



**Mexico: next inroad for MNRI?**



Elvira, a psychologist and social worker from Mexico, and her daughter, Dr. Anahi, and friend, Alba, all from Mexico, attended their first MNRI® Dynamic and Postural Reflex Integration class on January 8 -11, 2015; an MNRI® Tactile Integration class on Aug. 13-14; and then Elvira attended a 4-day Family

Conference in Oakland, CA. At this Oakland Conference, Elvira invited Dr. Masgutova to speak in Monterrey, Mexico at the International Congress.

So on October 15 Dr. Masgutova presented at the 15th Annual Meeting of Early Education and Preschool in Monterrey, Mexico to a large group of 1,500 people in the City Theater. She was thrilled to speak to such a large group of professionals; she feels it is so important to get the word out about our Method. When she said Vygotsky's name and mentioned that she studied for her Ph.D in the laboratory where Vygotsky worked and did his research, she received an ovation. She was proud and thrilled.

*Elvira writes:*

"Modern scientific research and therapy modality creators are looking for the best methods to support the treatment of children with special needs and neurodeficits as well as children with



neurotypical development. The 15th Monterrey Mexico International Congress leaders were searching for keynote speakers to bring the most innovative methods in educational technologies for young children. A therapy based on a neurodevelopmental approach of sensory-motor integration promises contributions in people's lives for generations.

For this reason, an invitation was given to Dr. Svetlana Masgutova to address this International Congress. Her work is one of best modalities for influencing neurodevelopment, strengthening the nervous system, providing resilience in response to stress, and stimulating neuroplasticity which is so important in the beginning of our lives.

We were honored to have Dr. Svetlana Masgutova with us at the International Congress in Monterrey. Representatives from 25 countries heard Dr. Masgutova's lecture; it was a big success because her information was of great interest and impact to the attendees and new to many.

With over 12 years experience using different international methods for individuals with challenges, we see that MNRI® surpasses our expectations in the great benefit it provides to our patients. We, in Mexico, look forward to learning more of the MNRI® method for the benefit of our patients.

The presentation by two MNRI® specialists – Diane Whiteside and Suzanne Amanor-Wills – was greeted with great enthusiasm by PT, OT, ST specialists and medical doctors. It was such a joy to learn more about the MNRI® reflex integration concept and to get some exercises for work with our children."

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## **Polish schools/clinics receive Presidential award**



*Wiesław Górecka and Piotr Górecki*

One of the articles in SMEI's recent book, *Reflexes: Portal to Neurodevelopment and Learning* was a series of stories written by 3 therapists (Agata Palasz, Paulina Turzynska, Michalina Lelek) of the Kashubian Foundation for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled in Poland. They provide MNRI® therapy at three Schools for

Rehabilitation, Education, and Early Childhood Development. Under the supervision of the Director Wiesława Górecka, there are about 100 pupils with a variety of developmental challenges including multiple and profound disabilities. Working with these children are 24 therapists, teachers, speech therapists, and psychologists.

The article followed 4 children: Nadia, Paulina, Krzysztof, and Zosia. These children suffered from neurodeficits such as autism, Rett Syndrome, congenital encephalocele, and complications of being severely premature. The success of MNRI® with each of these children was huge and allowed their natural personalities to bloom!

Ms. Górecka, herself the mother of a child with a disability, overcame incredible odds to create these 3 schools, each in a rural area of Poland.



Ms. Gorecka brought in classes for MNRI® training for the therapists of her schools in 2002 with Dr. Masgutova and immediately saw fairly quick improvements compared with other therapies. Today, all her school teachers and therapists are trained in basic MNRI® programs.



*Therapists and teachers with their MNRI Tactile certificates and their Instructor, Malgorzata Koczyk.*

The work of Ms. Gorecka in re-building the three schools is amazing.

Parents of the children support and love her immensely for her big heart, devotion, and being an advocate for their children. They also love her because she does not give up on the children; she believes their symptoms still can be improved, not just supported in the current state. She chose the MNRI® tools and they give it 3-4 hours a day for each child and 2-3 hours of academic programming in art, music, and activities addressing perception and cognitive processes. Their MNRI Mentor and Instructor, Malgorzata Koczyk has led them since the school doors opened, teaching classes and consulting with the professionals. What an amazing job Ms. Gorecka has done!

This year, Ms. Gorecka was given an award for her unique results with children and for her organizational work in founding the schools by Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski!

The International Dr. Svetlana Masgutova Institute of Poland is proud to support these fine schools!



*Schools for the disabled in Strzecz, Sikorzyno, and Pierszczewo, Poland.*

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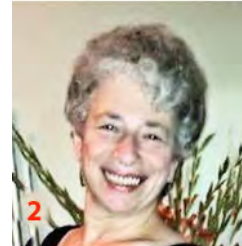
# New MNRI Instructors certified

SMEI is excited to announce two new Instructors:

**1. Shannon Desilets:** (of New Hampshire) is now a certified MNRI® Instructor in *Maximizing Brain Potential*.

**2. Sharon Heller:** (of Austin, TX) is now a certified MNRI® Instructor in *Visual & Auditory Reflexes* and *Dysfunctional and Pathological Reflex Integration*.

**3. Tina Marks:** (of Opelousas, LA) is now a certified MNRI® Instructor in *Maximizing Brain Potential*.



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## WalkForAutism

[WalkForAutism](#) is a fitness initiative supporting families with autism. This walk supports the Akhil Autism Foundation (AAF) in its efforts to bring MNRI® research and treatment for children on the autism spectrum. Through this walk individuals can generate much

needed awareness for autism as well as use their individual fundraising page to raise funds for the MNRI program until Nov. 30, 2015. Over the last several years AAF has supported over 60 families through the MNRI® program workshops.

Every individual who registers with more than \$15 for [WalkForAutism](#) will receive a free AAF t-shirt and individuals who raise over \$500 will receive a special mention on the AAF Ambassador's webpage.

Use of funds:

- 50% of the funds raised through the [WalkForAutism](#) will be donated to the Masgutova Foundation to further its research
- 50% will be used for grants to support families who are not otherwise able to afford MNRI® treatment for their children.

The Akhil Autism Foundation (AAF) had a successful MNRI Tactile Integration Class in October in New Jersey with Pamela Curlee. It was well received by 28 attendees, with 20 professionals attending and five parents who were sponsored by AAF.

Thanks to Manasha Lad for her support.



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## New MNRI Core Specialists certified



SMEI is excited to announce six new Core Specialists:

1. **Lisa Ortego:** of Carencro, LA, USA
2. **Laurie Callaba** of Lake Charles, LA, USA
3. **Emily Pelican:** of Kinder, LA, USA
4. **Heather Taylor:** of Bella Viata, AR, USA
5. **Ngoc Pham:** of Ha Noi, Vietnam
4. **Lisa Lindt:** of Downers Grove, IL, USA

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## 7 MEN in DPRI Class



Suzanne Amanor-Wilks recently taught a Dynamic and Postural Reflex Integration class in Monroe, Louisiana. There were 7 men in the class. Louisiana continues to be a state of intensive interest in MNRI®.



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## More Than Body Image



"A body tracing I did while in residential treatment, shortly after starting MNRI®. This is a graphic depiction of how it felt to be in my body at times, when it felt so uncomfortable to be inside my skin that I would say over and over, "It hurts; it hurts!" "

One of the stories in the book, *Reflexes: Portal to Neurodevelopment and Learning* is a brave and fascinating article written by Kim Masters of Minneapolis, MN. Kim suffered from a severe Eating Disorder for much of her adult life and was hospitalized at In-Patient Treatment Programs for it more than once. Eating Disorders can also undermine a person's self confidence and feelings of self-worth as they struggle to control actions they cannot stop.

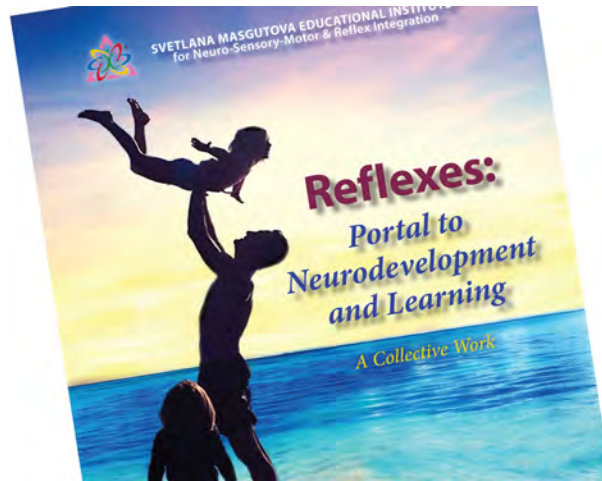
In her compelling narrative, Kim tells how she never "felt right in her own skin" but this symptom was not addressed until, at yet another In-Patient Treatment Program, she was treated by a Speech Therapist for Reflex Integration. As her reflexes improved, she also was able to forgive herself for behavior that she now realized was only her body's way of protecting herself.

There is little effective treatment for Eating Disorders so this story represents new and uncharted waters for the disorder. Kim's articulate and fascinating account helps us all understand ourselves and our bodies a little better.

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## Book reviews

Please consider going to this [link](#) on Amazon and writing a review of our new book (released in June, 2015). It would help people new to MNRI® understand what MNRI® is and its efficacy. Hopefully, we might also get more books into people's hands and spread the word about MNRI®!



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## The 2016 Conference line up

### U.S. Camps 2016

1. San Diego, CA Conference – 8 days – January 7-16
2. Orlando, FL Conference – 8 days – January 25-February 3
3. Washington, DC Conference – 5 days – April 8-13
4. Orlando, FL PTSD Conference – 5 days – April 19-24
5. Orange County, CA Conference – 5 days – June 14-19
6. Minnesota Conference – 5 days – June 24-29
7. Orlando, FL Conference – 8 days – July 8-17
8. San Francisco, CA Conference – 8 days – July 23-August 1
9. Madison, WI Conference – 5 days – September 9-14
10. Washington, DC Conference – 5 days – October 7-12
11. Orlando, FL Conference – 8 days – October 18-27

### International Camps 2016

1. March 6-19 2016 – in Mielno, Poland
2. May 29-June 11, 2016 – in Mielno, Poland
3. September 18 – October 11, 2016 - in Mielno, Poland
4. December 1-18, 2016 – Jakarta, Indonesia (Class and Camp)

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## Upcoming events

For further information about any of these events, see this [link](#):

**Class:** Nov 21-22, 2015 : MNRI® Tactile Integration

Orlando, FL | Pamela Curlee

**Class:** Nov 26-28, 2015 : MNRI® Reflex Integration and PTSD Recovery  
Montreal, Quebec, Canada | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

**Class:** Dec 3-6, 2015 : MNRI® IPET Repatterning and Integration-Level 2  
Orlando, FL | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

**Class:** Dec 4-6, 2015 : MNRI® Archetype Movement Integration  
Minneapolis, MN | Connie Jordan

**Class:** Dec 9-12, 2015 : MNRI® Neuro-Structural Reflex Integration  
Ann Arbor, MI | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

**Class:** Dec 10-11, 2015 : MNRI® Maximizing Brain Potential  
Lafayette, LA | Patty Shackleford

**Class:** Dec 19-20, 2015 : PTSD Workshop  
San Ramon, CA | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

Jan 7-16, 2016 : 8 Day MNRI® **Family Conference**  
San Diego, CA | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

**Class:** Jan 8-10, 2016 : MNRI® Visual & Auditory Reflexes Integration  
Orlando, FL | Dr. Leah Light

**Class:** Jan 22-24, 2016 : MNRI® Archetype Movement Integration  
Lafayette, LA | Sharon Heller

**Class:** Jan 22-23, 2016 : PTSD Workshop  
Orlando, FL | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

**Class:** Jan 23-26, 2016 : MNRI® Neuro-Structural Reflex Integration  
St-Nicolas, Levis, QC | Christine Poulin

Jan 25 - Feb 3, 2016 : 8 Day MNRI® **Family Educational Conference**  
Orlando, FL | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

**Class:** Jan 29 - Feb 1, 2016 : MNRI® Neuro-Structural Reflex Integration  
Bali | Stephen Best Sp.Ed., Ed.S., LMT

**Class:** Feb 4-5, 2016 : MNRI® Parent Workshop  
Perth, AU | Stephen Best Sp.Ed., Ed.S., LMT



**Class:** Feb 8-9, 2016 : MNRI® Parent Workshop  
Albany, AU | Stephen Best Sp.Ed., Ed.S., LMT

**Class:** Feb 12-14, 2016 : MNRI® Reflexes & Immunology  
San Ramon, CA | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

**Class:** Feb 13-14, 2016 : MNRI® Parent Workshop  
Brisbane, AU | Stephen Best Sp.Ed., Ed.S., LMT

**Class:** Feb 17-18, 2016 : MNRI® Parent Workshop  
Sydney, AU | Stephen Best Sp.Ed., Ed.S., LMT

**Class:** Feb 19-21, 2016 : MNRI® Facial Reflex Integration-Level 1  
Lafayette, LA | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

**Class:** Feb 26-28, 2016 : MNRI® Facial Reflex Integration-Level 1  
Grayslake IL | Lori Burgess & Brea Maday

**Class:** Feb 26-28, 2016 : MNRI® Archetype Movement Integration  
Grand Rapids, MI | Christine Poulin

**Class:** Feb 26-29, 2016 : MNRI® Dynamic and Postural Reflex Integration  
Orlando, FL | Pamela Curlee

**Class:** Mar 4-6, 2016 : MNRI® Proprioceptive & Cognitive Integration  
Orange County, CA | Shannon Desilets

**Class:** Mar 5-8, 2016 : MNRI® Dynamic and Postural Reflex Pattern Integration  
Montreal, Quebec, Canada | Christine Poulin

Apr 8-13, 2016 : 5 Day MNRI® **Family Educational Conference**  
Washington, DC area | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

**Class:** April 10-11 & June 12-13, 2016 : MNRI® Dynamic and Postural Reflex  
Pattern Integration  
New Jersey | Mary Rentschler

**Class:** May 13-16: Life Long Reflex Integration  
Tyler, Texas / Pamela Curlee

Jul 8-17, 2016 : 8 Day MNRI® **Family Educational Conference**  
Orlando, FL | Dr. Svetlana Masgutova

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