

Michigan Montessori Society

Newsletter -

February 15, 2026

Helpful Links:

- [Michigan Montessori Society \(MMS\)](#)
- [American Montessori Society \(AMS\)](#)
- [Association Montessori Internationale \(AMI\)](#)
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Welcome to *Michigan Montessori Monthly*, the monthly newsletter from the Michigan Montessori Society.

Stay up to date on all the important news and updates for Montessori in Michigan, the nation, and the world.

Have an article or topic you'd like to share? Please email it to us at info@mmsoc.org.

Calendar Events

The Montessori Event (AMS)
March 19 – 22, 2026
Washington D.C.

Click here for more information:
<https://amshq.org/event/the-montessori-event-2026/>

The Heart of Montessori Is Peace Education

In recognition of Valentine's Day, let us remember that the heart of Maria Montessori's vision for education is peace.

If you don't already have a Peace Corner or Peace Table, please consider adding one to your environment. The Peace Rose is a simple and effortless way to teach peaceful problem-solving. With the Peace Rose, children resolve conflicts peacefully—without adult intervention.

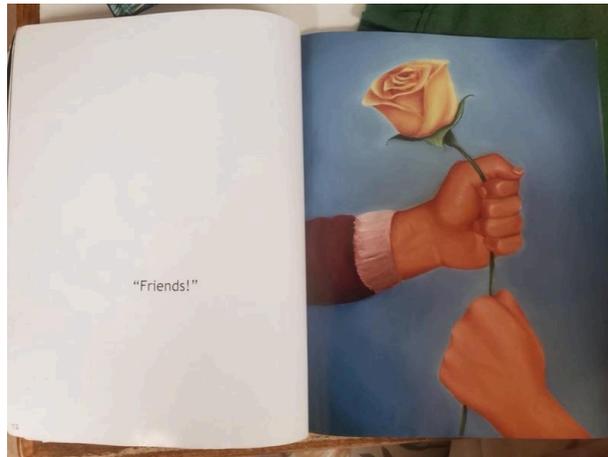
When two children have a disagreement, they pick up the peace rose from the peace table and take turns speaking their "piece." The child who holds the rose speaks while the other listens.



Then the Peace Rose is passed to the other child, who shares while the first listens quietly. After the children come to an agreement, they end their conversation by both holding the peace rose together and saying, “Friends!”

This exercise teaches active listening, empathy, and problem-solving. It empowers children to voice their feelings, truly hear one another, and reach a resolution independently.

If you don't have a copy of *The Peace Rose* by Alicia Olson, it's a wonderful addition to any classroom committed to nurturing peace.



Mark Your Calendars

Spring Gathering is right around the corner—**Saturday, May 2, 8:30 – 12:30**. Join Prof. Carol Williams at Ann Arbor Children's House.

MMS Fall Workshop

The Fall Conference Committee is busy planning the **2026 MMS Fall Conference**, and we want you to save the date!

Please mark your calendars today for **November 7, 2026**. Participation in the Fall Conference—which is a full day-- includes learning, vendors, and MiRegistry continuing education credits and more! Coming together with fellow Montessorians from across the state is well worth the time.

We urge all school administrators to put this date in the 2026-2027 calendar.

Cultural Corner

It's a busy month around the world, and we hope you mark these important events in one way or another in your classrooms. Montessori is an international education that embraces and celebrates all cultures.

Chinese New Year

February 17 marks the beginning of the Lunar New Year for billions of people around the world. In China, celebrations will last until March 3; these two weeks are known as the Spring Festival.

During this time, people travel long distances to be with family and friends. As with many celebrations, food plays a central role in gatherings and traditions.

The New Year ushers in the Year of the Horse. As we leave behind the introspective and intuitive Year of the Snake, the Horse gallops in with vibrant, fiery energy—symbolizing adventure, vitality, and momentum. Let’s look forward to an energized and dynamic 2026!

Ramadan

The holy month of Ramadan also begins on Wednesday, February 17. Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and traditionally begins and ends with the sighting of the new moon.

Ramadan is one of the holiest months of the year for Muslims. During this time, many fast from food and drink during daylight hours as a means of drawing closer to God and cultivating self-control, gratitude, and compassion for those less fortunate.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 17, also marks the beginning of Lent for Western Christians. Lent lasts 40 days (about six weeks) and commemorates the 40 days Jesus fasted in the desert while resisting temptation. On Ash Wednesday, many believers begin acts of penitence—such as giving up certain comforts—or commit to acts of service throughout the Lenten season.

Spotlight on Schools

MMS welcomes Spanish for Toddlers as our newest accredited school. After completing the necessary paperwork and a visit from our accreditation committee, we are so happy to welcome a new school!

Spanish for Toddlers has three locations: one in Clawson, one in Detroit, and one in Royal Oak. Please check out this wonderful program and share with us if your school has a foreign language immersion program, a foreign language program that meets as a separate class.

Let us know if you would like to learn more about how to introduce foreign language—immersion or classes--to your program.



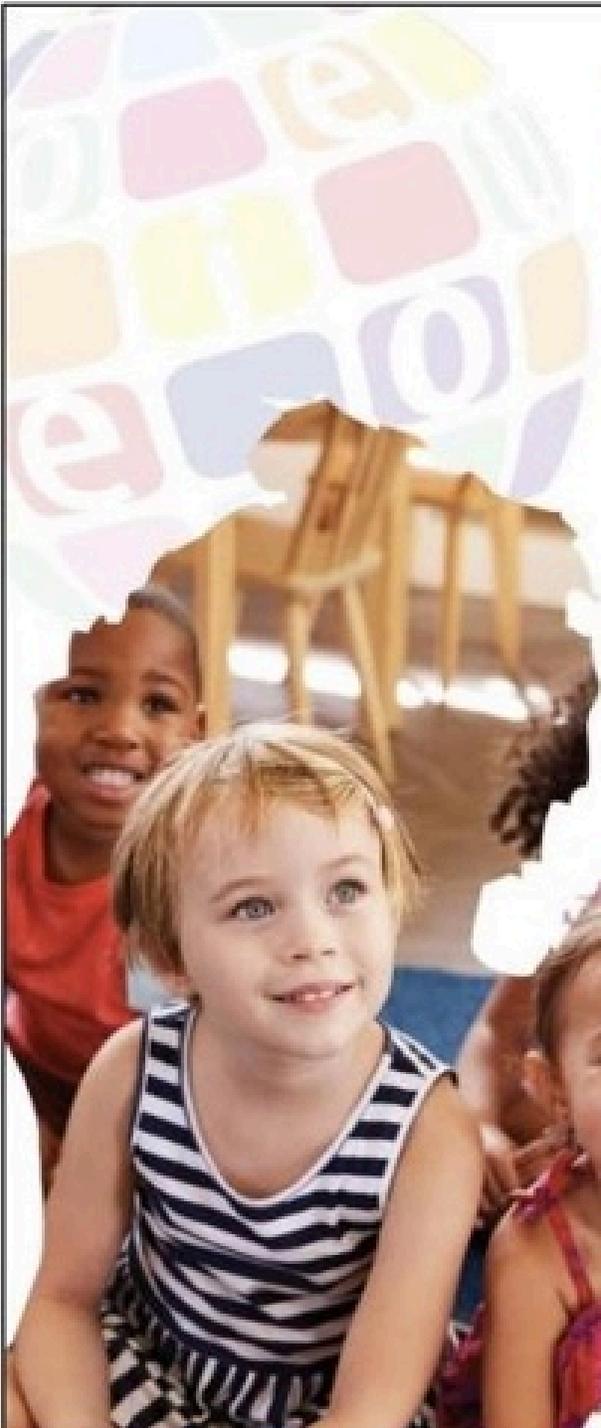
Coaching Training in the State’s Capital City

Join us in Lansing on Friday, May 15th and Saturday, May 16th for Montessori Coaches Training through the AMS supported National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector. This training is for mentor teachers, administrators and Coaches from independent, public and charter Montessori Schools.

Prepare now for new teachers at your school by having a trained Coach onsite! For details, click below:

<https://www.public-montessori.org/courses/ct-mi-sp26/>

Accreditation / Membership



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