

## Northern Virginia Montessori Institute at Belmont Greene

Northern Virginia Montessori Institute is hosted by the Montessori Academy at Belmont Greene in Ashburn, VA.

Our goal is to help individuals become effective Montessori Teachers of children age two and one half years through six years. We strive for excellence as we prepare teachers for the task of assisting children's cognitive, emotional, social, and moral development. Northern Virginia Montessori Institute offers a training format which provides a reasonable and manageable training schedule and year round support.

The NVMI Early Childhood Program can be completed in approximately 12 months. The academic phase consists of five weeks the first summer, four weekend seminars during the practicum year (October, December, March and May), followed by an additional two weeks the second summer. Summer course hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Seminars are held on Saturdays and Sundays.

### Academic Course Phase

#### **Montessori Philosophy**

-Historical background of the Montessori method -Thorough grounding in the Montessori philosophy -The Prepared Environment - The preparation of the Montessori teacher

#### **Child Development**

-The development of the child from birth through adolescence -The links between Montessori, Piaget, Adler and others -Current research in the area of Child Development

#### **Practical Life Curriculum**

-Lessons of Grace and courtesy, nutrition and food preparation -Thorough understanding of this key curriculum area in the Montessori classroom -Material presentations and supervised hands-on practice sessions -Nutrition and food preparation activities

#### **Sensorial Curriculum**

-Development of the child's senses and their importance in the formation of intelligence -In-depth look at the Sensorial didactic materials -Material presentations and supervised hands-on practice sessions

#### **Math Curriculum**

-Development of the child's "mathematical mind"  
-Introduction to numeration, the Decimal System, operations and fractions  
-Material presentations and supervised hands-on practice sessions

#### **Language Curriculum**

-Building children's oral and auditory skills through literature, poetry, songs, finger plays and movement activities -Introduction to the Montessori materials from pre-reading activities to reading, writing and grammar -Supervised hands-on practice sessions

#### **Social Studies**

-Development of a sense of community -Political divisions and other cultures -Land and water configurations and map work -Material presentations and album preparation

#### **Science**

-Development of child's scientific mind through hands-on activities -Political and cultural divisions of the world -Identifying science in other areas of the Montessori curriculum -Biology nomenclature, nature studies and science presentations

#### **Art**

-Developing children's artistic expression -Enhancing children's natural skills of drawing, painting and sculpture -Material presentations and album preparation

#### **Music**

-Developing children's natural love for rhythm -  
Discussing the importance of movement in  
children's developmental process -Presentation of a repertoire of songs and movement activities

#### **Observation**

-An understanding of the importance of observation -Discussion and practice of observation strategies -The use of observation techniques -Record keeping procedures

#### **Classroom Management**

-Creative environmental design -The Montessori approach to positive discipline -Orientation of new children into the classroom

#### **Parent Education**

-Teacher-Parent relationship -Importance of communication -  
Parent Involvement and education

#### **Administration**

-Licensing, zoning, regulatory and health issues -Budgetary planning -Legal, personnel and management issues

#### **Peace Education**

-Development of a community spirit -Nurturing the spirit of the child -Developing peace activities relevant to young children

#### **Learning Differences**

-Early identification of children with special needs -Current research in the area of brain development -Relevance of the unique nature of the Montessori environment

## **Academic Course Schedule**

The NVMI academic program begins with a five-week summer training, followed by four weekend seminars during the year and concludes with two weeks of academic instruction the following summer

### **Practicum Phase**

NVMI requires each Montessori teacher candidate to complete a nine month teaching practicum experience in a 2.5 through 6 years early childhood class. The practicum will begin after the initial academic phase. Internship placement is the responsibility of the student.

### **Supervised Teaching Practicum**

This internship is done under the direct supervision of an experienced Montessori teacher. During this practicum, a field supervisor approved by NVMI will visit each student teacher at least three times during the internship year.

### **Self-Directed Teaching Practicum**

This internship involves the intern working as a head teacher in a Montessori classroom without the daily supervision of a Montessori teacher. During this practicum, the student is required to have extra monitoring through regular telephone calls and additional visits from a field supervisor. These will incur an additional fee of \$400.00.

### **Facility**

Classes are held at the MAB campus in Ashburn, VA. The bright, spacious classrooms and modern amenities provide a comfortable and serene atmosphere for learning. MAB is accessible from all major roads and is minutes away from Dulles International Airport.

**Lodging and meals are not available through NVMI and are the responsibility of the student.**

## **Faculty**

**Chandra Fernando** is a Co-Director for the NVMI Early Childhood Course of Study offered at the Montessori Academy at Belmont Greene in Ashburn, Virginia. Ms. Fernando has been a classroom teacher for over thirty-five years and has served as the program director of the Maryland Center for Montessori Studies, course director of Northeast Montessori Institute and a faculty member of Seacoast Center for Education. Chandra serves as a field supervisor for several teacher education programs, and is a national and international lecturer. Ms. Fernando received her AMI primary Credential from the Good Shepard AMI training Center in Colombo, Sri Lanka and an elementary credential from London Montessori International. Chandra holds a B.A. in Early Childhood education in Piagetian Studies. She has done graduate work at Antioch University, Loyola College and Oxford University.

**Beth Theriot** is Co-Director of NVMI and Head of School, Academics at MAB. Beth holds an AMS Early Childhood certificate. She has been a Lead Teacher in Montessori classrooms for more 22 years and is an experienced workshop facilitator. Beth holds a B.A. in Psychology from Loyola University and M.A. in Special Studies from George Washington University. During the past four years, Beth has lectured in classroom management and parent education at the Northeast Montessori Institute Additional Site in VA.

**Bart Theriot** is Chief Financial Officer of NVMI and Head of School, Administration of MAB. He participated in the Montessori Administrator training at CMTE/NY. He holds a B.S. in Finance from Auburn University; organizes after school programs for children; and is involved in charities coordination work. Bart has served as a faculty member of Northeast Montessori Institute, Additional Site in VA.

**Christine Lavigne** has been a Montessori Lead teacher for over ten years and holds an AMS Early Childhood certificate and a B.A. degree in History from George Mason University. During the past four years, Christy has served as a faculty member for the Northeast Montessori Institute Additional Site in VA.

**Rachel A. Ramsay** has a strong foundation in Language and Learning Differences. She has completed Orton Gillingham and Multi-sensory Language therapy training and has experience teaching children with learning differences at the June Shelton School in Dallas, Texas. Rachel has been a classroom teacher for over 10 years and is an experienced workshop leader and lecturer. She holds an AMS Early Childhood Certificate and a Masters in Education from Goucher College in Baltimore. She teaches in Arlington County Public Schools. For the past four years, Rachel has served as a faculty member of NMI Additional Site in VA.

**Kathleen McCauley** has a B.S. degree in English Education and German and has M. A. Degrees in both Human development and Social Work. Kathleen is a lecturer in Child Development at Marymount University and is the President and primary trainer at the KEY Concepts and Training in Arlington, VA. For the past four years, Kathleen has been the instructor for child development at the Northeast Montessori Institute Additional Site in VA.

### **Administrative Offices**

Montessori Academy at Belmont Greene ("MAB")  
20300 Bowfonds St.  
Ashburn, VA 20147  
Tel: (703) 729-7200 Fax: (703) 729-6957

NVMI is approved to operate by the State Council for Higher Education of Virginia.

NVMI accepts applications throughout the year and welcomes all inquiries

Admission to Northeast Montessori Institute will not be denied based on age, race, gender, religion, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation

### **Course Dates**

## **2007-2008**

### **First Summer Phase**

June 18—July 20, 2007

### **Weekend Seminars**

October 5-7, 2007 December 7-9, 2007 March 7-9, 2008 May 16-18, 2008

### **Second Summer Phase**

June 23-July 3, 2008

## **Admissions**

Northern Virginia Montessori Institute is now accepting applications for the 2007-2008 course of study. Applications and registration materials may be obtained by contacting Northern Virginia Montessori Institute at Belmont Greene, 20300 Bowfonds Street, Ashburn, VA 20147. Interested students must submit an application form, official academic transcripts, three letters of recommendation and the application fee. NVMI welcomes all inquiries, and accepts applications throughout the year.

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### **Northern Virginia Montessori Institute**

20300 Bowfonds Street Ashburn, VA 20147 (703) 729-7200 (703) 729-7200

## **FEES**

Application Fee (non-refundable) \$100.00 Early Childhood Course (Full Tuition) \$5000.00 Association & Certification Fees (non-refundable) \$300.00 Books & Materials Fees (non-refundable) \$600.00\*

Tuition and payment plans are available through Northern Virginia Montessori Institute. This information is available by calling or writing NVMI. An initial deposit of \$1,500.00 is due by June 1st, 2008. All association, books and materials fees will be deducted from this initial payment and are nonrefundable.

### **Association Fees**

These fees entitle the student to Intern membership in the American Montessori Society for two years.

**These fees are non-refundable.**

### **Books and Materials Fees**

These fees cover all album lesson plans and any additional materials provided by individual instructors. It also includes two required textbooks.

**These fees are non-refundable.**

### **Extra Practicum Fees (if applicable)**

Note: Students who select a practicum site located more than 150 miles from the Montessori Academy at Belmont Greene in Ashburn, VA will be charged a fee to cover reasonable transportation expenses. Also, a \$400 fee will be assessed during the practicum year for those individuals choosing self-directed practicum. (An additional three field supervisor visits are required for self-directed interns).

**The student is responsible for all practicum Internship) arrangements. NVMI is not responsible for any financial agreements between the student and the personnel at the internship site.**