

Montessori Centenary Declaration

In 2007 the world Montessori community celebrates the 100th anniversary of a revolution in education.

100 years ago Dr Maria Montessori began to explore the true nature of childhood through extensive scientific observation. We proudly recognise a century of great work, inspired by these discoveries:

- the purpose of education is to nurture the energies of childhood –
 intellectual, physical, emotional, moral and spiritual so that every
 member of the human race can make a constructive contribution to
 the world
- all children deserve the best possible conditions at every stage of their development
- all children, in the best educational conditions develop creative and flexible minds easily adapted to the complexities of human society
- all children, in the best educational conditions demonstrate innate discipline, joyful and focused work and empathy with others. They are tireless and selfless in their work.
- all children possess inner directives to guide their own development
- all children fully developed become individuals committed to human solidarity, social progress and peace

We declare our commitment now and in the future:

- to participate in a universal social movement that places children at the centre of society, recognising them as citizens of the world
- to promote knowledge and understanding of the conditions necessary for the full development of the human being from conception to maturity both at home and in society
- to create a climate of opinion and opportunities for the full development of the potential of all young people so that humanity may work in harmony for a higher and more peaceful civilisation
- to reform education as a reciprocal, lifelong process in which every member of the human race is profoundly engaged

Support the Montessori Movement - Champion the Cause of all Children

Spread the word about the Montessori Centenary Declaration Sign the Centenary Declaration on the internet: montessoricentenary.org The signed Declaration will be presented to governments around the world in 2007.

Due to the scope of this campaign and the number of signatories, it is strongly recommended that you use the internet to "sign" the declaration. This can be done by filling in a simple form online at **montessoricentenary.org.** If you do not have access to the internet please send this form to Montessori Centenary Declaration, PO Box 1460, Dee Why NSW 2099, Australia or fax to 61 2 9971 4430. The details submitted are strictly confidential and the Montessori Centenary Steering Committee will not use them for any other purpose or pass them on. Your date of birth helps us to avoid duplication and ensure that your signature has been properly counted. Thank you for supporting the Montessori Movement in its effort to Champion to Cause of all Children.

Surname:	First Name:
Date of Birth:	Male / Female (please circle)
Town of Residence:	Country:
Signature:	Date:
Email:	Send me further information: Yes / No (please circle)