



CalAPT Today

A Newsletter of the California Association for Play Therapy

California Pride Edition

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Hello CALAPT Members!

As this year quickly winds down, I wanted to share with you some highlights from my experience at this year's annual conference in Atlanta.

As always, the event was fabulous! The venue was beautiful and comfortable. The energy of so many play



therapists in one place filled the air. They had an excellent selection of workshops to choose from each day. Although I love this amazing opportunity to learn

from so many play therapists from all over the country, the shopping and networking is even more remarkable!

This year I was proud to see California so well represented. I was able to meet many of you who attended, and made some wonderful new friendships! There were four poster presentations by California presenters, and six workshops were presented by Californians (more information to follow). Of the four presenters, CALAPT has been honored to have three of them present for us in 2015!

If you have not attended one of the Association for Play Therapy's Annual Conference, I would highly recommend it. Mark your calendars, next year it will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, October 4-9, 2016. I hope to see many of you there!

Jodi Smith, LCSW, RPT-S

Lifetime Achievement Award Kevin O'Connor PhD, ABPP, RPT-S



Dr. O'Connor received the Lifetime Achievement Award! Congratulations!

Kevin O'Connor, PhD, ABPP, RPT-S is a Clinical Psychologist. He is a Distinguished Professor, Coordinator of the Ecosystemic Clinical Child Psychology Emphasis and Director of the Ecosystemic Play Therapy Training Center at Alliant International University - Fresno. He is the cofounder and a Director Emeritus of the Association for Play Therapy. He is the author of numerous books including *The Play Therapy Primer, 2nd Edition* and co-author of *Play Therapy Treatment Planning and Interventions, 2nd Edition*, and co-editor and *Play Therapy Theory and Practice, 2nd Edition*. He regularly presents workshops across the United States and abroad having presented in Canada, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Mexico, Portugal, Singapore, and South Africa. Finally, Dr. O'Connor is a Board Certified Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychologist and Fellow of the American Psychological Association who maintains a small private practice treating children and adults.

Poster Presentations

Developing the TCIRS: Analyzing Statistical and Conceptual Factors Among the TCIRS Authors

O'Connor, K., Cusson, I., Le, D., & Bradni, R.
California School of Professional Psychology at
Alliant International University

[Click Here to view Poster Presentation](#)



Ian Cusson, Diana Le, Kevin O'Connor

Play Therapists' Beliefs Regarding the Contribution of Various Therapist Behaviors to the Therapist-Child Relationship

O'Connor, K., Machicote, L., Yoshida, K.,
Burcham, B., Elfallal, D., & Saunders, N.
California School of Professional Psychology at
Alliant University

[Click here to view Poster Presentation](#)

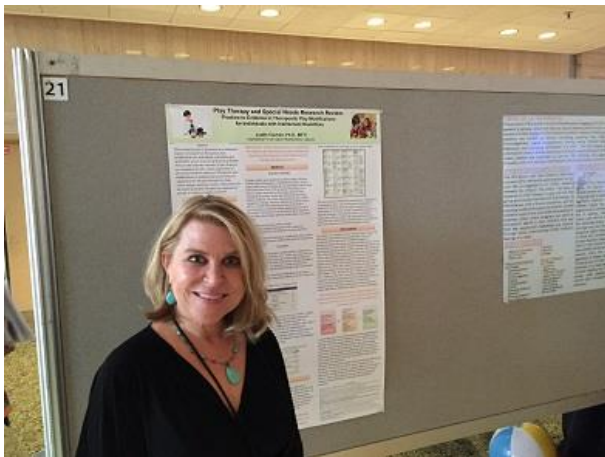


Kevin O'Connor, Brandi Burcham, Nia Saunders,
Linsay Machicote

Play Therapy and Special Needs Research Review: Practice to Evidence in Therapeutic Play Modifications for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities

Judith Tischler PhD, MFTI

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Art Intervention Focusing on the Self

Carolyn Frances, MFTI



Workshop Presenters

Kevin O'Connor, PhD, RPT-S
(& Teri Krull, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S)
Strategies for Clarifying One's Theory of Play Therapy

Kevin O'Connor, PhD, RPT-S
Integrative Play Therapy: Using Neuroscience and Developmental Theory to Integrate Theories and Practices

Janine Shelby, PhD, RPT-S
Safety-Focused Interventions for Play Therapists

Kimberly VanderDussen, PsyD, RPT-S
Principles of Brain Development: An Overview for Play Therapists

Bridgette Mitchell MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
Steps to Successfully Terminate the Play Therapy Relationship

Katrinca Ford, MS, LMFT
They Have to Teach Us: Children of Gay and Lesbian Parents in Play Therapy

Networking



Networking



Come Play in Louisville, Kentucky at the 2016 Association for Play Therapy Annual Conference!