

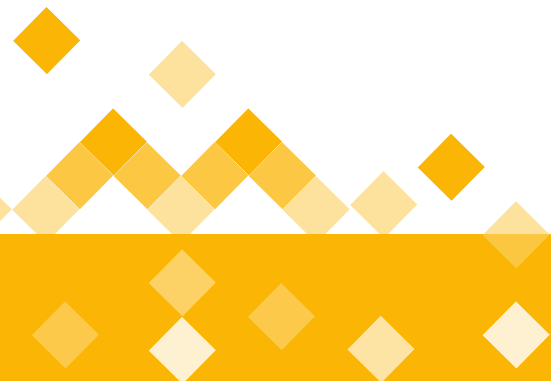


CALL FOR PROPOSALS: BREAKOUT SESSIONS

International Montessori Congress 2026 | Joyful Journey
Mérida, Yucatán, México | May 1-4 2026

"The child is both a hope and a promise for mankind." – Maria Montessori

The **30th International Montessori Congress** invites educators, researchers, practitioners, and changemakers to submit proposals for **Breakout Sessions** that explore the interconnection between **family, self, and community**. Our theme, **Joyful Journey**, highlights the power of Montessori education in fostering a compassionate, interconnected world. This Congress will bring together Montessorians from across the globe to engage in meaningful discussions, exchange innovative ideas, and strengthen our collective commitment to child-centered education and peacebuilding.





KEY THEMES

Breakout sessions should align with at least one of the Congress's key themes:

- **Family:** Exploring how Montessori principles support parenting, intergenerational learning, and family engagement in education.
- **Self:** Focusing on both the adult and the child. Personal and professional development, self-awareness, well-being, and Montessori educators' lifelong learning journey. The role of the child's optimal development in their future contributions to society.
- **Society:** Montessori principles in action such as in organizations, public policies and government.

Proposals can cover a broad range of Montessori-related topics but should align with the Congress vision:

- **Interconnection Between Family, Self, and Society:** Recognizing the essential roles families, educators, and communities play in a child's development.
- **Access to Montessori Philosophy Worldwide:** Addressing barriers and expanding Montessori's reach to diverse and vulnerable communities.
- **Holistic Child Development:** Supporting children's social, emotional, and cognitive growth.
- **Sustainability and Innovation:** Exploring sustainable designs and technological advancements in education.
- **Cultural and Environmental Awareness:** Highlighting the importance of connecting with cultural heritage and the natural world.



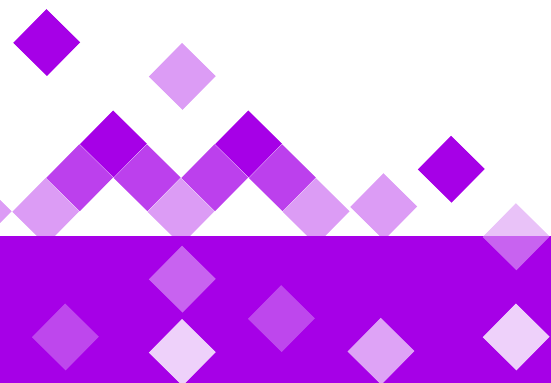


The **International Montessori Congress 2026** will bring together speakers from diverse professional fields to share knowledge, spark meaningful discussions, and inspire action. We invite presenters who:

- Are passionate about exploring and expanding upon the Congress theme, *Joyful Journey*.
- Seek to examine the role of Montessori education in shaping individuals, families, and communities.
- Are eager to share innovative research, practical applications, and transformative ideas that foster growth and connection.

This Congress is a celebration of **Montessori's legacy and its journey into the future**. As we approach the centenary of the first International Montessori Congress and the AMI, we aim to reflect on our progress while setting a course for new opportunities in education, social impact, and human development. Through dynamic sessions, hands-on workshops, and interactive discussions, we will explore **how Montessori principles can guide us in a changing world**—nurturing interconnectedness, sustainability, and lifelong learning.

The **working language of the Congress will be English**. Abstracts from speakers of diverse backgrounds, including those from traditionally underrepresented regions and fields, are particularly encouraged.

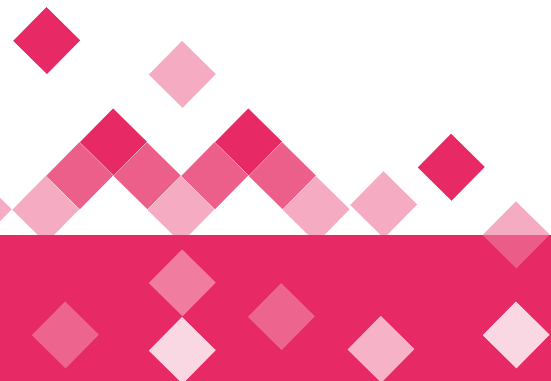




BREAKOUT SESSION FORMATS

We encourage **interactive** sessions that foster engagement, discussion, and hands-on learning and that align with the Congress theme and cater to a broad audience. Proposals should fit into one of the following formats:

- **Oral Presentation (50 minutes)** – A structured session with a presentation and Q&A. It can be either individual or with a panel discussion.
- **Interactive Workshop (80 minutes)** – A hands-on session featuring demonstrations, case studies, or audience interaction.
- **Roundtable Discussion (50 minutes)** – A facilitator-led session encouraging open dialogue, idea exchange, and collaborative problem-solving among participants on a specific topic.
- **Exhibition Showcase** – A display of outstanding projects or research related to Montessori education through posters in a category or an interactive exhibit.





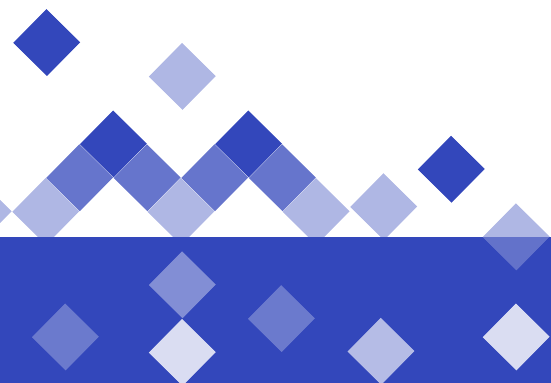
EXHIBITION SHOWCASE SPECIFICATIONS

The **International Montessori Congress 2026** offers a unique opportunity for individuals and organizations to share exciting projects, research, and initiatives that may be of interest to Congress participants. Whether you are an educator, researcher, student, or advocate, this is your chance to present work that contributes to education, community development, sustainability, and human connection.

Our **Exhibition Showcase** will **provide a designated display area** for presenters to visually share their work through **large-format posters or interactive exhibits**.

Submissions may relate to the **Congress theme, Joyful Journey**, but may also highlight **outstanding work and initiatives in Montessori education and beyond**. Montessori alumni are especially encouraged to showcase projects influenced by their Montessori experiences.

Posters and exhibits may be presented in **English**. If in another language, a description in **English** must be included for accessibility.



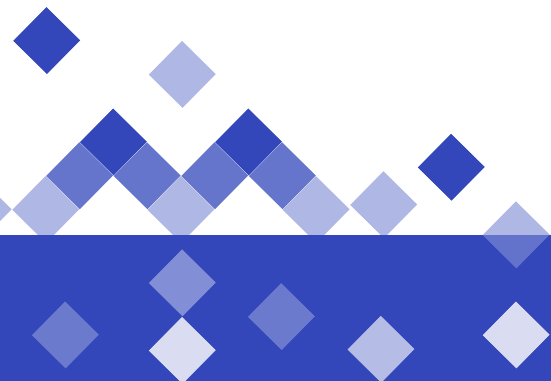


EXHIBITION SHOWCASE SPECIFICATIONS

Requirements for Display

- Posters must be **120 x 80 cm (portrait orientation)** and will be displayed throughout the Congress.
- Interactive exhibits should be **engaging and self-explanatory**, with clear visual or digital materials.
- Presenters are asked to be available during at least **one designated Exhibition Showcase session** (approx. 90 minutes) to discuss their work with attendees.

This **showcase is a great opportunity to inspire, connect, and contribute** to the global Montessori community. We encourage submissions from diverse backgrounds, including educators, researchers, organizations, and Montessori alumni.



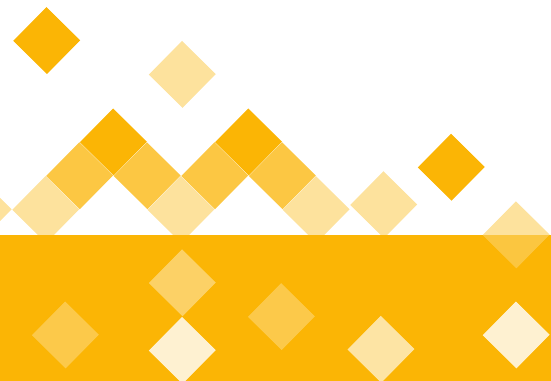


SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Proposals should be submitted online via [Google Forms](#) by **September 30, 2025**.

Each submission must be in English with correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar. It must include:

- **Title** (20 words max)
- **Abstract** (300 words max), structured as follows:
 - **Introduction** – Purpose and relevance to the Congress theme
 - **Content** – Key topics and session structure
 - **Objectives** – Expected learning outcomes
 - **Bibliography** (if applicable)
- **Theme Alignment** – Key Theme that is related to the presentation (if more than one, list them all).
- **Target Audience** – Select from: parents, teachers (specifying the age group they work with), school administrators, researchers, Policymakers and professionals from other fields.
- **Presentation Type** – Indicate format (oral, workshop, roundtable, exhibition)
- **Content Format** – Resources to support your presentation such as: Lecture, Video, Demonstration, Case Study, Group Interaction, Panel Discussion, Experimental, Performance, Poster Display.
- **Presenter Information** – Name, biography (100 words), and a professional headshot.





SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Once the abstract is submitted it cannot be changed unless a written request is sent by **November 15, 2025**.

Abstracts will be reviewed by the Congress Programme Planning Committee in conjunction with AMI.

Following review, the abstract author may be invited to re-submit the abstract with a different presentation type, or revised content.

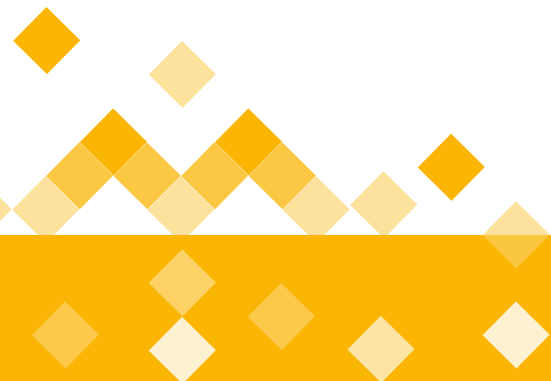
Important Dates

- **Proposal Submission Deadline:** Septiembre 30, 2025
- **Notification of Acceptance:** December, 2025.

Proposal submission form: <https://forms.gle/PzMWGz7Gc9s412BKA>

SOCIAL IMPACT SPONSORSHIPS

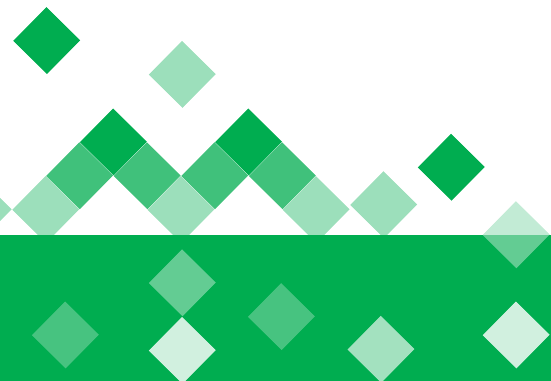
The Congress is committed to inclusivity and supporting innovative Montessori projects. **Selected proposals related to social impact may be eligible for funding support.** More details will be provided upon acceptance.





REGISTRATION & PRESENTER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Abstracts must present **original work**. If incorporating material from other sources beyond a brief reference, the submission must include a **written statement legally authorizing its presentation**. The submitting author is responsible for ensuring that all co-authors are informed and have approved the content before submission.
- Submitting an abstract signifies a **formal commitment** by the presenting author to register for the Congress and deliver their presentation if accepted. However, registration is **not required at the time of submission**.
- Accepted presenters must **register for the Congress (free charge)** by a specified deadline (TBA).
- Presenters are responsible for their own travel, accommodation, and any additional costs related to their session.
- Sessions will be scheduled by the Congress Programme Planning Committee.
- Accepted abstract authors agree to their personal data being submitted and stored in accordance with AMI's Privacy Policy and Cookie Policy.
- No remuneration is paid for Breakout presentations or Exhibition presentations.
- Breakout sessions will take place on the **second and third days** of the Congress.





CONTACT INFORMATION

For inquiries about the submission process, please contact us at:
info@montessoricongress2026.org

Join us on this Joyful Journey and contribute to shaping the future of Montessori education!

This Congress is organized under the auspices of the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI).

“We must look to the children as a vehicle for bringing change to humanity”
Maria Montessori
The 1946 London Lectures

