day Innovation Summit	\$600	\$800
OR single day only registration:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Day 1 Digital Age Symposium, OR	\$300	\$400
<input type="checkbox"/> Day 2 Marketing & Communications Forum	\$300	\$400

*Discounted rates for Montessori Australia Individual Members or Staff and Parents of School/Centre Members.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2018: A Late booking fee of \$20 applies thereafter, places permitting

DAY ONE WORKSHOP PREFERENCES – PLEASE SELECT ONE FROM EACH COLUMN:

Session 1:

- Workshop 1:** Digital Devices
 Workshop 2: Montessori Coding

Session 2:

- Workshop 1:** Digital Literacies and Technologies
 Workshop 2: Full STEAM Ahead

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