



The Keepers of Alexandria: In the Fullness of Time

October 7-10, 2026

**Hosted by Montessori Training Center Northeast
Bloomfield, CT**

A 4-Day In-Person Conference & Orientation

Early Bird through 8/30/26: \$895.00

Full Price: \$1,125.00





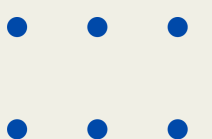
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Conference Rationale



Maria Montessori's vision of human development across the **Four Planes of Education** remains one of the most integrated developmental theories in modern pedagogy. The **Fourth Plane (ages 18–24)**—the formation of the adult personality, moral purpose, and spiritual journey—remains the least articulated, researched, and practiced dimension of Montessori education. At a time when adolescent and higher education are increasingly fragmented, formalized, and disconnected, this work is urgent.

The Keepers of Alexandria: In the Fullness of Time responds directly to this unfinished work by offering a **developmental, interdisciplinary, and classical framework** that unifies the Four Planes in both theory and practice.





Who Should Attend



- **Montessori middle school & adolescent guides**
- **Montessori teacher educators & trainers**
- **School leaders and curriculum designers**
- **Higher education faculty & researchers**
- **Educators engaged in classical, humanistic, or peace education**





Why Attend

- **Deepen understanding of the Second → Third → Fourth Plane continuum in the context of the Four Planes Theory**
- **Explore Montessori's unfinished work in young adulthood (18–24)**
- **Experience a living demonstration of classical Montessori humanities**
- **Engage with internationally respected Montessori scholars**
- **Contribute to the future design of advanced Montessori education**



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day One (Wednesday, October 7, 2026)

Presenters: Kathleen Allen, Ph.D., Gerard Leonard, David Kahn

- **8:00 – 9:00: Registration and Materials**
- **9:00 – 10:00: Introduction**
 - John Wyatt and the Development and History of the Keepers of Alexandria
- **10:00 – 10:30: Break**
- **10:30 – 12:00:**
 - Overture to the Art of History
 - Art of History: Part 1
 - Art of Grammar: Part 1
 - Apollonius and Miss Tweedmoth
- **1:30 – 3:00:**
 - Art of Grammar: Part 2
 - How Latin Works
- **3:00 – 3:30: Break**
- **3:30 – 4:30:**
 - Model of the City of Alexandria
 - Art of Grammar: Part 3
 - Art of History: Part 2

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day Two (Thursday, October 8, 2026)

Presenters: Kathleen Allen, Ph.D., Gerard Leonard, David Kahn

- **9:00 – 10:00:**
 - Art of History: Part 3
 - How Latin Works: Part 2
 - How the Bacula Works
- **10:00 – 10:30: Break**
- **10:30 – 12:00**
 - Alexandria's Great Rules and Accursed Questions
 - Art of Grammar: Part 4
 - The Disciplines within Alexandria
- **12:00 – 1:30: Lunch**
- **1:30 – 3:00**
 - Drama in Alexandria
 - Timeline of Alexandria
- **3:00 – 3:30: Break**
- **3:30 – 4:30:**
 - Art of Grammar: Part 5
 - Classroom Implementation Discussion

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day Three (Friday, October 9, 2026)

- **9:00 – 10:00 | Kathleen Allen, Ph.D., Gerard Leonard, David Kahn**
 - How Latin Works: Part 3
 - Art of Grammar: Part 6
- **10:00 – 10:30: Break**
- **10:30 – 12:00 | Kathleen Allen, Ph.D., Gerard Leonard, David Kahn**
 - The Fayum Mummy Portraits
 - Dramtis Personae/Sharing of Biographies
- **12:00 – 1:30: Lunch**
- **1:30 – 2:30: | Baiba Krumins Grazzini**
 - Second Plane Introduction to the Ancient World
- **2:30 – 3:30 | David Kahn and Mary Boehnlein, Ph.D.**
 - A Humanities Approach to Montessori Third and Fourth Plane Education
- **3:30 – 4:00: Break**
- **4:00 – 5:00 | Baiba Krumins Grazzini**
 - The Roots of Humanities

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day Four (Saturday, October 10, 2026)

- **9:00 - 10:00 | David Kahn and Mary Boehnlein, Ph.D.**
 - What is a Great Books Seminar and Syntopicon for Montessori Advanced Studies?
- **10:00 - 10:30: Break**
- **10:30 - 12:00 | Baiba Krumins Grazzini and David Kahn**
 - Parallel Planes: Second and Fourth Planes: Education for Peace
- **12:00 - 1:30: Lunch**
- **1:30 - 2:30 | Xavier Angelo Paez Barrameda**
 - Classical Framework Ideals for the Third and Fourth Planes of Development
- **2:30 - 3:00: Break**
- **3:00 - 4:00 | Closing Remarks, Caren Ross**
 - Erdkinder – A direct experience of human engagement in agriculture and commerce – the roots of civilization and a forward-looking approach to a more peaceful, just, and sustainable world.

ABOUT PRESENTERS



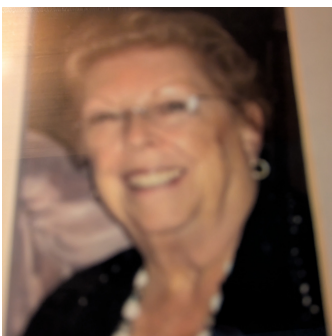
Kathleen Allen, Ph.D.

Kathleen Allen is AMI Elementary trained and taught for forty-eight years prior to her retirement in 2021. She holds a PhD in Humanities and Culture from Union Institute & University. A published author and award recipient, she has conducted research and designed classroom materials, served as an Elementary course assistant for the Montessori Training Center Northeast, and has been a key implementer of The Keepers of Alexandria since its earliest days.



Xaviar Angelo Paez Barrameda

Xavier Angelo Paez Barrameda is an AMI Auxiliary Trainer at the 6–12 level with nearly 15 years of experience in Montessori education. He has assisted and lectured in the 60th and 62nd AMI 6–12 diploma courses at the Fondazione Centro Internazionale Studi Montessori in Bergamo as part of his Training of Trainers program. Xavier holds AMI diplomas at both the 3–6 and 6–12 levels, completed the NAMTA Adolescent Orientation, and participates regularly in AMI's Training of Trainers Seminars. His career spans roles as assistant, lead guide, Head of School, and now Director of Pedagogy at The Abba's Orchard School. He examines for AMI diploma courses, consults internationally, presents widely, and contributes to the AMI journal.



Mary Maher Boehnlein, Ph.D.

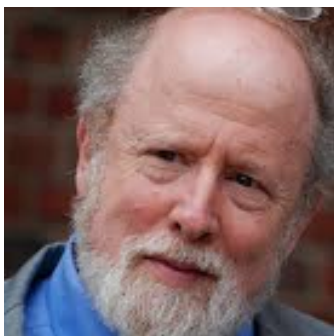
Mary is Professor Emerita and former Department Chairperson of Specialized Educational Programs, College of Education, Cleveland State University, former visiting professor at University California/ Berkeley and St Mary's College, Moraga, CA. and former Teacher leader of the Reading Recovery program in Ohio and California. She holds an AMI Elementary certificate from Bergamo, Italy training center, as well as infant and toddler and 3–6 training. She is widely published in Montessori research, The Montessori Bibliography and other Montessori works in collaboration with NAMTA and David Kahn and in reading and learning disabilities, nutrition and learning and research of Edgar Allan Poe. She and her husband helped found South Suburban Montessori School in Ohio now in its 56th year attended by her children and granddaughters who now work as assistants as they finish their college degrees.



Baiba Krumins Grazzini

AMI trainer, lecturer and examiner, Baiba Krumins Grazzini is director of elementary training at the Fondazione Centro Internazionale Studi Montessoriani (Bergamo, Italy), an AMI Training Centre which was founded by Mario Montessori in 1961. She has been involved with Bergamo's AMI Elementary training course since 1975, became an AMI elementary trainer in 1986, and a director of training in 1992. Baiba Krumins Grazzini trained in London with Hilla Patell and Muriel = Dwyer (3–6), in Bergamo with Eleonora Honegger Caprotti and Camillo Grazzini (6–12) and in Washington with Margaret Stephenson and Fahmida Malik (as part of her Training of Trainers Programme). In addition to her work in Bergamo, she has lectured in Spain, Ireland, India and in Japan, where she gave the first elementary training course. She served on the AMI Pedagogical Committee, now known as the Scientific Pedagogy Group, from 2004 until 2013, and also on the AMI Material Committee during the same years.

ABOUT PRESENTERS



David Kahn

David Kahn has become de facto the legacy documenter of the AMI world, through his 50-year sole editorship for the North American Montessori Teachers' Association and the last six years with the Association Montessori Internationale Journal. David has served as a director for various non-profit Montessori management organizations over the last 60 years. He has 17 years of Montessori teaching experience, 12 of them as teaching principal at Ruffing Montessori School. David founded the Hershey Montessori in 2000 School's Adolescent Community, an internationally acclaimed Montessori farm school model for adolescent education. He served as founding director emeritus of Montessori High School at University Circle, Cleveland, Ohio. The original AMI Montessori Orientation to Adolescent Studies initially guided and developed teachers who worked with students ages 12–18, with David's leadership as a main contribution.



Gerard Leonard

Gerard (Gerry) Leonard has presented the Keepers of Alexandria in several 9–12 Montessori classrooms. He has also, together with Kathleen Allen and David Kahn, given workshops on the program for teachers. He is a trainer and international examiner for the Association Montessori Internationale and has trained elementary teachers at the Montessori Training Center Northeast. Gerry has AMI 3 to 6 and 6 to 12 diplomas from Sion Hill College in Dublin, and a Masters in Education from the University of Hartford. He taught for over thirty years in 3 to 6, 6 to 12, and 12–15 Montessori programs. Gerry was a co-developer with David Kahn of the NAMTA Centenary Exhibit, A Montessori Journey:1907– 2007. The latter exhibit toured seven cities in North America and is now permanently housed at The Montessori Center of Minnesota in St. Paul.



Caren Ross

Caren Ross has established and led three farm-based Montessori adolescent programs in Connecticut over the past two decades, most recently working as the Adolescent Program Director and Farm Manager for the Montessori School of Greater Hartford. An AMI auxiliary trainer at the adolescent level, Caren received her training in Ohio, Mexico, and Hartford and is eager to further disseminate and develop the adolescent approach to the psychodisciplines, about which she has published an article and designed a summer workshop. Caren has a BA in psychology and Spanish from Tufts University and an MA in international affairs from Columbia University. She worked many years as a journalist, writing news stories from the United Nations and editing news and feature stories from Spanish-speaking countries. She has lived in Spain, Italy, and Switzerland and has been involved for decades in local land preservation efforts.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Conference Venue

Montessori Training Center Northeast (MTCNE)

1300 Hall Boulevard

Bloomfield, Connecticut 06002

The conference will take place at the Montessori Training Center Northeast, located in Bloomfield, Connecticut, approximately 15 minutes from Downtown Hartford and 20 minutes from Bradley International Airport (BDL).

Nearest Airport

Bradley International Airport (BDL)

Distance to MTCNE: approximately 12 miles (20 minutes)

Bradley International Airport serves the Hartford region with direct flights from many major U.S. cities.

Transportation from the airport

- Uber / Lyft: Approximately 20 minutes
- Taxi: Approximately 20 minutes
- Rental Car: Available at the airport

Recommended Hotel

Hilton Garden Inn

555 Corporate Drive

Windsor, Connecticut 06095

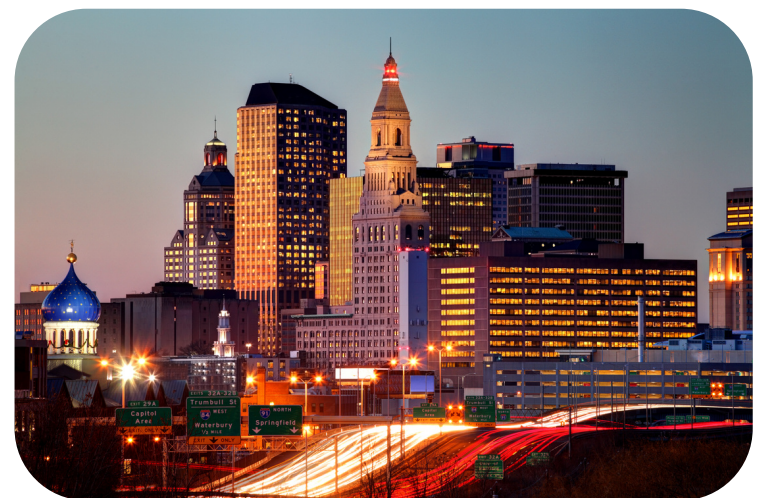
Distance to MTCNE: approximately 15 minutes,

Reservations: 860-688-6400 or [Online](#)

Ask for the Montessori Training Center Rate.

For Help, email: valerie.forin@hilton.com

Participants are responsible for their own accommodations and transportation.



REGISTRATION FEES & MATERIALS

Early Bird Registration (through August 30, 2026)*

\$895

Regular Registration (after August 30, 2026)*

\$1,125

**Daily bagged lunch plus Conference Materials Included with Registration*

Register Now

The following materials and resources are included with registration:

- The Great Tale of Alexandria (book)
- A conference binder containing narratives for The Art of Grammar, The Art of History, and additional materials for Latin translation
- A map of the model city of Alexandria
- A timeline of Alexandrian history
- A digital version of The Great Scroll, including instructions for construction

www.mtcne.org

