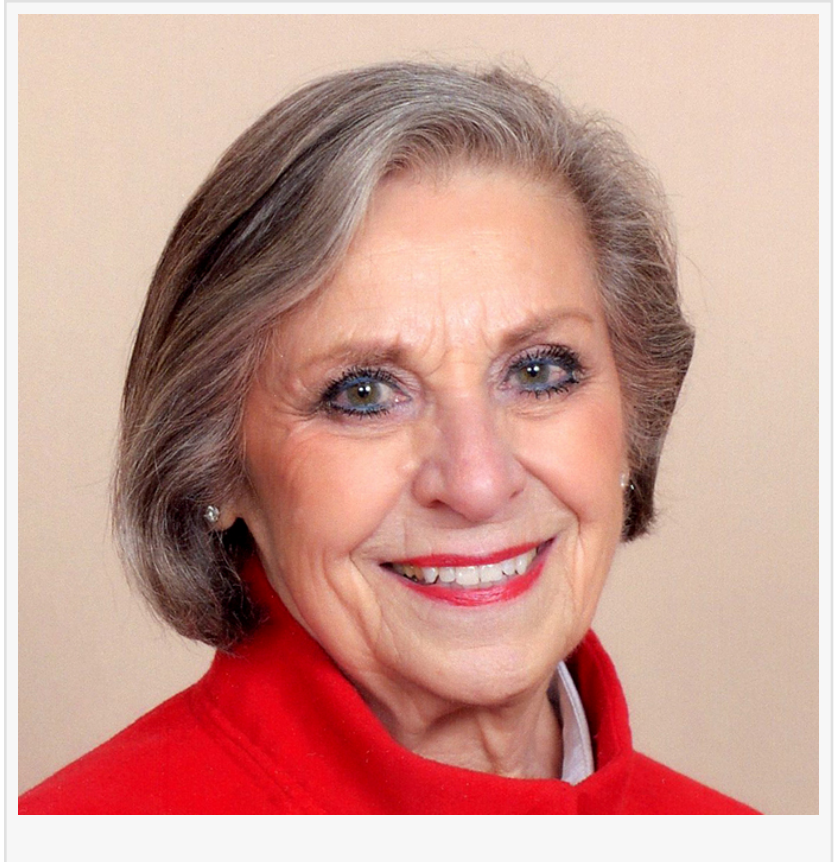


Retired Montessori Educator Darlene Netzer to be Featured on Close Up Radio

RIDGEFIELD, WA, UNITED STATES, November 7, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- In 2023, Scientific American reported that two-thirds of fourth grade students in the U.S. could not read fluently with a staggering 40% being unable to read. Darlene Lambert Netzer, a retired Montessori educator, is excited to share her enriching experiences and transformative teaching methods with educators, parents, and students seeking a deeper understanding of the Montessori educational framework. After a distinguished career dedicated to nurturing young minds, Netzer reflects on her impactful journey as a Montessori instructor and the innovative strategies she embraced in order to foster a love for reading and writing among students.



Throughout her impressive career, Darlene Lambert Netzer's approach to teaching reading and writing has been guided by a simple yet profound philosophy: allow students the freedom to explore literature that genuinely interests them and encourage sharing and collaboration among peers. By meticulously curating a diverse selection of classic and contemporary literature, Netzer created a classroom environment where students could explore their interests, express themselves, and develop a lifelong passion for learning.

Netzer's classroom was more than a space for traditional learning—it was a haven where students could immerse themselves in literary exploration. Her personal library and classroom collections were meticulously stocked with books that catered to different reading levels, ensuring that every student, regardless of their reading proficiency, could find meaningful and engaging content. In her words, "It was crucial for students to always have something they

genuinely wanted to read. That's how you cultivate a real love for reading."

Among Netzer's standout teaching practices was the Montessori 'Erdkinder experience,' a unique three-week retreat in natural settings like woods or retreat centers. This environment provided students with an opportunity to escape conventional classroom limits and embrace experiential learning. During these retreats, students and staff were encouraged to read, give book presentations, which fostered public speaking skills and the ability to articulate their thoughts clearly. In addition, the writing workshops at Erdkinder focused on maintaining journals to address social issues, personal reflections, and conflicts, providing students with a platform for self-expression.

This practice did not only focus on writing as a skill but on its therapeutic aspects as well. Netzer asserts, "Writing and reading are therapy baths for the brain, and journaling was an outlet for students to explore their thoughts freely." She emphasizes the importance of allowing students the freedom to express themselves without judgment, an approach that has proved invaluable in helping students cope with social discourse and personal challenges.

In addition to her practices, Darlene Lambert Netzer highlights the overarching philosophy of Montessori education—student-driven learning within state standards. "The Montessori approach allows students to decide a learning path. This encourages independence and self-motivation, creating a sense of ownership over their education," she explains.

The Montessori environment maintained by educators like Netzer goes beyond academic excellence. It encompasses a holistic exploration of the arts, social ethics, and cultural studies. The supportive framework adopted by Netzer allowed each student to navigate their learning journey, whether through traditional academics or exploring creative interests, such as students who pursue art.

Darlene Lambert Netzer's passion for nurturing literacy and self-discovery is evident in the enduring connections she maintains with former students. Many of them reach out for guidance on professional writing tasks or to seek her opinion on maintaining the creative writing strategies they learned under her tutelage.

In a world increasingly influenced by artificial intelligence, Netzer recognizes the importance of grounding education in authentic human creativity and expression. She maintains that while technology complements learning, the intrinsic value of personal expression, critical analysis, and independent thought must remain central to education.

Darlene Lambert Netzer is a dedicated retired Montessori teacher with decades of experience in fostering creative and independent thinking among students. Her commitment to innovative teaching practices and student-driven learning has left a lasting impact on her students and the broader educational community.

Close Up Radio will feature Darlene Lambert Netzer in an interview with Jim Masters on Monday, November 11th at 5 p.m. EST and Monday, November 18th at 5 p.m. EST

Listen to the show on [BlogTalkRadio](#)

If you have any questions for our guest, please call (347) 996-3389

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