

# Centro Internazionale Maria Montessori — Perugia, Italy Celebrates Its 50th Anniversary



In July, 2000 The Centro Internazionale, Perugia celebrated its 50th anniversary — fifty years of intense work begun by Maria Montessori and continued by Maria Antonietta Paolini for many years. Since 1950, thirty-four international courses have been held with the participation of foreign students from five continents as well as Italian students; eleven national Children's House and Elementary School courses for Italian teachers and advanced courses for teachers trained by Mario Montessori in 1956 and 1958 and by Maria Antonietta Paolini in 1960. In all, the Centro has prepared a total of 3,676 teachers.

Numerous seminars have been held at the Centro dealing with various topics related to children's psychosomatic development. From among the many congresses and gatherings held, I would like to mention:

1970 the Congress on the Centenary of Maria Montessori's birth

1985 the Conference on 'Teaching History' [L'insegnamento della storia nella scuola dell'obbligo]

1992 the Conference on 'Education for Work in the Consumer Society: Thoughts on the Pedagogical Imperatives'

1998 the Conference entitled 'The Pursuit of Science...to Construct the Science of Peace', commemorating the centenary of Mario Montessori's birth

Other achievements include establishing twenty-five classes at Children's House level as well as a Montessori elementary school which now has an enrolment of 470 children.

As I look to the future, I feel certain that the Centro Internazionale will continue its work with the same enthusiasm for many more years to come.

Sara Concas Spoletti

