

DAY CONFERENCE

WORKING TOWARDS HEALTH: Creative Therapies with Children and Young People

Opening Plenary Speaker:

Madeline Andersen-Warren, Dramatherapist, Supervisor and Trainer

Friday 5 February 2010

Derby and Rathbone Hall, Greenbank Conference Park, North Mossley Hill Road, Liverpool

The North Wales and Merseyside Branch of ACAMH is delighted to host this innovative day on the fascinating theme of creative therapies with children and young people. Drawing together a number of complementary streams, the day offers a unique opportunity to try out different techniques, strategies and approaches, and benefit from the valuable experience and skills of leading experts. The day opens with the Plenary Speaker, Madeline Andersen-Warren, a Dramatherapist, Supervisor and Trainer, employed for many years as a Nurse Specialist/Drama-Therapist and Health and Arts Co-ordinator in an NHS Trust, and currently the Chair of the British Association of Drama-Therapists and also a part-time lecturer and visiting tutor at several universities and colleges of further education. Her presentation focuses on the main challenges surrounding this important topic, particularly the way the inherent childhood aptitude to engage in spontaneous play, incorporating all of the arts, can become stifled in children who are experiencing trauma, and how children can lose their sense of identity when the impulse for self-expression, making sense of their world through games, drama, telling and hearing stories and music making is inhibited. Their perceptions of themselves and others can become distorted and their means of communication become limited or inappropriate. Madeline will highlight the value of the arts and arts therapies as helpful methods of engaging children whose stories cannot be expressed in words alone. Case studies and vignettes of practice will be used to illustrate the methods that arts therapists may use to enable children to engage in therapy and regain their sense of worth.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

- 0930 Registration and coffee
- 0950 Welcome: *Dr Warren Levine, Chair, ACAMH North Wales & Merseyside*
- 1000 **Opening Plenary : Healing children through art therapies** - *Madeline Andersen-Warren*
- 11.00 Morning Break
- 11.15 **Morning Workshops :**
 - Workshop One : An Introduction to Playback Theatre - *Bernie Hammond*
 - Workshop Two : Creating Dramas out of Illness Crisis - *Kate Kirk*
 - Workshop Three : Working Creatively in Schools: the work of the Haven Project in Liverpool - *Carl Dutton*
 - Workshop Four : Story-Telling with School-Aged Children - *James Robinson*
- 13.00 Lunch
- 14.00 **Afternoon Workshops** (as above)
- 15.30 Afternoon "Comfort" Pause for Coffee
- 15.40 **Feedback from Workshops and Panel Discussion**
- 16.15 Close

WORKING TOWARDS HEALTH

CREATIVE THERAPIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

ABSTRACTS OF WORKSHOPS

Morning and Afternoon Workshop Selections

WORKSHOP ONE: An Introduction to Playback Theatre

Aims and Objectives:

Playback Theatre is about telling, sharing and honouring stories through a variety of improvisation techniques and forms. This participatory workshop is a basic introduction to Playback Theatre and will include some games and techniques which can be used in all sorts of settings to creatively engage with anyone, but particularly with young people. Be prepared to move around a bit so don't wear restrictive clothing!

Workshop Leader:

Bernie Hammond read Drama and Italian at Bristol University. She came to Playback Theatre via Psychodrama in 2004, since then she has been a regular attendee at the UK and Ireland Playback Gatherings. She did the Core Playback training with Veronica Needa and Orla McKeagney of the UK School of Playback Theatre in Belfast in 2007. She is co-founder of Ecco Playback Theatre, Liverpool, a senior trainee psychodrama psychotherapist with the Northern School of Psychodrama and currently works as a psychological wellbeing practitioner in Primary Care in Liverpool. She has extensive experience of caring for family members with a range of mental and physical health challenges and worked for 3 years as an employment advisor in a Supported Employment team in Secondary Mental Health services. She has lived in Liverpool since 1986.

WORKSHOP TWO: Creating Dramas out of Illness Crisis

Aims and Objectives:

This workshop aims to explore using psychodrama and art as therapeutic interventions when working with young people who are ill; from diagnosis of an acute episode on to chronic and life threatening illness. One specific intervention will form the basis of the workshop - the six part story - which can be used both for assessment and as a therapeutic medium.

Workshop Leader:

Dr Kate Kirk has worked for Isle of Man CAMHS as a psychodrama psychotherapist since 2001; as part of her role she coordinates the paediatric liaison services. She works closely with local paediatricians and other professionals involved in the care of young people who have experiences of illness, for example as part of the multi-disciplinary diabetes, cystic fibrosis and chronic fatigue teams. Prior to this she worked as a psychodrama psychotherapist for Salford Palliative Care Counselling Service with clients, of all ages, who had a life-threatening illness, post-diagnosis through to the terminal phase. She has written extensively on her experiences of this work.

WORKSHOP THREE: Working Creatively in Schools: The Work of the Haven Project in Liverpool

Aims and Objectives:

This workshop will introduce the innovative work of the Haven Project in Liverpool, a school based mental health service for asylum and refugee children. It will introduce the film 'A Safe Haven', a group intervention with asylum, refugee, and local children using art, psychodrama, storytelling, gardening, and rap music. This film was premiered at FACT, an independent cinema in Liverpool and was part of the Holocaust Memorial National Event in 2008.

Workshop Leader:

Carl Dutton is Lead Therapist for the Haven Project and is a psychodrama psychotherapist and mental health nurse. He is book review editor of the British Psychodrama Association, BPA Executive member, and chaired the 2008 BPA Conference in Liverpool. He has presented the work of the Haven nationally and internationally.

WORKSHOP FOUR: Story-Telling with School-Aged Children

Aims and Objectives:

This workshop will explore the use of storytelling as a way to develop children's self esteem and confidence in being the tellers of stories and active participants. The workshop will introduce the audience to the art of telling a good story and much more, and will model a simple visual activity whereby education workers, mentors and teachers may use visual stimuli to excite the imagination of children and enable them to create their own story narratives. Participants will be offered the opportunity to have a natural attempt at telling a story verbally without visual aids.

Workshop Leader:

James Robinson is a storyteller who has worked in schools in Liverpool as well as in West Africa with Mustle Africa Trust. Now based in Liverpool, James moved from drama training in South London to working with an intergenerational project called Age Exchange Theatre making musical reminiscence plays, featuring elders and children. Since 1997 he has performed as a storyteller active in the international revival of the age-old art-form. He has visited east, west and southern Africa many times, learning from other tellers and in-turn reciprocating with sessions. He has published stories by the International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language and the Times Educational Supplement. Recently he was guest storyteller/workshop facilitator as part of the Africa @ 21 "Coming of age through reading" programme, British Council, South Africa.

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ABOUT ACAMH

Conference, Membership and Joining

“... committed to advancing standards, disseminating knowledge and enhancing clinical practice in a multi-disciplinary setting, to best meet the psychological needs of children, young people and all those involved in their care and development”

Members span the whole spectrum of those involved in CAMH, from trainees to senior consultants, academics to clinicians, individuals with an interest in CAMH to those responsible for designing and leading services. Diverse disciplines spanning membership include psychiatry, psychology, paediatrics, psychotherapy, social work, nursing, education and all other related fields. This approach is particularly significant in today's environment where professionals are increasingly working as part of multi-disciplinary teams, managing a widening range of disorders, and dealing with the many associated problems arising from abuse, issues in adoption and fostering and settings complicated by parental psychiatric illness and social and economic disadvantage. Growing workload, conflicting pressures, funding issues and personal commitments all add to the busy lives of professionals and it is with this in mind that ACAMH develops its programmes of activities and benefits, to best meet the diverse requirements of its membership and support all those engaged in child and adolescent mental health.

Conferences:

ACAMH's academic events are a valuable source of information and professional development for those working within child and adolescent mental health.

Branch events are held throughout the year to target the needs of professionals at the local level and ensure they remain abreast of developments. Events focus on a variety of topics, and balance the traditional areas with more focused subjects designed to appeal to different disciplines.

Non-members are welcome to attend most meetings, though they are encouraged to join the Association and help shape its programme.

Conference programmes are automatically mailed out to members; if however you are not a member but wish to join the mailing list and receive personal notification, please either email acamh@acamh.org.uk or telephone 020 7403 7458.

Membership:

Membership of ACAMH provides access to a diverse and developing mix of initiatives, activities, publications and academic events, an active network of UK and internationally-based like-minded professionals and valuable opportunities for professional development:

- national and local network of branches
- monthly issues of the high-impact-factor *Journal for Child Psychology and Psychiatry*
- quarterly issues of the practitioner-based *Child and Adolescent Mental Health* and *The Bridge* newsletter
- electronic access to all ACAMH publications, including current issues, 'early access' (ie articles before they appear in print) and all past issues
- access to members-only advanced Master Class Series
- members-only conference bursary fund for overseas members based in developing countries
- interactive website with virtual discussion forums, external links and up-to-date information
- early notification of ACAMH events and concessionary attendance rates

Joining ACAMH:

The annual UK subscription rate for 2010 is £60.00 (with a one-off joining fee of £10.00). Direct debit payments attract an annual discount of £5.00.

To request an application form please contact the Membership Secretary Valerie Naddeo: 020 7403 7458, val.naddeo@acamh.org.uk

Membership of ACAMH does not confer professional status on any individual

**WORKING TOWARDS HEALTH
CREATIVE THERAPIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Please complete and return to: ACAMH Conference Dept, 39-41 Union Street, London SE1 1SD
Phone: +44 (0)20 7403 7458 Fax: +44 (0)20 7403 7081 Email: deborah.ceccarelli@acamh.org.uk

Name: Title: Professor/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss

Details as you would like them to appear on your badge – please print in capitals:

Job title:

Organisation:

Work address:
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Address for correspondence (if different):
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Daytime telephone number:

Email:

Conference Fees (includes registration, workshops, refreshments and lunch)

- ACAMH member £ 65.00
- Non-member £ 75.00

Special dietary or access requirements:

Workshop Selection: whilst the organisers will always endeavour to give participants their preferred workshops, due to the numbers anticipated and the need to restrict places on each workshop to preserve the interactive element, this may not always be possible; participants are therefore requested to indicate their first three preferences (marking where indicated the number of the Workshop)

Morning Session: (first preference) (second preference) (third preference)

Afternoon Session: (first preference) (second preference) (third preference)

A receipt will be issued for all payments.

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Invoice: Invoices can only be issued if an official order, or confirmation on headed paper, is attached to this form. Requests for invoicing submitted without an order or confirmation will be returned.

CLOSING DATE: 1 February 2010

Early application is advised

Confirmation will be mailed out to all delegates who enclose their fee/invoice order. If you have not received confirmation at least one week before the event please contact the Conference Department. Please do not turn up on the day without having received confirmation.

Data Protection Act: by signing this application, I agree to ACAMH keeping data about me for the administration of training courses and conferences. All data held by ACAMH is not revealed to any individual or organization other than that required by statute.

