

PUNUM BHATIA, PhD

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EDUCATION

<i>University of Colorado Denver and Health Sciences Center</i> PhD, Educational Leadership and Innovation	2012 Denver, Colorado
<i>University of Calcutta</i> Bachelor of Education, with Distinction	1982 Calcutta, India
<i>University of Jadavpur</i> M.A. English Literature, with Honors	1981 Calcutta, India
<i>University of Calcutta</i> B.A. English Literature, with Honors	1978 Calcutta, India

Professional Certification

<i>Teachstone</i> Pre-K CLASS Observer	2015 Charlottesville, VA.
<i>Colorado Department of Education</i> Advanced Early Childhood Trainer	2015 Denver, Colorado
<i>Myers Research Institute</i> Montessori-based Dementia Programming	2005 Cleveland, Ohio
<i>MACTE Commission</i> On-Site Evaluator Training	2005 Chicago, Illinois
<i>American Montessori Society</i> School Consultant Training	2004 Denver, Colorado
<i>Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)</i> Colorado Early Childhood Professional Credential Level IV	2003 Denver, Colorado
<i>American Montessori Society</i> Early Childhood Education Diploma	1997 Boulder, Colorado
<i>London Montessori Center</i> Teacher Trainer Diploma, with Distinction	1996 London, England
<i>Montessori Centre International</i> Practical Examiner	1995 London, England
<i>State of Colorado</i> Directress, Large Child Care Center	1993 Denver, Colorado

London Montessori Centre 1991
Primary Teaching Diploma, with Distinction London, England

London Montessori Centre 1988
Nursery Teaching Diploma, with Merit London, England

EXPERIENCE

Montessori Casa International Preschool, Executive Director 2011 – Present
Denver, Colorado

- ❖ Founded a Montessori lab school for 40 children from 1 to 6 years of age
- ❖ Designed the school environment and bilingual curriculum
- ❖ Trained all staff; managed daily operations
- ❖ Responsible for long-term growth

Montessori Casa International, Teacher Trainer 2004 – Present
Denver, Colorado

- ❖ Founded a nonprofit Montessori teacher-training institute. Accredited by MACTE (Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education), a division of the US Department of Education and a Title IV school.
- ❖ Examined students in the practical and written exams.
- ❖ Field supervisor for internship visits
- ❖ Conducted workshops and seminars for professional development

Monarch Montessori, Executive Director 2010 – 2011
Denver, Colorado

- ❖ Founded a Montessori school for 200 children from 6 weeks to 6 years of age
- ❖ Designed school environment and curriculum
- ❖ Trained all staff; managed daily operations and outreach
- ❖ Responsible for long-term expansion and future development

Independent Consultant 2008 – Present

- ❖ Advise Montessori preschools in classroom set-up; classroom management; teacher hire and training
- ❖ Contracted schools include Mile High Montessori and Family Star Montessori

Myers Research Institute, Trainer 2006 – Present

- ❖ Train individuals in Montessori-based dementia programming, an innovative method of working with older adults living with cognitive and/or physical impairments.

MACTE On-Site Evaluator 2005 - Present

- ❖ Evaluate Montessori teacher training programs seeking accreditation with Montessori Accreditation Council of Teacher Education (a division of the U.S. Department of Education).

AMS School Consultant 2004 - Present
❖ Help Montessori schools define opportunities for continued improvement and growth as well as assist schools in identifying goals and potential areas for growth.

Workshop Coordinator, USA 2003 - Present
❖ Plan, organize and conduct workshops on behalf of Montessori Centre International, London for its distance learning students. The workshops include topics such as Creativity, Culture and Literacy and run for duration of a week each.

Montessori Centre International, Practical Examiner 1995 – 2010
London, England
❖ Conducted practical examinations on behalf of MCI London
❖ Locations of examinations include Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines, India, Colorado, South Carolina and Iowa.

London Montessori Centre, Teacher Trainer 1994 - 1999
Jakarta, Indonesia
❖ Founded a teacher training center and trained preschool teachers in the Montessori Method

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ Bhatia, P., (2016). “The third factor in education: The prepared environment.” *Montessori Leadership*, 18 (2), 16-18.
- ❖ Bhatia, P., (2016). “ The 3-Hour Uninterrupted Work Cycle.” *Tomorrow’s Child*, 24 (2), 24-25.
- ❖ Bhatia, P., (2015). “She was ours: Maria Montessori’s Barcelona Years (1916-1936).” *Montessori Leadership*, 17 (3), 21-22.
- ❖ Bhatia, P., (2015). “The light of India: A twinkle in the eye”. *Montessori Leadership*, 17 (2), 4-8.
- ❖ Bhatia, P., (2015). “The inspired child”. *Montessori Leadership*, 17 (1), 21-26)
- ❖ Bhatia, P., Davis, A., Shamas-Brandt, E. (2015). Educational gymnastics: The effectiveness of Montessori practical life activities in developing fine motor skills in kindergartners. *Early Education and Development*, 26 (4), 594-607.
DOI: 10.1080/10409289.2015.995454
- ❖ Bhatia, P., (2014). *Mind over matter: Contributing factors to self-efficacy in Montessori teachers*. Saarbrucken: Lambert Publishing
- ❖ Bhatia, P., (2014). Mind over matter: Contributing factors to self-efficacy in Montessori teachers. *National Teacher Education Journal*, 7 (3), 37-44.
- ❖ Bhatia, P., (November 2008). The Power of Play. (Review of the book *The Power of Play* by David Elkind, PhD.)
- ❖ Bhatia, P., (January 2006). “Flowers for my teacher”. *Montessori International Magazine*

AWARDS

- ❖ American Montessori Society 2014 Outstanding Dissertation Award First Place: “Mind Over Matter: Contributing Factors to Self-Efficacy in Montessori Teachers.”