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REMEMBERING ROGER ALTERNBERG

By Adam Blatner

Roger Alternberg (1922-2005) was a professor of theatre arts at California State College in Los Angeles when he first encountered psychodrama and hosted a workshop there in 1966. (It was there I first met Dr. Moreno, Lew Yablonsky, and others in the Los Angeles community, and this furthered my new interest in Moreno's work.) During the late 1960s and through the 1970s he developed a synthesis of psychodrama and drama therapy in his department, and became one of the organizers of the nascent field of drama therapy near the end of the 1970s. In 1979, he was a co-founder of the National Association for Drama Therapy, and served on its board for a number of years. NADT certifies drama therapists and trainers of prospective therapists, and Roger was instrumental in developing its professional standards. He retired in the later 1980s and lived a rich and multi-faceted old age until passing from a recent severe heart attack.