



CALAPT TODAY

A Newsletter of the
California Association for Play Therapy

Volume 26, Number 5, October 2015



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www.calplaytherapy.org



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President's Message

2015 has been a busy and productive year for CALAPT. Although our continuing warm weather and drought make winter seem far off, it is quickly approaching!

Our eight California Chapters have hosted some wonderful events, with amazing nationally and internationally renowned speakers. We have had several events sell out! The next few months have several wonderful events planned, and there are still two full-day trainings scheduled this year.



Jodi Smith, LCSW, RPT-S
CALAPT 2015 President

Please check out our calendar of events in this newsletter or on our website to make sure you do not miss anything. You can register for upcoming full day workshops at calplaytherapy.givezooks.com.

With 2016 rapidly approaching it is time to consider what you, as a member, would like to see from CALAPT, as well as how you can be involved. We are in the process of selecting officers for next year. If you are interested in becoming more involved, reach out to your local chapter, or directly to me!

Jodi Smith, LCSW, RPT-S



APT Membership

The Association for Play Therapy (APT) is the parent organization of CalAPT.

The Association for Play Therapy observes a dual membership policy. Dual membership requires:

- Persons joining CalAPT join APT
- Persons living in California who join APT also become members of CalAPT.

The purpose of dual membership is to increase collaboration and interaction between APT and its state branches – a partnership CalAPT supports!

Being an APT member provides you with discounted rates for full day trainings, Quarterly Journals, and the Play Therapy Magazine. Membership also allows for discounted rates for the Annual National Play Therapy Conference. To renew your membership please talk with your nearby chapter or visit the APT Website at <http://www.a4pt.org/memberapp.cfm>

Spotlight On Dr. Kevin O'Connor, PhD, ABPP, RPT-S

CONGRATULATIONS Dr. O'Connor!

Dr. Kevin O'Connor received the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Play Therapy at this year's conference in Atlanta!

His acceptance speech was personal and moving. Thank you Dr. O'Connor, for your inspiration and major contributions to the field of play therapy and for sharing so much of yourself with us!



Kevin O'Connor, PhD, ABPP, RPT-S is a Clinical Psychologist. Dr. O'Connor's clinical specialization is the treatment of children using play therapy. He is the cofounder and now Director Emeritus of the Association for Play Therapy. 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 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 of *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.

Dr. O'Connor's primary area of research and clinical interest is the ecosystemic context of the practice of psychology. This includes two elements. One is the conceptualization of the impact of a person's entire personal and ecological experience on his or her ability or inability to cope at any given point in time. The other is the need for psychology to consider those ecosystemic variables in all aspects of case conceptualization, treatment planning and implementation in order to be effective. As such Dr. O'Connor has been particularly interested in all diversity issues but most specifically ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation. One example of this multi or ecosystem focus is the research he conducted on therapists' attitudes toward the acceptability of gay and lesbian therapists working with children.

Don't miss Dr. Kevin O'Connor!

11/7/15

Central Valley Chapter ~ 6CE

Presents: **Ecosystemic Play Therapy for School Aged Children with Conduct Disorder**

Presented by: Kevin O'Connor, PhD, ABPP, RPT-S

Time: 8:30AM to 4:30PM

Location: Alliant International University

5130 E Clinton Way, Fresno, CA 93727

[Online Registration](#)

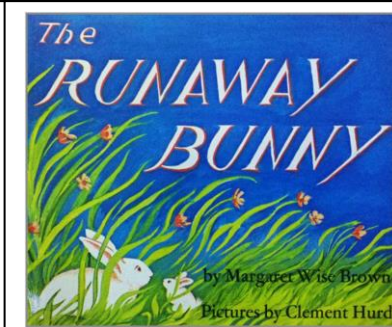
2015 Upcoming Events

- 11/7/15 Central Valley Chapter ~ 6CE**
Presents: Ecosystemic Play Therapy for School Aged Children with Conduct Disorder
Presented by: Kevin O'Connor, PhD, ABPP, RPT-S
Time: 8:30AM to 4:30PM
Location: Alliant International University
5130 E Clinton Way, Fresno, CA 93727
- 11/14/15 Sacramento Chapter Meeting (1.5 CE)**
Presents: Fun Play Therapy Interventions
Presented by: Lyla Taylor, LMFT, RPT-S
10:00AM - 12:00PM
Alliant University - Sacramento
2030 W. El Camino Ave. (Upstairs in the KVIE Building)
Sacramento, CA 95833
RSVP to Katherine Barrett at saccalapt@gmail.com
- 12/4/15 San Francisco Bay Area Chapter ~ 6 CE**
Presents: Riding the Merry-Go-Round: Navigating Family Relationships Using Play Therapy
Presented by: Mary Ruth Cross, MS, LMFT, NCC, RPT-S and
Karen Pernet, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
Time: 8:30AM to 4:30PM
Location: Cal State University East Bay, Hayward.
2500 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward, CA 94542, Multipurpose Room B

Book Review

The Runaway Bunny by Margaret Wise Brown

“Once there was a little bunny who wanted to run away. So he said to his mother, “I am running away.” “If you run away” said his mother, “I will run after you. For you are my little bunny,” This book is a great book about how a mother bunny loves her baby. I love how this baby bunny tests his mother’s love for him and she consistently says she will follow him wherever he goes. So many children who are adopted from overseas orphanages or are in foster care have never had this kind of love given to them. They have never experienced a secure attachment to an attachment figure and struggle to believe that they are



worthy of this kind of love. It is powerful when a parent can read this to a child they are fostering or have adopted and to say these words to their child. The bunny goes on through the book to challenge his mother saying he will go to many different places and she continues to say she will follow him. At the end of the book the mother bunny says “If you become a little boy and run into a house, I will become your mother and catch you in my arms and hug you.” “Shucks,” said the bunny, “I might just as well stay where I am and be your little bunny.” I love children’s books that represent attachment and use animals as a safe way for a child to explore their relationship/attachment to their foster/adopt parent without feeling too vulnerable emotionally.

Book Reviewed by: Malaika Clelland, LCSW, RPT-S

Malaika is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Her area of focus is counseling children, adolescents and families. For the past 18 years she has worked in children's mental health agencies, hospitals (pediatric and maternity units) and in private practice. Malaika is a Registered Play Therapist Supervisor and is also trained in infant mental health, working with mothers and their infant/toddlers. She currently serves as the President of the Orange County Chapter of CalAPT.



www.clellandtherapy.com

Chapter Updates:

Central Coast Chapter Leadership and Update:

(The Central Coast Chapter includes the areas of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara)

President ~ Allison Locke Email: allygato1998@yahoo.com

We were excited to have Kimberly Bartlett, LCSW, RPT-S come to our central coast to present a workshop on October 3rd. Workshop participants walked away with play therapy techniques to use with active children and boys that we sometimes struggle to get to attend and focus in sessions.

Our CALAPT Central Coast Chapter officers will be meeting soon to put together our calendar for 2016. We are looking forward to another year on the central coast and will be collecting feedback regarding our member's interests and desires for upcoming workshops.

Allison Locke, ASW
President, Central Coast Chapter

Central Valley Chapter Leadership and Update:

(The Central Valley Chapter includes the areas from Tulare to Stanislaus)

President ~ Valente Orozco Email: vorozco@cloviscounseling.com

The Central Valley chapter would like to thank all those who attended our meeting and training in August, "The Neurobiology of Play: How Play Therapy Supports Trauma-Informed Care." We had a great turnout and attendees enjoyed the hands on experience of the training. A sincere thanks to our presenter, Dr. L. Marin Pierce.

The Central Valley chapter is excited to announce our upcoming training on November 7th. We are honored to have distinguished presenter, Dr. Kevin O'Connor presenting "Ecosystemic Play Therapy for School Aged Children with Conduct Disorders." The training will be held from 8:30am to 4:30pm at Alliant International University in Fresno, CA. Dr. O'Connor is an internationally renowned play therapy speaker, author and one of the co-founders of the Association for Play Therapy. We will be offering 6 continuing education units to attendees. For more information, please email centralvalleycalapt@gmail.com We are looking forward to another wonderful training.

Valente Orozco
President, Central Valley Chapter

Los Angeles Chapter Leadership and Update:

(The Los Angeles Chapter includes the areas of Los Angeles, Ventura, & the San Fernando Valley)

President ~ Gloria Osborne Email: gloriabosborne@gmail.com

The Los Angeles Chapter had our last 1.5 CEU training for the year presented by Nathan Swaringen, LCSW on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at The Guidance Center in Long Beach. Nathan presented “The Neurobiology of Play Therapy: How Attachment Heals Trauma.”

We are also looking for potential presenters for the 2016-2017 year. If you or someone you know is interested in presenting for the Los Angeles Chapter, please email us at lacalapt@gmail.com.

For additional information and/or to be added to our email list, please contact us at lacalapt@gmail.com.

Gloria Osborne, MSW
CALAPT Los Angeles Chapter President

Orange County Chapter Leadership and Update:

(The Orange County Chapter includes all geographic regions of Orange County)

President~ Malaika Clelland, LCSW Email: malaikaclelland@gmail.com

We had a great dinner gathering on September 10 at the Irvine Spectrum. Patricia Kovars, MFT came and presented her Capable Kid Cards that are now available for sale. She explained how these can be used with kids to help them build positive coping skills and express their feelings. We are looking forward to our next meeting on October 24 from 9:30-11:30, when we will have Susan Reedy, MFT, present “Trauma Resiliency Skills Through Sensory Based Play Therapy” at Argosy University in Orange. It has been a great year of training and networking together as Play Therapists in Orange County.

Thank you!
Malaika Clelland, LCSW, RPT-S
Orange County Chapter President

Sacramento Chapter Leadership and Update:

(The Sacramento Chapter includes Sacramento and outlying areas including Elk Grove, Folsom, El Dorado Hills, Roseville and Auburn and Davis, Yolo County.)

President ~ Rita McCampbell Email: ritamccampbell@gmail.com

A special thanks to Janine Shelby PhD for presenting for Sacramento last month on “Safety Based Intervention Strategies for Play Therapists”. Attendees learned valuable skills and had a wonderful time!

Thank you,

Rita McCampbell, MA, MFTI
President, Sacramento Chapter

San Bernardino Chapter Leadership and Update:

(The San Bernardino Chapter includes all geographic areas of San Bernardino County)

President ~ Brianna Belcher Email: tenacious_breezy@yahoo.com

Greetings fellow play therapy enthusiasts, it's been an exciting year! We have had the chance to host some amazing presenters and we're shocked that the year is already coming to an end. We had the chance to host an awesome meet and greet at our local Panera, which gave us the chance to network and form connections for prospective leadership for next year! We are so excited to say that we are close to solidifying our 2016 leadership. Coming up on November 7th, will be hosting our final meeting for the 2015 calendar year, with Georgie Wisen-Vincent, LMFT, RPT, as she shares with us a wonderful presentation on play therapy strategies for children who struggle to put their feelings into words. We are excited to be able to learn from her and apply what we learn to our future practice. We would love it if you'd join us for the fun!

Brianna Belcher, MSW
President, San Bernardino Chapter

San Diego Chapter Leadership and Update:

(The San Diego Chapter includes all geographic areas of San Diego County)

President ~ Shirla Pamp Email: shirlapamptherapy@gmail.com

The San Diego Chapter was excited to host our 2nd 1.5 CE Workshop on Saturday, October 17th "Heal My Hurts, a Play Therapy Approach for Kids Processing Loss Due to Divorce" Presented by Kellye Laughery LMFT, MBA, RPT-S. We were amazed at the response in our community. We had so many RSVP's that we had to find a larger room to host our event! Thank you again for your support, San Diego!

Shirla Pamp, LMFT, RPT

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter Leadership and Update:

(The San Francisco Chapter includes all geographic areas of San Francisco Bay)

President ~ Karen Wolfe Email: Karen@sfbayplaytherapy.com

The SF Bay CALAPT chapter had a very successful meeting September 18th at The Sports Basement in Berkeley. The topic was "Playlistening: Using the Healing Power of Laughter in Play Therapy." We had 20 19 participants all engaging in a raucous game of dodge ball and an experiential role play of the tri-une brain in this fun and experiential training. We had 4 new member sign ups!

Our 6.0 training will be held December 4th at the University of California East Bay, Hayward Campus. Karen Pernet and Mary Ruth Cross will present a dynamic and inspiring workshop "Riding the Merry Go Round: Navigating Family Relationships Using Play Therapy. It's sure to be a day well spent, register at: calplaytherapy.givezooks.com.

As the year closes we have begun to gather our team for next year. We are excited to announce that Kate Leyva, MFT who practices in Lafayette will be joining us as the president elect for the 2016 year.

Karen Wolfe, MA, LMFT ~ President, Association for Play Therapy, Bay Area Chapter

2015 California Association for Play Therapy Board of Directors

Executive Board

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Email: jodismithlcsw@me.com

President-Elect

Yvonne Quesada, LCSW, RPT-S
Email: srta.q21@gmail.com

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Email: arkaa3@yahoo.com

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Email: Ptemple99@gmail.com

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Email: dr.mgabriel@gmail.com

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Interested in ADVERTISING in CALAPT Today?

The newsletter is published 5 times yearly in January, April, June, August and October. Deadlines are 60 days prior to these dates.

For information Email Jodi Smith, LCSW, RPT-S at jodismithlcsw@me.com

or

download the newsletter ad form at <http://www.calplaytherapy.org/NEWSLETTER.html>

We encourage all play therapists and CALAPT members to seek formal credentialing with the Association for Play Therapy.

For more information, go to

<http://www.a4pt.org/?page=Credentials>

OR

Carol Guerrero, CAP
Credentials Coordinator
Association for Play Therapy
3198 Willow Avenue, Suite 110
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Tel (559) 294-2128 ext 2
Fax (559) 294-2129
[*cvega@a4pt.org*](mailto:cvega@a4pt.org)

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A Coloring Book of Healing Images for Adult Survivors of Child Abuse (2015),

by Ellen Lacter

Psychoeducation, healing suggestions, 119 illustrations, heavyweight paper suitable for most art media <http://colortoheal.com/>

Group & Individual Play Therapy Supervision

with Jodi Smith, LCSW, RPT-S in Claremont, CA

Available Friday Mornings & One Saturday per Month Beginning in May

Call Jodi at (909) 203-0211 or Email: jodi@playispowerful.com

Individual Play Therapy Supervision

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Available face to face or distance

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Play Therapy Supervision

with Kimberly Bartlett, LCSW, RPT-S

Utilizing an Integrative Play Therapy perspective, clinicians will explore ways to integrate a range of play therapy orientations into their practice. www.caringheartplaytherapy.com

DISCLAIMER: The aim of the CALAPT Newsletter is to provide a forum for discussion of a wide range of articles representing various theoretical models, treatment approaches, concerns and activities in play therapy. Inclusion of a specific article does not reflect CALAPT official position or endorsement unless otherwise stated. The data and statements herein are the sole responsibility of the authors concerned.