



AFRICA MONTESSORI CONFERENCE

AFMOCON 2026

Rise of the Outliers: The New Heroes of Education

9 – 15 AUGUST 2026

HARARE, ZIMBABWE

PRECONFERENCE • CONFERENCE •

Hosted by African Montessori Hub (AMH)

**PRECONFERENCE****9 – 12 August 2026**

Guest Experience Program — four immersive days across AMH's community programmes ahead of the main conference.

SUNDAY • 9 August 2026**Teachers Gathering — Happy Hour (IAMCE Fellowship)**

The Institute for Afrocentric Montessori and Community Education (IAMCE) Fellowship, led by African Montessori Hub, is a transformative training experience for educators and community leaders seeking to root Montessori in Afrocentric practice. Visitors from the US will witness a dynamic blend of theory and hands-on learning, where participants engage deeply with child development, prepared environments, and culturally grounded pedagogy, conversation and networking. The fellowship centers reflection, identity, and purpose, inviting fellows to see themselves as custodians of children's brilliance. Sessions are alive with dialogue, storytelling, and practical application in real community contexts. It is not just training, it is a reawakening of education as a tool for dignity, liberation, and local ownership.

www.iamce.org

MONDAY • 10 August 2026**Mhondoro — Montessori Mhondoro Program**

The Montessori Mhondoro program, led by African Montessori Hub, offers a powerful meeting point between Montessori principles and rural village life. Visitors will experience learning rooted in land, culture, and community, where classrooms extend under trees and into daily village rhythms. They will witness Afrocentric Montessori in action, where storytelling, Unhu, and ancestral knowledge shape the prepared environment. Children engage with hands-on materials alongside real-life tasks that build independence, dignity, and purpose. It is an invitation to see education not as imported, but as something remembered, reclaimed, and alive.

TUESDAY • 11 August 2026**LeadAcy Harare**

The Leadership and Diplomacy (LeadAcy) Harare program, led by African Montessori Hub, is a youth leadership and diplomacy experience grounded in Afrocentric values and real-world action for and by young people between the ages of 9 - 15. Visitors will engage with young leaders exploring identity, purpose, and global citizenship through dialogue, community visits, and SDG-aligned projects. The program blends Montessori peace education with African storytelling, dialogue, and collective problem-solving. Participants will witness youth stepping into their voice, confident, reflective, and rooted in their context. It is a living example of leadership that is not taught, but awakened.

**WEDNESDAY • 12 August 2026****Montessori Mothers — Zimbabwe**

The Zimbabwe Montessori Mothers program, led by African Montessori Hub, honors mothers as the first and lifelong educators of the child. Visitors will experience intimate learning circles where caregiving, culture, and Montessori come together through shared stories, songs, and hands-on practice. Rooted in Unhu, the program centers dignity, connection, and the wisdom already present in the home. Mothers are empowered with simple, practical tools to support their children's development using everyday materials. It is a space of warmth, strength, and reclamation, where education begins in the arms and hearts of mothers.

**DAY ONE****13 August 2026****Opening Day — Welcome, Provocation, Keynote & Panel**

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	LEAD / PARTICIPANTS
08:00 – 09:00	Registration	<i>Welcome and check-in for delegates, facilitators and guests.</i>	AMH Team
09:00 – 09:30	Provocation	<i>“The Naming of Heroes” — live storytelling, music and spoken word.</i>	3–4 Outliers Kuda Rwizi — Afro Anime
10:00 – 10:15	Welcome Remarks	<i>“Afrofuturism is not about escaping the past; it is about reclaiming the right to imagine.” — inspired by Kodwo Eshun</i>	Tatenda Blessing Muchiriri — Co-founder (USA/ZIM)
10:15 – 10:45	Keynote	<i>Inspired by Arundhati Roy — “We are living in a time between worlds.”</i>	Meisha Perrin (USA)— Black Montessori Education Fund
10:45 – 11:00	Tea Break	<i>Refreshments and informal networking</i>	
11:00 – 13:00	Panel Discussion	<i>“Is School Broken... or Working Exactly as Designed?”</i>	Jacq Miller — Montessori Leader (Public School & Community Education Consultant) Agnes — Public School Teacher / Parent / Counsellor (IAMCE) Natasha — Educator (IAMCE) Tapiwa Mandevani — Cultural Guardian (Elder, Afrocentric Philosopher) Keletso Ndlovu — Montessori Instructional Coach (SA) Audrey Nyaguze — Moderator (LeadAcy)
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	<i>Communal meal and connection</i>	
14:00 – 14:30	LeadAcy Showcase	<i>SDGs and Impact — youth-led presentations.</i>	Bethel, Blessing, Ice, Rowan and Andile (ZIM)
14:30 – 16:00	Presentation & Q&A	<i>Learning from Kenya: Experiencing Montessori in Nomadic Tents.</i>	Terri Nderitu (KENYA)

**DAY TWO****14 August 2026****Co-creation, Outlier Labs, Performance & Closing Celebration**

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	LEAD / PARTICIPANTS
09:00 – 10:30	Co-creation Session (KUUMBA)	<i>Afrocentric Montessori: the AMH Philosophy</i>	Mako Muropa (ZIM)
10:30 – 11:00	Visual Storytelling Showcase	<i>‘The Outlier Effect’ / ‘The Untold Story’</i>	Robin Truesdale (USA), Diepriye Diri (NIGERIA) and Chipo Chikara-Nyoni (ZIM)
11:00 – 11:15	Tea Break	<i>Refreshments and informal networking.</i>	
11:15 – 13:00	Outlier Labs (KUDZIDZISANA)	Lab 1 — ‘Build a School in 60 Minutes’ Facilitated by Tatenda Blessing Muchiriri and Loharano Fitiavana Andriamamonjy (MADAGASCAR) Lab 2 — ‘Art as Resistance in Education’ Facilitated by Patience Tseriwa and Wynona Mutisi (ZIM) Lab 3 — ‘Trauma-Informed Classrooms’ Facilitated by Kudzai-Vimbiso Tseriwa (ZIM) Lab 4 — ‘Montessori in the Public Sector’ Facilitated by Masimba Madondo (ZIM) and Lisa Simoneau (USA)	Interactive workshop facilitators
13:00 – 13:50	Lunch & Listen	<i>Communal lunch with book reading and Q/A (optional)</i>	Elton Ndudzo– Author of ‘Charwe’ (ZIM)
14:00 – 14:30	Keynote	<i>“The Courage to Return: Reimagining Rural Education Through Community and Vision.”</i>	Mr. and Mrs. Machipisa — Chipochashe School, Dema
14:30 – 15:00	Performance	<i>African dance and music — The Soul of Mbira.</i>	Mbira Group / Dance Group
15:00 – 16:00	Panel	<i>A Movement of Outliers: An Afrofuturistic Vision for Education in Africa</i>	Tendai Garwe (ZIM) — Sokostina (Moderator), AMH Team
18:00	Happy Hour	<i>Closing celebration to mark the end of AFMOCON 2026.</i>	AMH Team

**FINAL DAY**

15 August 2026

Opportunities & Growth — A Closing Celebration

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	LEAD / PARTICIPANTS
Midday	Opportunities & Growth — Closing Lunch	<i>To close out the conference, participants gather for lunch at Gava Restaurant, a local Zimbabwean restaurant known for its rich, traditional cuisine. This final moment invites a slower, more relational space — sharing meals, stories and reflections rooted in culture and community. Over dishes that carry the taste of home, conversation turns toward exploring opportunities for Montessori learning, training and development across Zimbabwe. It is a space where partnerships are imagined, ideas are grounded, and connections deepen beyond the formal sessions — a fitting close, where food, fellowship and vision come together.</i>	AMH Team