



*The Montessori Teachers Association
and Montessori Australia
presents*



Laura Flores Shaw

with a Parent Talk

'Montessori is Brain-Based Education'

Tuesday 12th March 7.30-9.30pm



Laura Flores Shaw

Dr. Laura Flores Shaw is the lead editor, writer, and founder of White Paper Press, an education company focused on increasing the scientific knowledge of educators and parents. She received her doctorate from Johns Hopkins University School of Education, where she is also an adjunct professor, specializing in mind, brain, and teaching. Previously, Dr. Shaw briefly worked as a family systems therapist in the public-school system where she realized her desire to work on the prevention rather than intervention side of mental health. That led her to revive a failing Montessori school where she created environments that allow children to flourish. In 2014, she left school administration to focus on advocating for educational and parenting frameworks that can improve the lives of children and their families. Dr. Shaw's current research focuses on exploration of pedagogical constructs in practice and how teachers' knowledge of such constructs influences their teacher efficacy beliefs and, hence, their behaviours with students. She also seeks to align the field of education with the research on sensorimotor development, as it is intertwined with the development of cognition and executive functions. Dr. Shaw writes, speaks, and consults internationally on education, brain development, parenting, and organizational behaviour.

At The Beehive Montessori School, Curtin Avenue in Mosman Park

+ Montessori Teachers Association

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Montessori is Brain-Based Education

For the last two decades, cognitive science has been experiencing a “pragmatic turn” away from traditional “thinking” based frameworks of cognitive development towards an “enactive” framework, where cognition is grounded in sensorimotor skills. As neuroscientist Daniel Wolpert states, “We have a brain for one reason, and one reason only: to produce adaptable and complex movements.” This means we are not born to *think*—we are born to *move*. Conventional education, however, still operates from a “thinking” framework rather than one that is “enactive.” Yet, over 100 years ago, Maria Montessori designed enactive classroom environments that train children’s sensorimotor skills to purposely foster the development of their higher-level thinking. This talk shows how this 100-year-old pedagogy aligns with the most current research in cognitive science and neuroscience, making Montessori an education that is truly brain-based.

Name:

Phone:Email:.....

Name of Your School:

Parent Talk registration fee: \$30

Payment options:

- Cheque made out to the Montessori Teachers Association of WA
(please post registration forms with your cheque to PO Box 81 Mosman Park, 6012)
- Direct Deposit
(please complete and email the registration form to debbie@beehive.wa.edu.au)
Montessori Teachers Association of WA
BSB: 306-048
ACC: 4178390
Please use your full name as the reference
- Cash on the night

