

# Michigan Montessori Society

## Newsletter

October 22, 2025

### Helpful Links:

- [Michigan Montessori Society \(MMS\)](#)
- [American Montessori Society \(AMS\)](#)
- [Association Montessori Internationale \(AMI\)](#)
- [MMS Facebook](#)

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](mailto:info@mmsoc.org).

### Upcoming Dates

Date:	Details:
November 8	Michigan Montessori Society Fall Conference - Ann Arbor, MI
November 15	AMS Regional Symposium - Cincinnati, OH

### Fall Conference

If you haven't already registered for the Fall Conference on November 8 at Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor, it's not too late. Click the button below for registration.

Not only will we have a great keynote, we also have great breakout sessions, which you can find here:

<https://mmsoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/MMS-Fall-Conference-25-Speaker-and-presentation-details.pdf>



**AND** Vendors which include a mix of hard goods, Montessori Materials, educational resources, and connections to early intervention support. There will be books, Montessori materials, and information to help inspire all of us.

The vendors will be available from 7:30AM until the end of the day, with built-in times to browse the various tables of products.

[Fall Conference Registration](#)

### **Book Beat**

[Book Beat](#) offers a huge collection of children's books covering many levels of reading and subjects, and Colleen is a wealth of knowledge who can help find the perfect book on whatever subject you are searching for.

Book Beat is an independent bookstore specializing in art, photography, and children's books located in Oak Park, Michigan.

### **Vendors selling Montessori Materials**

#### **Birch Street Goods**

[Birch Street Goods](#), founded by an experienced Montessori teacher with the goal to create high quality, handmade materials, specializes in products that coordinate with all areas of the classroom.

#### **Montessori Materials by Lakeview**

[Lakeview](#), where you can find a huge selection of classroom-ready Montessori learning materials, has served the Montessori community for almost three decades. They offer a comprehensive selection of Pink, Blue and Green Level language materials, and the name "Lakeview" is synonymous with "Objects! Objects! Objects!".

#### **[Shields Childcare Supplies](#)**

Visit this vendor for furnishings, playground equipment, custom room dividers and more. Based in Michigan and selling Michigan made products!

#### **Red Dust Studio**

Need wooden Montessori Practical Life tool board activities for both toddlers and preschoolers/primary children? Visit Red Dust Studio which has 39 years of experience in the Montessori classroom.





### Focus on Board Members

For over 20 years, Kate Kingsley has dedicated her career to guiding young learners as a Primary Montessori teacher. The Grosse Pointe Academy has been her professional home for the past 21 years. While the school's beautiful campus dates back to 1887, the Montessori program began in the 1960s—making it one of Michigan's longest-running Montessori schools.

Each day, Kate feels deep gratitude for the opportunity to teach on such a historic and inspiring campus, to watch the sunrise over Lake St. Claire, and to share the gift of Dr. Maria Montessori's work with her students. Her favorite aspects of Montessori education are the independence it fosters, the lifelong love of learning it inspires, and the emphasis on cultural studies and peace education—helping children understand their place in a diverse, interconnected world.

Kate is honored to serve on the Michigan Montessori Board, working alongside a group of dedicated and hardworking women who share her passion for Montessori education.

*"The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence."*

— Dr. Maria Montessori

### Mi Registry Training Hours

The Michigan Montessori Society's workshops are approved for MiRegistry training hours—a requirement for all licensed programs, which must complete at least 16 hours annually.



What better way to kick off your training than by joining fellow Montessorians at our Fall Conference, where you'll earn **6 training hours** in one inspiring day?

Let's grow together in community and professional excellence!

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## MMS Accredited Montessori Schools

Become familiar with just a few of our accredited schools. MMS accredited schools made all of the standards for an authentic Montessori program.

- Birmingham Community Montessori: <https://bcmpreschool.com>
- Brookview Montessori School, Benton Harbor: <https://www.brookviewschool.org>
- Christian Montessori School of Ann Arbor: <https://cmsaa.org>
- Plymouth-Canton Montessori School, Plymouth: <https://pcmontessori.org>



**BROOKVIEW**  
MONTESSORI SCHOOL



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## MMS Member Montessori Schools

We also have member schools, which meet all of the requirements for accreditation except one—the five-day program.

- Roots Montessori, Plymouth: <https://rootsmontessorischool.com/>
- North Star Montessori, Jackson: <https://northstarmontessorijackson.com>

Watch for more accredited and member schools in our November issue, and if you haven't joined an accredited or member school, it is not too late!



## Culture Corner



October brings two important cultural celebrations—the Mid-Autumn or Moon Festival in China (October 6) and Diwali in India (October 20).

The Mid-Autumn Festival is behind us but mark it on your calendar for September 26, 2026. Like so many people around the world, the Chinese, after finishing the summer harvest season, celebrate on this day when the moon is usually at its fullest and brightest.

Diwali, the Hindu celebration of light, began on October 20, but it is not too late to celebrate in your classrooms. If you are unfamiliar with the story of Diwali, this link will help: <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/geography/general-geography/facts-about-diwali/>

### Classroom Activities

#### *Food Prep:*

- Make [mur mura](#) by combining a spoonful of flavored grains into a snack mix.
- [Mango lassi](#) is always a tasty hit; combine buttermilk with mango pulp in a hand-held blender.
- Or try [pani puri](#) by placing a spoonful of potato mixture in a pani puri shell and adding sauce.

#### *Shelf Work:*

- Various shapes cut from colored felt and other festive materials for the children to create their own [rangolis](#).
- And games. [Diwali Bingo Cards](#) & [Diwali Bingo Boards](#)

#### *Art*

- Paint and decorate [diyas](#) (small clay lamps)
- Diwali greeting cards to color

*Happy Diwali!*

## Take a Moment

Click this 2-minute video to remind yourself why the work we do, as Montessori, is so important.

*We*  
**BELIEVE**

"We Believe"

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