2018 ASGPP Awards Ceremony

Expanding Horizons: Using Action Methods to Join All Humanity
Welcome to this year’s award ceremony!

The format for this year’s awards ceremony has changed to honor not only the winners, but also those who have been honored through nominations. Our hope is to complete this year’s awards ceremony within the 90-minutes scheduled. To accomplish this, the award winners have agreed to limit their acceptance speeches to five minutes. At the end of the five minutes, one of our Award Escorts will present the awardees with a rose as they help them from the stage.
Fellow Status may be granted by a vote of two thirds of the Executive Council (EC) to anyone who has been an active member of the Society for five or more consecutive years and has made a significant contribution to the field or to the Society. (Current EC members are not eligible to receive this status.)
Fellow Recipients

Marlo J. Archer, PhD, TEP
Fellow Recipients

Craig Caines, MSW, LICSW, TEP
Fellow Recipients

Norma Kay Lord, LCSW, LMFT, TEP
Fellow Recipients

Glenn C. Sammis, DMin, LPC, TEP
Diversity Award

The Diversity Award is presented annually to an ASGPP member, when appropriate, who has demonstrated outstanding creativity, commitment and achievement in developing environments of diversity and inclusion.
Dr. Nisha Sajnani is the Director of the Drama Therapy Program at New York University where she is also on faculty in the Educational Theatre and Rehabilitation Sciences PhD Program. She is the Editor of Drama Therapy Review, the journal of the North American Drama Therapy Association where she also led the effort to articulate guidelines for cultural responsibility in practice, supervision, and research. Dr. Sajnani is a recipient of the Corann Okorodudu Global Women’s Advocacy Award from the American Psychological Association and a recipient of the Research award from the NADTA. She a founding member of the World Alliance of Drama Therapy and a Visiting Professor with the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma.
President’s Award

This award is given by the ASGPP President in recognition of outstanding contributions and support as a psychodramatist and commitment to the work of J.L. Moreno, psychodrama, sociometry and group psychotherapy. This award recognizes the recipient’s contributions throughout his career in support of ASGPP’s mission and as a major supporter in the field.
Adam Blatner, MD, TEP, is a Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, doubly Board Certified in Child/Adult Psychiatry, a Certified Trainer of Psychodrama and a psychology theorist. He is the author of the book *Acting In*, first published in 1973, which became the primary textbook for students of Psychodrama. He also wrote a number of other books and dozens of journal articles and chapters in textbooks, including *Acting-In: Practical Applications of Psychodramatic Methods, Foundations of Psychodrama: History, Theory, and Practice, Interactive and Improvisational Drama: Varieties of Applied Theatre and Performance, and The Art of Play*, co-authored with his wife Allee Blatner. Adam has written papers and presented talks on a wide range of subjects, including Process philosophy, Postmodernism, and Scriptology. He became close friends with philosopher Charles Hartshorne in the final years of Hartshorne's life, helping him at his home in Austin, Texas.

Adam completed his undergraduate studies at University of California, Berkeley, and was awarded Phi Beta Kappa. He then attended medical school at the University of California, San Francisco campus, graduating in 1963, and completed his psychiatric residency at Stanford University Medical Center.

Adam has been a staunch supporter of researching and writing about Psychodrama, and it's impact on fields outside of mental health. We are pleased to have Adam with us at this year's conference and are delighted he is the recipient of this year's President's Award.
The Zerka T. Moreno Award is given annually to an individual, who is not a TEP or a Fellow of the Society, for distinguished work in psychodrama, sociometry and group psychotherapy.

Selection is based on accomplishments in the following categories: publications, professional presentations, research, professional activities leading to the increasing utilization and awareness of psychodrama, and ASGPP membership activities.
Originally from Brazil, Sergio now lives and works in Argentina. His background includes undergraduate degree in Social Communications in Sao Paulo, Brazil; Master's degree and teaching at the University of Leon in France; graduate study in Information Sciences in Spain. Following an invitation by UNESCO, Sérgio moved to Angola, a country in Africa and a former Portuguese colony, to help the government integrate children in the school system. Three years later, Sérgio moved to Brazil to work for the Ministry of Education in Sao Paulo and this would be the start of his career in Psychodrama. He also wrote books with the Brazilian educator, Paulo Freire, on “Pedagogy of the Oppressed.”

Sérgio graduated as Doctor of Psychology from the University in Buenos Aires, with a dissertation on "Origins and Development of Psychodrama as a Method of Psychosocial change". He dedicated his later life to capturing interviews with Zerka Moreno and working very closely with the ones that were closest to her, including her son Jonathan Moreno and their family biographer, Rene Marineau. He has been providing the international psychodrama community with beautiful documented footage of their interactions.

Sérgio created a YouTube channel dedicated to Zerka and the people in her life. You can find the videos on YouTube through a search under Sergio’s name.
Innovators Award

The Innovators Award is presented annually, when appropriate, to a member of The American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama whose work significantly and in new directions extends the applications or methods of psychodrama, sociometry, and/or group psychotherapy.
Chi-Chu (Adam) Chou, Ph.D., Ed.D., TEP, Fellow (ASGPP), is an Associate Professor at Feng Chia University, Taiwan. Chi-Chu has worked hard, alongside his colleagues, to adapt psychodrama methods in developing a new pedagogy in teaching business and economics. He is quick to note that the seeds and roots of these endeavors are conceived and nurtured by his psychodrama trainers and friends in both Taiwan and American psychodrama communities.

Chi-Chu was originally trained by Drs. Dorothy and Mort Satten, who walked with him into the field of psychodrama and guided him in meeting and playing with his inner playwright, and he continues to experiment and rewrite his conventional life script since then. Chi-Chu has also trained with Glenn Sammis and Katrena Hart, who helped him complete the training and certification process after Dorothy and Mort stepped down from their stages of life.

As a psychodramatist teaching at business school, Chi-Chu lives a life with dual-professional roles, a cluster of roles as economist and another cluster as psychodramatist and counseling psychologist. Chi-Chu says, “Doing psychodrama supervision and training has been continuously contributing to the transformation and enrichment of my role as economist. I constantly surprised by the feedback and interaction of these two clusters of roles; life is full of surprise, challenge and joyful moment. It’s such a unique experience in creating and co-creating business world and economics interpretation in surplus reality, experimenting partly with expanding and future projecting of student’s real life experiences.”

Chi-Chu continues to expand the application of psychodrama methodology to higher education, business and economics education in particular, in a more systematic and rigorous way.
The Hannah Weiner Award is presented annually to an individual for outstanding dedication to the American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama.
Did you know that Janell worked twenty-nine years for a large electric utility corporation in their Information Technology department before taking an early retirement “buy out” and starting her new career at age fifty!

She started her Psychodrama journey first as a client with Dr. Dan B. Estes Ed. D, TEP, who was a Psychodrama trainer, as well as a therapist and she continued the journey with many trainers beginning in the late 1980’s. They included Zerka Moreno, Dan Estes, Meg Givnish, Gerry Tremblay, Tom Treadwell, Donell Miller, Claire Danielson, Dorothy Satten, Rebecca Walters, Judy Swallow, and many others. She graduated from West Chester University in December 1994 with an MA in Psychology with the concentration of Psychodrama, Sociometry and Group Psychotherapy. She first received her CP in 1995 and then her TEP in 2000. Since than she’s worked for almost twenty years with adjudicated adolescents at the Bucks County Youth Center as well as having a private practice since 1995.

The Hannah Weiner Award goes to an individual who has given outstanding service to the ASGPP. In 2009 She was approached and asked if she could take over the job of Treasurer of the ASGPP to complete 2 years of a term that was left vacant. In a ‘past life’ Janell was an accountant and she was honored to be asked to serve. Subsequently she was elected for two more 3-year terms! Eight years in total!

You will also know Janell as the person who sends you emails asking for donations for the Silent Auction and BasketCases. Janell, along with Rhona Case, grew the Silent Auction and Baskets from a two table display to fifteen tables!!! She has been a co-chair of this ASGPP fund raising event for five years and in the past two years continues to serve as a volunteer, thus, the emails you receive..politely begging for donations!

Janell has turned people on to psychodrama over the decades. She encourages them to participate and serve. She can also be recognized for serving the ASGPP’s past president, none other than Dave Moran, as the interpreter for Roberts Rules of Order during the Executive Council meetings.
The Collaborators Award is presented annually, when appropriate, to members of The American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama either in pairs or in teams, whose work over time has made a contribution to the learning and practice of psychodrama, sociometry, and/or group psychotherapy, and whose modeling of collaborative roles deserves to be brought to the attention of their peers.
Nan and Jacob were in training together from the 1980s. They began collaborating in 1995. They developed and co-lead a support group for men with erectile dysfunction and their partners. This program was connected with Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, Department of Urology. Viagra was just being introduced at this time. Nan and Jacob used action methods to enhance their work at the support group and other joint presentations.

Nan and Jacob collaborate in many roles. They have been co-directors of the Psychodrama Training Institute a division of the Sociometric Institute since 2008. They have facilitated training workshops both domestically and internationally.

Among their many tasks as co-directors, they co-lead monthly trainings, weekend workshops, and weekly on-going training and clinical groups. Nan and Jacob also offer training for therapists from a variety of disciplines at the Sociometric Institute, which has over 500 part time and full time therapists. In addition, they have been involved in training social work and mental health graduate students and psychology interns aspiring to become psychodramatists.

Both Nan and Jacob are involved in rotating collaborative presentations at The Sociometric Institute's Research Seminar with Robert Siroka PhD which include sociometry and role play.

Nan and Jacob collaborated with the Media Therapeutics Team producing and demonstrating Psychodrama and action methods for training videos. Their co-produced video "What is Psychodrama?" has had nearly 29,000 views on YouTube and also appears on the official ASGPP website. They combine their individual strengths and multilingual, multicultural perspectives with over 35 years each in the Mental Health field with a deep commitment to psychodrama and service to ASGPP.
J. L. Moreno Award

The J.L. Moreno Award is presented annually to an individual for outstanding life-long contributions in the field of psychodrama. Selection is based on general achievement over a period of at least 30 years.
We would like to invite Judy Swallow to the stage to introduce Rebecca.