

PSYCHODRAMA AND SOCIOMETRY:
PATHWAYS TO WONDER AND
COLLECTIVE EMPOWERMENT

Saturday and Sunday Nov. 8 and 9, 2025



Symposium and glance

Keynote A Morenean Perspective on Wonder and	
Collective Empowerment	11/8
Marcia Karp, M.A., TEP, UKCP and Jonathan D. Moreno, Ph.D.	
Morning and afternoon workshops	11/8
U.S. and International Presenters	
Plenary The Research Pathway to Wonder and	11/9
Empowerment	11/9
Scott Giacomucci, DSW, LCSW, BCD, CGP, FAAETS, TEP & Rob Pramann, Ph.D., (Group Psychology), TEP, and Research Committee	ABPP
Playback A Playback Theatre Experience	11/9
Ed Lehmann and the Living Mirror Playback Troupe	
Afternoon workshops	11/9

U.S. and International Presenters

The 6th annual Online Fall Symposium is organized by the Education Committee of the American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama. In addition to this event, ASGPP sponsors an annual conference, online learning programs and affinity groups. For more info and to learn about the May 6-10, 2026 conference in Niagara Falls, NY, visit:

asgpp.org.



THE SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE



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UNEEDA BREWER, MSW, TEP

Chair of education committee, executive life coach using psychodrama in non-clinical settings.

COLLEEN BARATKA, M.A., TEP

Creator of multiple programs treating eating disorders and trauma with psychodrama.

TANJA LEE, PH.D., RDT, CPT-2, SP

Psychology professor, drama therapist and performer.

DAISY MARTINEZ-DICARLO, LMHC, TEP

Creator of Theatre of Social Justice and psychotherapist.

Saturday, Nov. 8

10:30 A.M. SYMPOSIUM OPENING AND WELCOME

Join the members of the ASGPP Education Committee in opening the symposium with appreciations, sociometry and unique ways of engaging that bring us together in the virtual space as a vibrant learning and wonder-filled community.

11 A.M. TO NOON KEYNOTE

THE MORENEAN PERSPECTIVE ON WONDER AND COLLECTIVE EMPOWERMENT

MARCIA KARP, M.A., TEP, UKCP JONATHAN D. MORENO, PH.D.

The symposium opens with inspiring and insightful reflections from Marcia Karp, a treasured elder psychodramatist who was a student of both J.L. and Zerka T. Moreno and Dr. Jonathan D. Moreno, son of J.L. and Zerka T. Moreno and a professor of medical ethics.

They'll ask each other questions about their experiences and explore perspectives on the world impact of the Morenos, telling how psychodrama is a way of life. Marcia quotes J.L. Moreno as saying, "The greatest illness of society is compulsive conformity."



Marcia Karp, a student of J.L. and Zerka Moreno, is a recipient of ASGPP's J. L. Moreno Lifetime Achievement Award and a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the British Psychodrama Association. She is co-editor of "Psychodrama: Inspiration and Technique" and "Psychodrama Since Moreno," among other books and articles, many of which have been translated into numerous languages.

Jonathan D. Moreno is a U.S. philosopher and historian who specializes in the intersection of bioethics, culture, science, and national security, and has published seminal works on the history, sociology and politics of biology and medicine. He is the author of several books, including "Impromptu Man: J.L. Moreno and the Origins of Psychodrama, Encounter Culture, and the Social Network."

SATURDAY CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1-3 PM

1 THE TRIADIC METHOD TO PREPARE FOR AND RESPOND TO EXTREME CLIMATE EVENTS

Thomas Northrup, M.Ed., MSW candidate **Catherine D. Nugent**, LCPC, TEP

Participants will practice reversing the sociodynamic effect in the face of extreme climate events. Drawing on ongoing research in Baltimore, Maryland, and border towns in Zambia, the facilitators will guide participants to explore the triadic method's root in mutual aid and practice sociometric techniques to uncover shared problems, build alliances and empower community responses. The session includes theoretical grounding and a sociodramatic enactment. Practitioners seeking to improve their knowledge and practice of community organizing and public health endeavors will especially benefit from attending this workshop.

Learning objectives

- Examine how sociometry can foster mutual aid and collective action in response to extreme climate events.
- Demonstrate the application of the methods of sociometry and psychodrama in culturally responsive communityorganizing efforts.

2 THE MYSTICISM OF TELE, EMPATHY AND TRANSFERENCE TO CO-CREATE SYNARCHY

Leticia Nieto, Psy.D., LMFT, TEP **Daisy Martinez-DiCarlo,** LMHC-QS, LPC, TEP

Transference is always present. Do we know how to use it for justice and peace? Can we listen to what the youngest ones know? In this experiential workshop, we'll explore the magic vibrations between transference, empathy and tele the elders model along with synarchy, a system where there is joint governance, collective leadership and harmonious rule. In this system, there is no ranking. Through guided practice and shared reflection, participants will reveal empathic transmutation of transference to telic potency. Together, we'll practice opening our hearts wide enough to see each other well through new and ancient eyes.

Learning objectives:

- Recognize how we draw towards us those relationship geometries that teach us what we need to evolve our current awareness.
- Describe how wounds that have interfered with co-creation are also evolutionary. When worked through, they reveal the latent synarchy.

3 BRIDGING THE GAP: ENGAGING MEN IN THE PREVENTION OF INTERGENERATIONAL TRAUMA

Sheila Dallas-Katzman, M.A. Colleen Baratka, M.A., TEP, CTP-3

 How do we break the cycles of trauma passed down through generations especially those rooted in rigid societal

SATURDAY CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1-3 PM

gender roles? While much of the work in trauma prevention has focused on supporting women and girls, it is increasingly clear that lasting change requires the inclusion of men and boys in the conversation. This workshop explores how dominant gender norms have historically excluded men from emotional literacy and relational responsibility, perpetuating harm across generations. By embracing a more nuanced and inclusive approach to gender, we create space for the next generation to inherit wholeness—not wounds.

Learning objectives

- Identify the ways traditional gender roles contribute to intergenerational trauma.
- Apply strategies for engaging men in trauma-informed, relational healing work.

4 THE HEALING POWER OF PAST LIVES: EXPLORING THE MANY LIVES OF THE SOUL

Mark Wentworth, DMP Therapist Trainer Rhona Case, TEP

Some believe the Soul has experienced many other lives before this one. Others view "past lives" as a metaphor for understanding the deeper psyche. In this workshop we invite and welcome your other life characters, the ones from another time and another place. We will explore, "as if" they were real their often untold and unfinished stories. When the

story ends a newfound energy and liberation within both the individual and collective psyche becomes possible. Whose story are you telling?

Learning objectives

- Demonstrate methods to access "other lives" that came before this one.
- Define the connection between "lives lived before" and life in the present.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3:30-5:30 PM

5 PSYCHODRAMA AND SOCIOMETRY:
PATHWAYS TO WONDER AND COLLECTIVE
EMPOWERMENT ▲

Carlos Raimundo, M.D.

At the heart of this conference lies a vital exploration: why are wonder and collective empowerment—so essential to human thriving—so difficult to access in a world gripped by fear, division, and the hunger for certainty? This workshop invites you into a transformative space where spontaneity meets connection. Drawing from psychodrama, sociometry, and neuroscience, we uncover what blocks these states and how to reclaim them. Engage in embodied, relational processes that soothe threat responses and awaken creativity, empathy, and shared agency. Come ready to not just think but feel and co-create. Together.

Learning objectives

 Identify and explain how fear, uncertainty, and social division impact the brain. Explore how survival responses suppress wonder and connection, and learn to calm them to restore creativity, empathy, and agency.

 Demonstrate and apply psychodramatic and sociometric tools like *Play of Life* to visualize emotional worlds. Activate spontaneity, deepen relational insight, and build trust through embodied, creative, and shared group exploration that enhances wonder and collective empowerment.

6 CENTER STAGE: RECLAIMING VOICE AND BELONGING THROUGH CO-CREATED PSYCHODRAMA

Aimee Hadfield, LCSW, CP, PAT Tanner Matheny, CSW

Explore how centering the protagonist as a co-director in psychodrama fosters trauma-informed healing through collaboration, mutuality and choice. This experiential workshop integrates creative action methods to support narrative re-authoring and role development while honoring participants' identities and lived experiences. Attendees will gain practical tools to enhance spontaneity, deepen connection, and co-create therapeutic encounters rooted in trust, transparency and empowerment.

Learning objectives

- Describe how centering the protagonist as a co-director in psychodrama aligns with trauma-informed principles of trustworthiness and transparency, collaboration and mutuality, empowerment, voice, and choice.
- Demonstrate creative action methods that support narrative re-authoring and role development while honoring identities and experiences.

7 HOPE IN TIMES OF ADVERSITY: BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH PSYCHODRAMA

Barbara McKechnie, M.A., LCAT, LPC, RDT/BCT, RPT, TEP Amy Clarkson, MMT, LCAT, MT-BC, TEP

Hope is an active choice, where one lives in possibility and feels empowered to take action. Recent research has shown that a hopeful orientation is correlated with greater mental and physical well-being. Yet, staying rooted in hope can feel daunting in the face of profound life challenges. In this workshop, we will integrate elements of positive psychology, mindfulness and music with psychodrama to support you in cultivating a hopeful state of being within yourself so that you can help others connect with hopefulness.

Learning objectives

- Describe one way to integrate positive psychology, music and/or mindfulness in each phase of the psychodrama process: warm up, action and sharing.
- Identify and practice at least one invitation that encourages and supports hopefulness, mindfulness and authentic expression.

8 INDIGENOUS CIRCLE PRACTICE: A WAY TO PEACE AND HEALING OURSELVES AND SOCIETY

Edward Schreiber, TEP Strong Oak Lefebvre

Grandmother Strong Oak along with Ed Schreiber will introduce, teach and facilitate an indigenous circle practice from Visioning BEAR Circle - Intertribal Coalition's curriculum program, Walking in Balance with All Our Relations. Strong Oak will teach the basic ideas of deep listening without judgment, through the Talking Stick Circle Practice, and Ed will augment with corresponding ideas from Dr. J.L. Moreno, the originator of psychodrama. You will have the experience of the magnitude of the healing process inherent to the Circle Practice.

Learning objectives

- Recognize the essential elements to an Indigenous Circle Practice.
- Distinguish the core principles of this Indigenous Circle Practice.

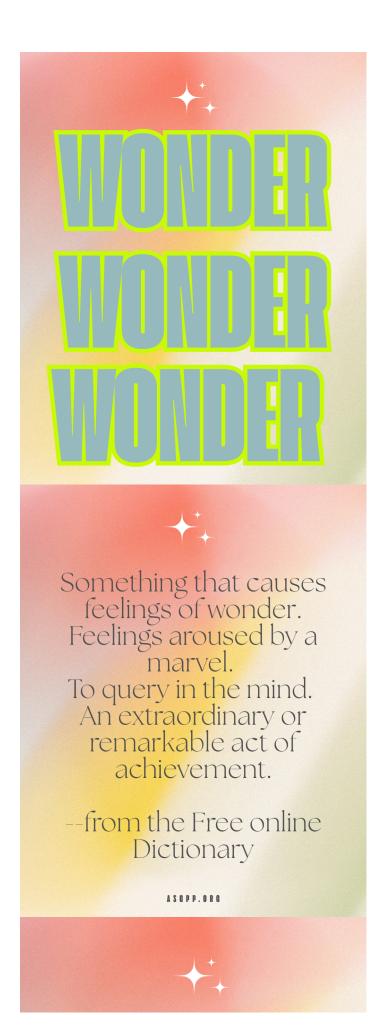
SATURDAY CLOSING 6-6:15 PM

Sharing and Going Forward, with the members of the ASGPP Education Committee and attendees.

CONNECTING WITH COLLEAGUES ACROSS THE GLOBE 6:15-6:45 PM

Conversations with United States and international colleagues – how might we connect and collaborate with each other to create new paths to wonder and collective empowerment?

JOIN US ON SUNDAY
FOR MORE
WONDER-FILLED
WORKSHOPS



Sunday Nov. 9

10:30 A.M.
SYMPOSIUM OPENING ENERGIZER

Welcome from Education Committee.

11 A.M. TO 1 P.M.
PLENARY SESSION
THE RESEARCH PATHWAY TO
WONDER AND COLLECTIVE
EMPOWERMENT

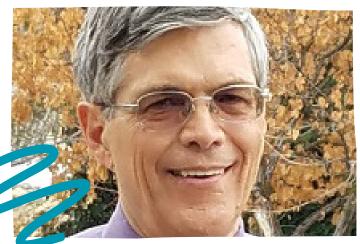
Scott Giacomucci, DSW, LCSW, BCD, CGP, FAAETS, TEP
Rob Pramann, Ph.D., ABPP (Group Psychology), TEP and ASGPP Research Committee
Members

This extended plenary workshop is designed to help psychodrama practitioners implement research into their work.

The research committee will collectively lead this workshop, starting with sociometry to explore attendees' relationship with research.

Then, a sociometric selection will identify a warmed-up attendee who will explore the details of how to design a study in their actual treatment or training environment.





Moderators and committee members will provide on-the-spot consultation through the necessary steps and considerations.

Following this enactment, participants will share their experience and integrate their learning with follow-up questions.

Learning objectives

- Participants will be able to describe logistical consideration for developing a research study.
- Participants will be able to explain the difference between qualitative and quantitative research.
- Participants will identify at least two factors to consider when choosing assessment tools for research.

PLAYBACK THEATRE 2-3 PM



11 PLAYBACK EXPERIENCE A

Ed Lehmann and Living Mirror Playback Troupe of Tampa, Fla.

Living Mirror Playback Theatre is an improvisational theater troupe that uses music, dialog, movement and unique improvisational forms to tell the stories of those often neglected or marginalized by society.

Audience members share their individual stories, and the actors "play back" those stories improvising on the spot.

Symposium attendees will have an opportunity to share stories about feelings, awareness and events they've experienced during the Saturday symposium and watch the Living Mirror actors play back those stories for you!

It's fun, entertaining and often truly touching.

SUNDAY CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3:30-5:30 PM

9 CAREER EMPOWERMENT: REVISITING PURPOSE AND RECLAIMING DIRECTION

Amna Jaffer, Ed.D., TEP

In this workshop, participants will reflect on the many facets of their career journey and recognize critical aspects that have had bearing on their career decisions.

Using sociometry to surface shared professional experiences and psychodramatic techniques to embody vocational dreams and dilemmas, this session invites attendees to reimagine their careers as empowered narratives of wonder, connection, and transformation. Through guided action methods, participants will practice new roles that support growth, purpose and community building within their professional lives.

Learning objectives:

- Examine interpersonal and intrapersonal forces and their relationship to building a purposeful career by creating and sharing a career social atom.
- Identify and strengthen adaptive roles to discover and strengthen professional identities by envisioning a desired career direction and through role creating and role training.

SUNDAY CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3:30-5:30 PM

10 THE PSYCHODRAMATIC EFFECT OF PETS, PARTS AND RECOVERY

David F. Moran, LCSW, CADC, TEP Karen Moser, LCSW, TEP

Emotional support animals have been readily available for mental health symptoms, and it is true that pets offer an unconditional love and contentment that allow us to see ourselves in a healthier light – "If I could only be the person, my pet thinks I am." In fact, pets are not deceived as we are about ourselves, but rather see our truer more natural self. In this workshop, we utilize psychodrama and Internal Family Systems to explore the protector parts of the addicted person and how in recovery from addiction these parts can be relaxed, stabilized and reconciled and allow the True Self to come forth, the True Self being compassionate, creative, caring, calm, curious, courageous, confident and connected.

Learning objectives

- Participants will utilize sociometric warmups and learn psychodramatic techniques of role reversal and integration.
- Identify three protector parts according to Internal Family Systems.
- Gain insight to the "Unburdening" of parts.
- Identify the ways that pets make us better people.

11 CULTURAL GROUNDING: HONORING MĀORI VALUES OF WHAKAWHANAUNGATANGA, MANAAKITANGA AND WAIRUA

Simon McLellan, Ph.D. Uneeda Brewer, MSW, TEP

This 90-minute workshop invites participants into an experiential space where psychodrama and sociometry become tools for collective empowerment and relational transformation. Grounded in the three Māori values of whakawhanaungatanga, manaakitanga and wairua, we will explore how these methods can foster connection, creativity and healing in virtual settings. Through sociometric mapping, shared storytelling, and co-created action, participants will experience how wonder and presence can emerge even across distance, deepening group vitality (mauri) and inspiring transformative possibilities in community life. At the end of the workshop, participants will have an opportunity to share their insights and explore "relational transformation" possibilities in their social environment.

Learning objectives:

 Participants will be able to demonstrate basic psychodramatic and sociometric techniques adapted for online facilitation and designed to strengthen wairua (spiritual connection) and group vitality (mauri).

12 CHOICE, CONNECTION, AND CREATIVITY: WHERE GLASSER MEETS PSYCHODRAMA

Julie Wells, LCSW, CP, TEP

Explore the rich intersections between William Glasser's Choice Theory and the action methods of psychodrama. While Glasser offers a cognitive framework through Reality Therapy,

SUNDAY CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3:30-5:30 PM

psychodrama brings insight to life in the here and now through creative action—whether in individual or group settings. Both approaches emphasize present-focused engagement and the importance of relationships in achieving a fulfilling "Quality World." Discover pathways where cognition meets creativity to foster empowerment, belonging and wonder within ourselves and the communities we serve.

Learning objectives

- Identify and differentiate between Glasser's Five Basic Needs.
- Apply two ways to blend psychodrama with Glasser's Reality Therapy.

SYMPOSIUM SUNDAY CLOSING 6-6:30 PM

Come together with members of the ASGPP Education Committee and symposium presenters and attendees to bring the symposium to a close.

This is a time to share your insights and takeaways with other attendees.

For our final closing, we will join in with Call and Response Circle Singing. Circle singing is a spontaneous, improvisational community singing experience that fosters creativity and connection among participants.

Invitation to an Encounter



A meeting of two: eye to eye, face to face.

And when you are near,
I will tear your eyes out
and place them instead of mine,
and you will tear my eyes out
and will place them instead of yours,
then I will look at you with your eyes
and you will look at me with mine

When J.L. Moreno was beginning to develop psychodrama as a young medical student, he wrote a short poem called "Invitation to an Encounter."

This poem, written in 1914, described "a meeting of two" where each person reverses his, her or their perspective with another person to gain empathy about that person's perspective.

He wrote, "Then I will look at you with your eyes, and you will look at me with mine."

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Psychodrama Training Credits & CE Information for Licensed Professionals in the United States

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS (CEs)

ASGPP has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 6079. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified with a **\(\Lambda \)**. ASGPP is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs. Up to seven CE credits available. Up to 11.5 online psychodrama training hours available.

CE CERTIFICATES

CE Certificates are \$30 as indicated on registration form. Those purchasing CEs will have a "CE Verification of Attendance Form" that will be emailed to them after the participant's attendance has been verified.

In order to receive CEs. participants must join the workshop with the email they registered and stay for the entire workshop. It is the responsibility of symposium participants to download and complete the form and submit the completed form to the national office at asgpp@asgpp.org no later than two weeks after the symposium.

PSYCHODRAMA TRAINING CREDITS

The American Board of Examiners in Psychodrama, Sociometry and Group Psychotherapy (ABE) certification standards specify a maximum of 100 training credits obtained through ASGPP conferences.

These 100 hours must be obtained through face-to-face, in-person conference attendance. The certification standards also allow up to 120 hours of distance learning led by PATs and/or TEPs to be applied toward the required training hours, provided those distance learning hours are reviewed and approved by the applicant's primary trainer.

As an accommodation during the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of allowable distance learning hours is increased to 150. Distance learning hours must be documented under the name(s) of the TEPs or PATs leading these training sessions and not under the organizations sponsoring those distance learning sessions.

Workshops that are not eligible for ABE-approved psychodrama training hours are identified with an asterisk (*).

Important! It is the symposium attendee's responsibility to determine if his, her or their licensing or credentialing organization will accept the CEs for re-certification or licensure maintenance.

BEST PRACTICES FOR ONLINE EVENTS

We will use the Zoom video conferencing platform for our symposium. Please make sure that you have uploaded the most recent version of Zoom to avoid delays or connection problems.

- You will also want to take time to catch up on updating your computer system with other general updates prior to the online event.
- Watch for the User ID and passcode in your e-mail box, and check your spam box if you have not received it.
- Plan to arrive at the workshop on time so that you can start on time and end on time.
- Familiarize yourself with the chat feature of Zoom.
 We will use the chat to share thoughts, ideas,
 suggestions and references. That information will be recorded and shared with all the participants following the meeting, so please be aware of what you write.
- Unless the presenters announce otherwise, we ask that everyone stay muted when others are speaking.
- If you want to share or ask a question, raise your hand electronically (under Reactions in Zoom) so that you can be recognized.
- Make sure that you have enough light shining on your face so that you will be visible to the participants. You might need to close the curtains or lower the blinds if you have a bright window behind you.
- Please be aware of time when talking so all group members will have a chance to share if they want to.
- You will likely receive a copy of written materials following the workshop; ask if the presenter will be sending handouts so you can focus on being present to the experience.



REGISTRATION AND TUITION

We are using the Green Bottle Initiative model for registration fees in order to make the 2025 Fall Symposium accessible to as many people as possible. Whether you have an overflowing bottle or an empty bottle, when you register, please register with integrity and select the plan that reflects your financial truth.

GREEN BOTTLE INITIATIVE

Plan A. Overflowing bottle: I have more than sufficient resources for my life.

\$225 USD for two days with an additional donation of your choice.

\$125 for one day with an additional donation of your choice.

Plan B. Full bottle: I have sufficient resources for my life.

\$225 for two days.

\$125 for one day.

Plan C. Half bottle: I have limited resources at this time.

\$100 for two days.

\$50 for one day.

Plan D. Almost empty bottle: I do not have sufficient resources.

\$50 for two days.

\$25 for one day.

Ready to register? Register by clicking here.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- The total number of online psychodrama training hours available = 11.5 hours.
- The total number of CEs available from NBCC = 7 hours.
- In case of cancellation, your payment will be credited to future ASGPP events.
- Workshops are filled on a first-come first-served basis.
- Contact asgpp@asgpp.org with any complaints or concerns.

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Niagara Falls, NY | 84th Annual Conference