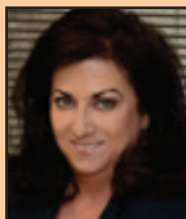


Los Angeles County Psychological Association's 33rd Annual Convention

CREATING CONNECTIONS AND BUILDING BRIDGES...TOGETHER

Keynote Speaker:

Linda Mona, Ph.D.



Disability Culturally Competent
Sexual Healthcare

October 23, 2021

Held Virtually via Zoom

Morning Sessions 6.0 LIVE CEs Available
Sessions Recorded for Later On-Demand Viewing
Poster Session Awards Presentation
Virtual Happy Hour

Creating Conventions Building Bridges...Together

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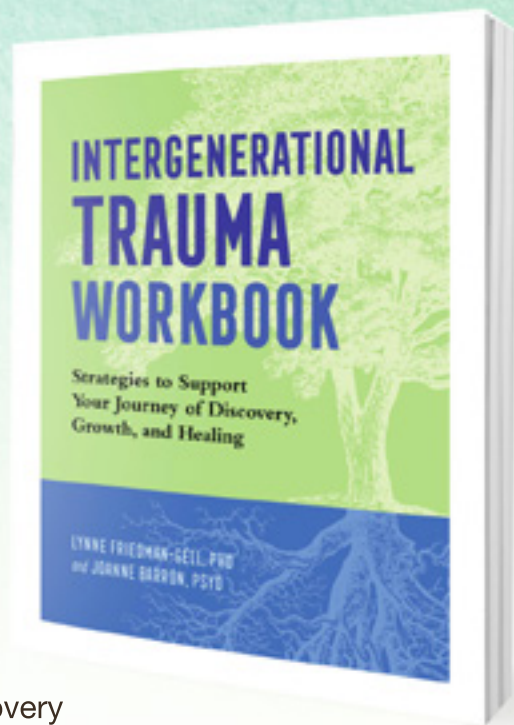


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Evelyn Pechter, Psy.D. DrEvelynPechter.com



Lauren Muhlheim, Psy.D.

Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

Welcome to the Los Angeles County Psychological Association's 33rd Annual Convention, and our second virtual Convention! We are delighted you are joining us today to connect with your professional community and to enjoy a day of learning and inspiration. Given the particularly difficult challenges our society currently faces, we hope that today's Convention helps everyone join in reflecting on this year's theme: "Creating Connections and Building Bridges... Together."

During our two morning sessions, we hope you enjoy our selection of presentations by experts, featuring a diverse array of professionally relevant topics such as ethics of health technology, the power of humor, isolation and the human condition, protecting your license, racial trauma, and becoming an elder. Having a hard time choosing which presentations to attend? No problem! With this year's virtual format, we will be recording selected sessions and making them available online for later on-demand viewing.

Another way we have shaken things up this year is the poster session. Adapting to the online format we invited poster presenters to create slide presentations instead of traditional large-format posters. We invite you to view these presentations here: <https://lacpa.memberclicks.net/2021-poster-session>

In lieu of our usual luncheon programming, we have pre-recorded this year's award presentations. These include the presentations honoring LACPA award recipients Leticia C. Amick, Ph.D. (Distinguished Service to LACPA by a LACPA Member), Jaz Robbins, M.A., AMFT (Distinguished Service to LACPA by a Graduate Student), and State Senator Anthony Portantino (Distinguished Legislative Award). In addition, the LACPA Foundation award presentations for this year's poster session winners, Foundation Scholarship, and 2021 Non-Profit award can also be viewed. We encourage you to help us congratulate this year's awardees by viewing the presentations [here](#).

Our afternoon session will feature this year's distinguished keynote speaker, Dr. Lina Mona, who will present *Disability Culturally Competent Sexual Healthcare*. Dr. Mona is a clinical psychologist who has worked in a variety of settings providing clinical services, training healthcare professionals, and conducting research focusing upon the diverse life experiences of individuals living with chronic health conditions/disabilities. She is currently the Clinical Director of the Spinal Cord Injury/Disorder Psychology Service at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System. Her clinical work has focused on providing services to Veterans with disabilities within a disability affirmative context. Following the conclusion of our keynote presentation all attendees are cordially invited to our Virtual Happy Hour event to mingle, network, and discuss the day's events.

Each year, a dedicated team of volunteers works hard to make Convention enjoyable for all, and this year the team rose to the challenge of adapting the Convention to a virtual format. We extend our sincere thanks to all of today's presenters. We are additionally grateful for the hard work of the LACPA Convention Committee, the LACPA Foundation, the LACPA Board of Directors, and our volunteers. Our heartfelt thanks also go out to LACPA staff Carol Torcello, Director of Operations and Adriene Ghiasian, B.A., Operations Assistant for their dedicated efforts. Finally, we want to express our gratitude to our sponsors, exhibitors, and advertisers for their generous support of this event.

Lauren Muhlheim, Psy.D.

Acting President and President-Elect

Be sure to visit our Virtual Exhibitors.
The link is open through October 30th.



California Department of
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Melissa J. Johnson, PhD (PSY 13102)

FEATURED SPEAKER

Linda Mona, Ph.D., is currently the Clinical Director of the Spinal Cord Injury/ Disorder Psychology Service at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System. Her clinical work has focused on providing services to Veterans with disabilities within a disability affirmative context. In



addition to her work with Veterans, she is the founder and president of Inclusivity Clinical Consulting Services which provides a wide array of psychotherapy services to individuals and couples from diverse backgrounds. She also serves as a healthcare services consultant, providing training to integrated healthcare settings and allied health clinical service providers on disability, diversity and inclusion strategies, and sexuality and intimacy.

Infusing disability into psychology diversity education and training has also been one of Dr. Mona's career passions. She has challenged traditional medical notions of disability by reframing this identity from a multicultural lens. Through national psychology professional service roles, she has been successful at promoting disability consciousness through her expertise, social justice advocacy, and her own lived experience as a disabled woman psychologist. She has facilitated over 100 trainings and has over 30 publications focusing on disability diversity. Dr. Mona's work has been showcased through mainstream media including; *Oprah Radio*, *Canadian Discovery Health*, *PBS*, *NBC's Today* show, and *Self Magazine*.

The Los Angeles County Psychological Association (LACPA) is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. LACPA maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

These sessions may be taken to satisfy the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) continuing education requirements.

LACPA's 33rd Annual Convention will operate under the guidelines of an APA-Approved sponsor of continuing education. All licensees are responsible for maintaining records of completed continuing education courses. LACPA supplies a Document of Attendance via email within two weeks of the Convention, that certifies the licensee was present for the entire program and earned the continuing education credits by, signing-in and out, with their name and license number, of each presentation via the Zoom Chat to Everyone. If you do not see your name in the Chat box, we cannot see your name either.

It is important to note that APA continuing education rules require that LACPA only give credit to those who attend the entire workshop. Those who arrive more than 15 minutes after the scheduled start time or leave before the workshop is completed will not receive CE credit. Partial credit may not be given.

Los Angeles County Psychological Association
6345 Balboa Boulevard, Suite 126
Encino, CA 91316
Phone 818-905-0410 Fax 818-332-4949
Lacpa1@gmail.com www.lacpa.org

CONVENTION EVENTS

Convention Events: Sessions I, II, and III;
Access to Posters; Awards Lunch Break;
Post Convention Happy Hour

Date and presenters are subject to change.
Selected sessions will be recorded for
future on-demand viewing.

*The Los Angeles County Psychological Association
is grateful to the LACPA Foundation for its
financial contribution of the Poster Awards.*

Cover by David Ilan of Galileo Graphics

Convention Schedule

Saturday, October 23, 2021

Virtually via Zoom Webinar

Times and events are subject to change

Session I
2.0 CE Credits all courses
8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Ethics of Health Technology Post COVID-19

Course Level: Intermediate

*This workshop is presented by the LACPA Ethics Committee and may be counted toward the ethics requirement mandated every two years for license renewal. **This presentation will be recorded.***

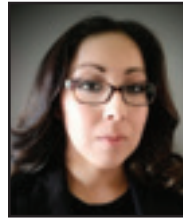
The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted lives emotionally, physically, and financially. Increased feelings of stress, loneliness, fear, loss, and grief have challenged our ability to cope. This workshop aims to provide an overview of various virtual care programs and modalities available to support coping during the pandemic, ethical issues related to their use, and how to develop a post-pandemic plan based on lessons learned and how to adapt these practices moving forward.



Christina Armstrong, Ph.D., is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Department of Veterans Affairs' central office. She is involved in the development and implementation of programs to increase adoption of health technologies throughout the VA healthcare system. She teaches graduate level courses on ethics and law for mental health professionals at Pepperdine University and serves on the LACPA Ethics Committee.



Loren M. Hill, Ph.D., is a licensed clinical psychologist in private practice and a Certified Autism Specialist and an experienced academician. She has held several faculty and administrative positions in academia, and currently serves as Associate Faculty at Union Institute and University's Division of Education Transformation and Strategic Alliances (ETSA).



Audrey Martinez, Ph.D., is a licensed clinical psychologist for the Los Angeles Fire Department providing outpatient therapy, on-call mental health services, and program development. She specializes in treating trauma, depression, and anxiety.

Dr. Martinez has been trained in numerous evidence-based treatments including Cognitive Processing Therapy, Prolonged Exposure, Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Gottman method.



Marcos Briano (he/him/el), Ph.D./MMFT, is an early career representative of the LACPA Ethics Committee and adjunct faculty at the University of Southern California & Pasadena City College. His research interests include the application of ethics, teaching, social justice, and advocacy for BIPOC communities, specifically LGBTQ+ and Latinx.

Goals and Educational Objectives:

1. Acquire a greater awareness of risks associated with social isolation and stress related to the pandemic and improve patient and mental health provider wellness and resilience.
2. Develop an understanding of how virtual care modalities and programs can support coping with COVID-19 pandemic patients and mental health providers.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical considerations relevant to virtual technology in healthcare, particularly those faced by mental health providers during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, and develop a post COVID-19 plan based on lessons learned and how to adapt these practices moving forward.

Program Outline:

- Introductions
- Impact of COVID-19
- Overview of Virtual Care Technologies and Ethics Codes
- Ethical Standards and Considerations
- Case Scenarios
- Managing Risks
- Key Takeaways, Resources, References

Hee Hee Healing: The Power and Joy of Humor

Course Level: Intermediate

This presentation will not be recorded.

In this lively presentation we will explore the rationale for and practical application of the intentional and purposeful integration of humor into psychotherapy. You will learn how humor can be used to build the therapeutic alliance, diagnose, and treat clients and how humor impacts cognitions, emotions, behaviors, physiology, and social bonding.



Steven M. Sultanoff, Ph.D., is a psychologist, professor (Pepperdine), past president of the Association for Applied and Therapeutic Humor (AATH), and internationally recognized expert on therapeutic humor. He appears on “What’s Your Ailment!” and has appeared on Fox, STARZ, Lifetime, and PBS, and quoted in *Time*, *Prevention*, *USA Today*, and *Forbes*.

Goals and Educational Objectives:

1. Explain the link between humor and feelings, behaviors, thoughts, and biochemistry.
2. Express how to intentionally, and purposefully use humor to build the therapeutic relationship, treat, and diagnose.
3. Explain the therapeutic value of the cognitive, emotional, physical, and social impact of humor.

Program Outline:

- Introduction
- Wit, Mirth, Laughter, Relational Fusion
- The Therapeutic Power of Humor
- Defining Moments of Humor
- The Model of Therapeutic Humor
- Integrating Humor into Psychotherapy
- Expanding your “Comic” Vision
- Wrap Up and Questions

Isolation and the Human Condition: The Power of Group Processes

Course Level: Advanced

This presentation will be recorded.

Isolation impacts mental health and is exacerbated by separation from friends, family, and everyday routines. One therapist is often not enough to heal the depths of pain compounded by isolation. Group therapy and 12-Step programs can fill the intrinsic need for affiliation and alter attachment styles for those in need. This course will examine the power of human connection.



Alexandra Katehakis, Ph.D., L.M.F.T., is Clinical Director of the Center for Healthy Sex in Los Angeles and faculty for the International Institute of Trauma and Addiction Professionals. Dr. Katehakis’s most recent books include *Sexual Reflections: A Workbook for Designing and Celebrating Your Sexual Health Plan* (2018) and *Sex Addiction As Affect Dysregulation: A Neurobiologically Informed Holistic Treatment* (2016).

Goals and Educational Objectives:

1. Identify the impact of long-term isolation on the brain/mind/body.
2. Define and apply the four components necessary in group dynamics for neuropsychobiological growth and change.
3. Assess the pro-social function of group therapy and 12-Step meetings and how attendance changes attachment styles over time.

Program Outline:

- Introduction
- The effects of isolation and loneliness on the human organism
- Isolation, loneliness and addiction
- Group therapy
- 12 step meetings
- Keys to building community
- Q&A

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Go to>>Programs
>>Continuing Education Programs
>>On Demand Programs

Session II

2.0 CE Credits all courses

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

23 Ways to Protect Your License from Licensing Boards Complaints

Course Level: Advanced

This workshop may be counted toward the ethics requirement mandated every two years for license renewal. This presentation will be recorded.

This webinar will review current standards of care that psychotherapists must maintain, outline the 23 ways in which licensed psychotherapists must comply with, attend to the issues related to therapists engaging with clients via social media and briefly address some of the ethical considerations arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and the new era of tele-mental health.



Ofer Zur, Ph.D., lives in Sebastapol, CA and founded the Zur Institute 25 years ago. He is a licensed psychologist, instructor, forensic and ethics consultant, and expert. His writing and teaching in the U.S. and abroad focuses on ethics, critical thinking, boundaries, dual relationships, managed-care-free private practices, the psychology of victims, the psychology of war and the psychology of gender. He has authored or co-authored five books and over 50 published articles on ethics and related topics.

Goals and Educational Objectives:

1. Identify the three most common complaints of state licensing boards filed against licensed psychotherapists and counselors.
2. Discern the difference between boundary crossings and boundary violations.
3. Identify the differences among various types of consultations.

Program Outline:

- Opening introduction
- 23 ways in which licensed psychotherapists must comply with, attend to the issues related to therapists engaging with clients via social media.
- Ethical considerations arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and the new era of tele-mental health.
- Q&A

Racial Trauma Across the Lifespan

Course Level: Intermediate

This presentation will not be recorded.

Racial discrimination has been found to significantly predict racial trauma and race-based traumatic stress (e.g., Carter et al., 2013). Despite both the prevalence of racial discrimination and its consistent association with racial trauma, most clinicians lack the necessary training to assess and treat racial trauma in therapeutic settings. As such, this program uses recent and relevant research to facilitate mental health clinicians' knowledge, assessment, and treatment of racial trauma across the lifespan.



Maryam M. Jernigan-Noesi, Ph.D., is the Founder and CEO of Jernigan & Associates, LLC. She brings almost two decades of experience as a health professional. She has extensive training and work experiences in psychology and health, women's health, as well as specialized training in adult and family interventions. Clinically, Dr. Jernigan-Noesi has worked alongside a multidisciplinary team of health providers in inpatient and outpatient mental health, community, medical, academic settings, and private practice. She frequently consults with organizations to assess and implement culturally inclusive policies and practices. Additionally, given Dr. Jernigan-Noesi's experience as an instructor and health provider, she provides professional development training to a wide range of executives, professionals, trainees, and staff.

Goals and Educational Objectives:

1. Define racial trauma in the context of mental health assessment and treatment.
2. Identify the mental and physical health symptoms correlated with significant experiences of racial discrimination and its mental health consequences.
3. Identify relevant clinical tools for assessing experiences of racial discrimination and discerning which symptom presentation constitutes racial trauma.

Program Outline:

- Introduction of topic and speaker
- Overview of history of the definition of trauma
- Conceptualization of racial trauma and associated terminology
- Overview of research related to racial trauma
- Assessment of racial trauma
- Treatment Planning
- Models for healing racial trauma
- Client resources
- Question and answer period

The Developmental Tasks to Become an Elder

Course Level: Intermediate

This presentation will be recorded.

Many people 55+ , including clinicians and clients, feel disoriented, invisible, and purposeless in our society, especially following retirement, because of our cultural emphasis on productivity over self-reflection. Therefore, our culture is missing Elders, those who age consciously with the tools of psychology and spirituality, discover renewed meaning and purpose, and share their gifts with future generations. Research reveals that our internalized ageism affects our physical and brain health, self-esteem, and views of the future. The tools offered here can guide clinicians and their clients to reframe aging and become much-needed Elders.



Connie Zweig, Ph.D., is a retired therapist, co-author of *Meeting the Shadow* and *Romancing the Shadow*, author of *Meeting the Shadow of Spirituality* and a novel, *A Moth to the Flame: The Life of Sufi Poet Rumi*. Her book, *The Inner Work of Age: Shifting from Role to Soul*, (September, 2021), extends shadow-work into late life and teaches aging as a spiritual practice. Connie has been doing contemplative practices for 50 years. She is a wife and grandmother and was initiated as an Elder by Sage-ing International in 2017. After investing in all these roles, she is practicing the shift from role to soul.

Goals and Educational Objectives:

1. Define the difference between Senior and Elder.
2. Name the tools needed to complete the developmental tasks of becoming an Elder.
3. Design a treatment plan for clients 55+ who wish to do the inner work of age.

Program Outline:

- Reframing Aging: Decline to Rite of Passage
- The Shift From Senior to Elder
- Reviewing the Research on Internalized Ageism and its Consequences
- Overview of Developmental Tasks to Complete the Rite of Passage
- Example 1: How to Do a Life Review
- Example 2: How to Complete Spiritual Unfinished Business: updating beliefs, values, and images of the divine
- Example 3: How to Find Renewed Purpose and Meaning: service, activism, and contemplative practice
- Q&A

LACPA members can get 10 CEs for Convention and more free CEs throughout the year. Join now and get all the Benefits of Membership!

Lunch Break 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Congratulations to

Leticia C. Amick, Ph.D.

on her *Distinguished Service to LACPA Award* by a
LACPA member

and to

Jaz Robbins, M.A.

on her *Distinguished Service to LACPA Award* by a
Graduate Student

**From the LACPA Board
of Directors:**

Bruce Gale, Ph.D.
Gretchen Kubacky, Psy.D.
David Laramie, Ph.D.
Lauren Muhlheim, Psy.D.
Stacy Reger, Ph.D.
Lynne Steinman, Ph.D.

Awards Presentation

View the YouTube of the presentations at your convenience.

[Click Here](#)

LACPA's 2021
Awardees

Foundation
Scholarship & Non-profit Awards

LACPA Poster
Awards



Distinguished Legislative Award

Senator Anthony J. Portantino

State Senator Anthony J. Portantino (D-La Cañada Flintridge) has been a strong advocate for mental health access and services across a variety of settings since first being elected to the State Assembly in 2006. Senator Portantino represents California's 25th State Senate District, which stretches along the 210 Freeway from Sunland/Tujunga to Upland. He proudly represents the Rose Bowl, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Griffith Park, Warner Brothers, Disney, Caltech, and the Claremont Colleges.

He currently serves as the Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, which is responsible for all legislation with a fiscal impact on the state or local governments. He also chairs a Select Committee to foster trade between California, Armenia, and Artsakh.

Supporting public education, mental health, and sensible gun control have been priorities for Senator Portantino during his time in office. His accomplishments include increasing funding for special education and the K-12 Local Control Funding Formula. He has authored legislation that created California's umbilical cord blood collection program, pushed back school start time for middle and high schools, banned the open carry of handguns on Main Street, California, and raised the purchase age of firearms to 21. He placed the suicide hotline number on student identification cards and has authored numerous bills to ensure that students receive mental health education,

screening, and allowed absences for mental health needs. In addition, his efforts have created a science fellowship in the State Capitol and established a unique partnership between the University of California and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

He has carried bills over three legislative sessions (six years) to require health insurance coverage for all forms of behavioral health treatment for Californians with Autism Spectrum Disorder without diminishing consumer protections (SB 399 in 2017-18, SB 163 in 2019-20, and now SB 562 this year). Senator Portantino is also the most outspoken advocate of recognizing the Armenian Genocide and calling on California's institutions to divest from Turkey.

Prior to his years as a representative, he spent many years working in film and television production, served on the California Film Commission, and spent nearly eight years on the La Cañada Flintridge City Council, with two terms as Mayor.

Senator Portantino grew up in New Jersey, where he attended public schools and graduated with degrees in psychology and business from Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania, where he met his future wife, Ellen, a longtime business executive at Warner Brothers and Disney. They have two daughters.

Taken together, the Senator has demonstrated himself to be truly concerned with the health, safety, and psychological well-being of Californians and is a true friend to psychology.

*Bio submitted by
David Laramie, Ph.D.*



Distinguished Service to LACPA by a LACPA Member

Leticia C. Amick, Ph.D.

Leticia Amick, Ph.D. received her undergraduate degree from the University of Denver and continued her education at the University of Houston and Arizona State University, where she received her M.Ed. and Ph.D. respectively. She began her career as a psychologist in Arizona, where she worked in juvenile corrections, community mental health, and for a Native American Tribe. In 2007, she became licensed in California and again worked in several community mental health centers before opening her private practice in Glendale in 2014. She specializes in psychological assessment and therapy for children, adolescents, and families, and provides individual therapy for adults.

In 2008, Dr. Amick joined LACPA. She became more involved with the association in 2011, when she joined the Networking Committee. This role served as a path to the Board of Directors, which she joined in 2016. Beginning in 2017, and for three years following, she served as Secretary-Elect, Secretary, President-Elect, President, and Past President (serving simultaneously as both Secretary and President Elect!). And in 2020, after her presidential year, instead of resting on her laurels, she simultaneously served as Past-President, Chair of NEAC, member of the CPA task force on CPA-chapter relationships, AND Chair of the Community Outreach Committee. She currently serves as Chair of the Continuing Education Committee, a role that is quite demanding in and of itself. However, in continuing with her apparent multitasking theme, she also serves on both the Community Outreach and Local Advocacy Network Committees.

Dr. Amick has several professional passions and

See Amick, continued on page 12



Distinguished Service to LACPA by a Graduate Student

Jaz Robbins, M.A.

Jaz Robbins, M.A., AMFT is an Associate Marriage and Family therapist who is currently completing an APA-accredited doctoral internship in university counseling at California State University, Long Beach. Ms. Robbins holds an undergraduate degree in Food Science and Nutrition from North Carolina State University and has worked as a self-employed Nutrition Counselor since completing her degree. Jaz is also an artist who has written and produced her own autobiographical one-woman show, “*Stepping On a Few Toes*,” for the stage. The show tells Jaz’s story as it illustrates her own history of trauma and how she overcame the scars that were left behind.

Jaz is an author with two titles to her credit, *Still Standing* and *The Golden Penny*. Both books are aimed to inspire, encourage, and motivate as they take readers on intimate journeys of self-discovery. With a desire to help others heal from trauma, Jaz began her academic work in the field of mental health in 2016, completing a master’s degree in Clinical Psychology at Pepperdine University. She began her doctoral studies in 2018, and is looking forward to earning her Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology from Pepperdine next year. Additionally, Jaz serves as an adjunct professor of psychology at Pepperdine University, and a mental health consultant for artists.

Jaz holds board positions with the Los Angeles County Psychological Association (LACPA) on the Student Leadership Committee, and the California Psychological Association for Graduate Students (CPAGS), as its Membership Director. Before her positions on both boards, she represented Pepperdine as its Campus Representative for both organizations and put in volunteer hours as a continuing education monitor. In her leadership role with LACPA, Jaz assisted with the February 2020 *Theatre of the Mind* event held at the El Porto Theatre in North Hollywood, and again as the Creative Director for the successful, live-streamed Zoom *Theatre of the Mind* in November of 2020. Recently for both LACPA and CPAGS, Jaz initiated a very successful *Academic Writing Bootcamp* for graduate student members which culminated in eighty student enrollments. As she transitions from her LACPA leadership role, Jaz’s unwavering commitment to the Los Angeles County graduate student community and LACPA’s leadership team will be missed.

*Bio submitted by
Bennie Harris, B.A.*

Amick, continued from page 11

commitments, two of which have guided much of her work within LACPA – community outreach and advocacy.

She has promoted community outreach through many activities. As part of her 2019 Presidential Theme of “Connect. Collaborate. Get Inspired!” she created multiple connections between LACPA and its surrounding community. She organized LACPA’s participation in mental health awareness events and provided resources to many local community organizations. She also co-led a highly successful effort to gather and distribute essential items to homeless individuals in downtown Los Angeles.

In addition to her work in the community outside of LACPA, Dr. Amick devoted herself to strengthening collaboration and connections within the LACPA community. In so doing, she created a more personal experience for LACPA members and deepened their sense of belonging.

Dr. Amick epitomizes the model LACPA member and leader. She is unflinching in her dedication to the organization. She can always be counted upon to take on additional tasks with cheerfulness and zeal. She has been steadfast and unwavering in offering and providing support and back-up for the

LACPA community. With the difficulties LACPA has gone through in the past couple of years, Dr. Amick has exhibited an abundance of compassion. She managed tricky situations and courageous conversations with grace. She brought energy and creativity to LACPA. She thought outside of the box and innovated new programs and approaches to existing programs. All of this has been accomplished with warmth and humor as she created a joyful atmosphere around her.

On a personal note, Dr. Amick identifies as an indigenous Guatemalan cisgender woman. She had the unique experience of growing up with a dual culture, having been adopted at the age of three into a Caucasian family and raised in a rural area of western Colorado. She enjoys nature walks, traveling, and reading mystery/thriller fiction. She values time with her husband attending sporting events, classical music concerts, theater, and ballet performances. She wholeheartedly agrees with the Dickens quote: “What greater gift than the love of a cat!” LACPA is fortunate to have Dr. Amick as a member and leader, and she is very worthy of this award. Thank you, Dr. Amick.

*Bio submitted by
Lynne Steinman, Ph.D.*

LACPA Announces our 2021 Convention Poster Presenters

With the Convention being virtual again this year, the presenters created a brief PowerPoint presentation that is available to view via the LACPA Website at <https://lacpa.memberclicks.net/2021-poster-session>



First Author Name:

Aaron Engelberg, M.S.

Name of University:

The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Los Angeles

University Advisor for this research:

Benjamin Toubia, Psy.D., LMFT

Incorporating the Experiences of Disabled Identities in Psychological Training



First Author Name:

Joanne (SiewYen) Kwoh-Maysami, Ph.D.

Graduate of:

Jackson State University, MS

Date of Doctorate:

May 2021

Resiliency in Sexual and Gender Minorities (SGMs): Coming Out and Community Connectedness



First Author Name:

Monica Babaian, M.A.

Name of University:

Alliant International University Los Angeles

University Advisor for this research:

George Gharibian, Ph.D., LMFT

Attention Deficits, Learning Difficulties, and the Emotional Impact of a Post-COVID World: The Aftermath of Distant Learning

First Author Name:

Javier Murillo, B.A.

Name of University:

Alliant International University Los Angeles

University Advisor for this research:

KJ Conner, Ph.D.

Resilience: Openness to Experience and The Big Three

Session III

2.0 CE Credits

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Disability Culturally Competent Sexual Healthcare

Course Level: Intermediate

This presentation will be recorded.

Sexual health among people with disabilities continues to be under recognized. Disability cultural competence is needed to assess and treat sexual health among people with disabilities. Through provider self-assessment, expanding disability and sexuality knowledge bases, and utilization of the DASH-CM model, psychologists can broaden their clinical services to this underserved community.



Linda Mona, Ph.D., is a licensed clinical psychologist who has worked in a variety of settings providing clinical services, training healthcare professionals, and conducting research focusing upon the diverse life experiences of individuals

living with chronic health conditions/disability. She is the founder of Inclusivity Clinical Consulting Services which provides a wide array of psychotherapy services to individuals and couples from diverse backgrounds. She also serves as a healthcare services consultant, providing training to integrated healthcare settings on disability and sexuality.

Goals and Education Objectives:

1. Describe disability culture
2. Define disability culturally competent care
3. List three main components of the DASH-CM

Program Outline:

- LACPA Introduction
- Introduction, disclosures, objectives, agenda
- Culture check exercise/provider self-assessment
- Disability history and models of conceptualization
- Socially responsive psychology
- Disability Affirmative Assessment
- Disability Affirmative Therapy
- Disability Cultural Competence
- DASH-CM
- Q&A

Virtual Happy Hour

To follow Session III. Click [here](#) for the Zoom Link.

Continuing Education Information

The Los Angeles County Psychological Association (LACPA) is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. LACPA maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

These courses may be taken to satisfy the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) continuing education requirements.

LACPA's 33rd Annual Convention will operate under the guidelines of an APA-Approved sponsor of continuing education. All licensees are responsible for maintaining records of completed continuing education courses. LACPA supplies a Document of Attendance that certifies the licensee was present for the entire program and earned the continuing education credits.

It is important to note that APA continuing education rules require that LACPA only give credit to those who attend the entire workshop. Those who arrive more than fifteen minutes or more after the scheduled start time or leave before the workshop is completed will not receive CE credit. Partial credit may not be given.



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Remembering Ahoor Karimian, Psy.D.

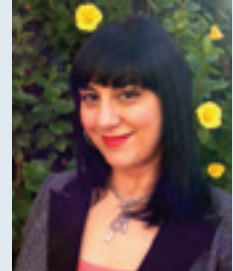
June 15, 1982 — July 31, 2021



LACPA is devastated by the passing of our beloved friend, colleague, and former board member, Ahoor Karimian, Psy.D.

As a way to mark her importance in our lives, to memorialize her impact, and to honor her contributions, we would like to share some details about her life and to offer an opportunity for our members to pay tribute to our friend, who accomplished some remarkable things.

Dr. Karimian was a thyroid cancer survivor who directed her interest in medicine and psychology to earning her doctorate in Neuropsychology from Pepperdine University's Graduate School of Education and Psychology in 2016. She joined the LACPA Board of Directors as a member of the Student Committee in 2013 and received the Distinguished Service to LACPA by a Graduate Student award in 2015. After serving as Student Committee Chair, she served as Chair of the Continuing Education Committee from 2018 to 2020. Since 2019, she was employed as a Neuropsychologist at the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration. Dr. Karimian's Iranian cultural heritage ran as a proud thread through her professional life, and she also took an active role in the Iranian Psychological Association of America.



Absent from the facts of her career are the intense feelings of love and admiration exhibited in the outpouring of memories about Dr. Karimian. She was treasured for her professionalism and work ethic, but also for her vibrant and engaging personality. Some of the comments include:

- "She was so kind, brilliant, and incredibly inspiring. The world has lost a true gem."
- "She was so vibrant, quick with a laugh, caring, kind and bright."
- "Ahoor was a shining bright light of kindness, compassion, and much more. Her lovely smile warmed the room and our hearts. Her light is going to continue to shine while we all miss her presence."
- "I will miss her tremendously. A wonderful and talented colleague."
- "Ahoor was smart, funny, and intensely, vitally alive; she is already missed intensely."

Past president Gitu Bhatia, Ph.D. shared these remarks:



"It is truly heartbreaking to hear about the loss of a wonderful human being who was one of the most alive people I knew. She had enthusiasm and passion for our work that was contagious. Her work on the board, both in meetings and behind the scenes, will leave a mark for years to come.

I remember the day when Ahoor received her Distinguished Service to LACPA as a Student award. Her speech reflected her bubbly personality, her dedication to our field and was meaningful, touching, and funny at the same time. I remember looking over at the crowded table of her family and friends and the rest of the audience wiping tears of pride and joy at her accomplishments. I cannot imagine their grief at this time and the void her passing has left for them. It is a collective loss for all of us and our hearts go out to the family and friends."

LACPA is hoping to create a Dr. Ahoor Karimian Student Member Scholarship as a way to memorialize her legacy of student involvement and leadership.

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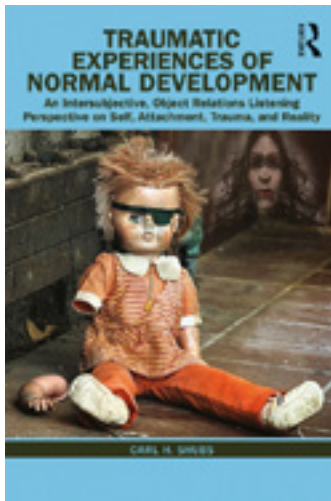
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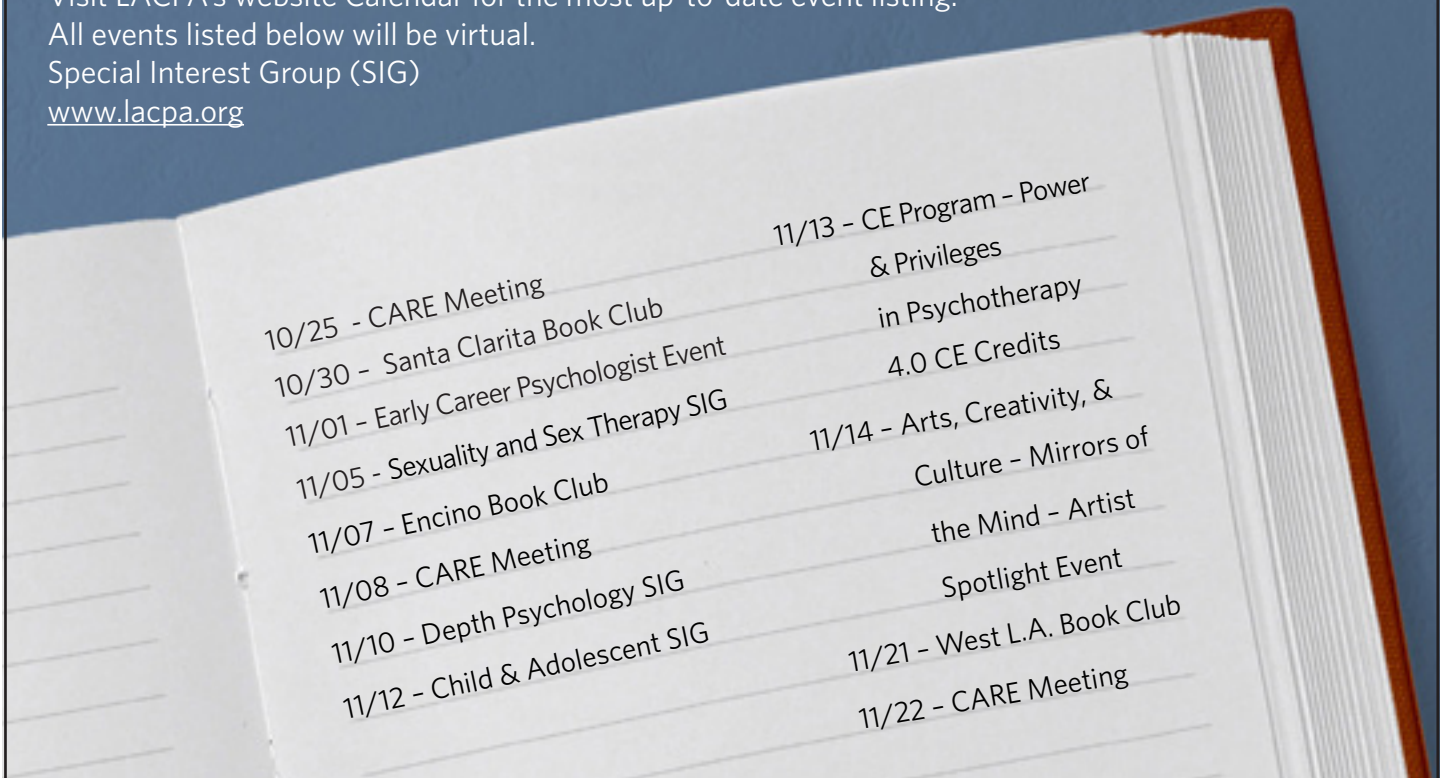
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Visit LACPA's website Calendar for the most up-to-date event listing.
All events listed below will be virtual.
Special Interest Group (SIG)
www.lacpa.org



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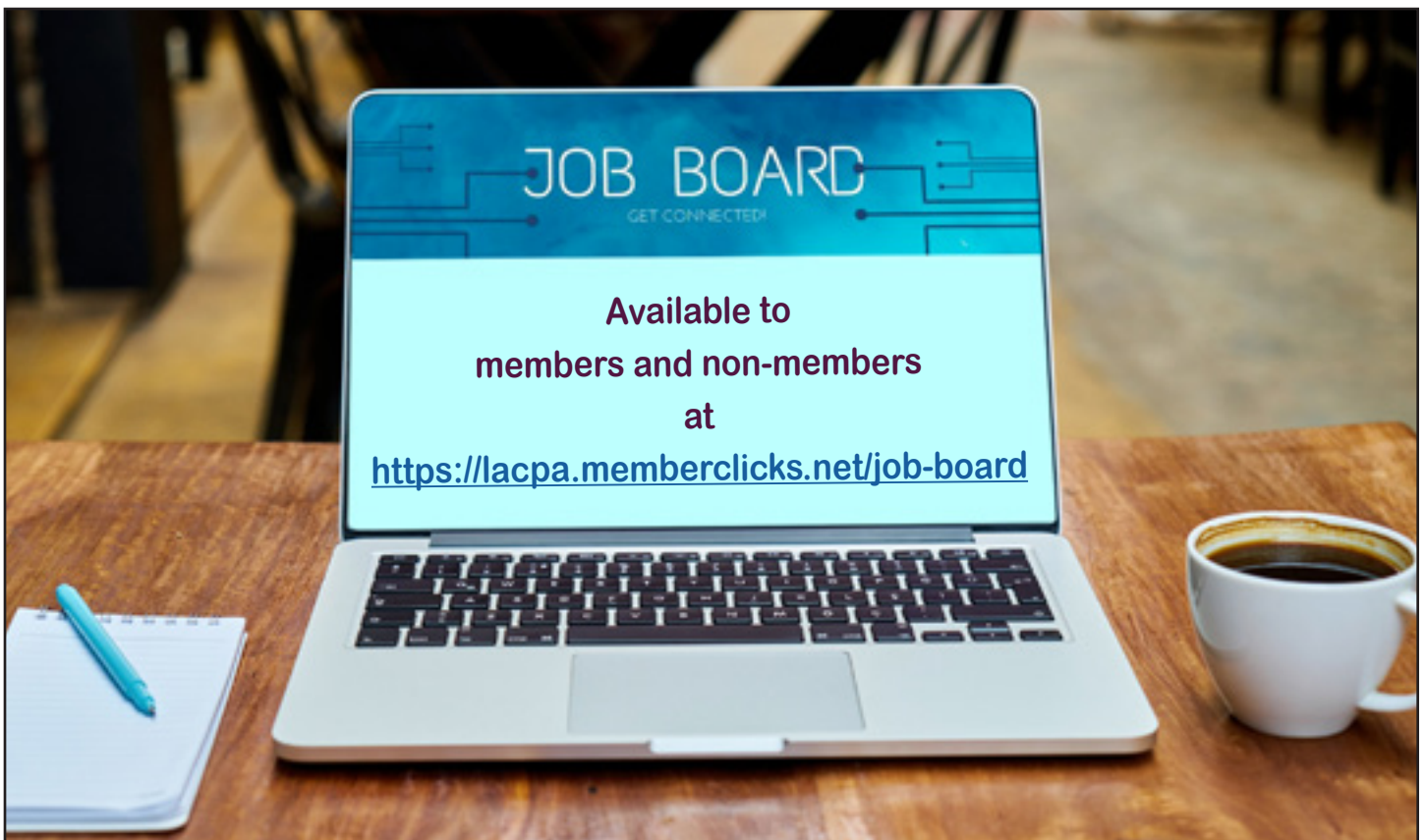
LACPA's Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages are open to anyone who is interested in following to learn about upcoming LACPA events, view photos, receive daily inspiration, interact with fellow members of LACPA as well as the psychology community, and so much more!

One of our many LACPA member benefits is our Facebook group **LACPA Connect**. This is where members can post about groups, events, books, services etc.

For more information and If you would like to post something to LACPA's social media please send an email to lacpasocialmedia@gmail.com.

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Power and Privileges in Psychotherapy

Presented by

Malin Fors, clinical psychologist/psychoanalyst

Saturday, November 13, 2021 - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (PT)
4.0 Live CE Credits

Advanced Level Course Held Virtually via Zoom

This program will not be recorded.

\$120 for LACPA Members
\$20 for LACPA Student and
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This advanced workshop addresses disparities in social privilege and their practical implications for psychotherapists. Malin discusses core themes of her book, *A Grammar of Power in Psychotherapy*, winner of the 2016 Johanna K. Tabin Prize. She posits a matrix of relative privilege that includes four core patient therapist dynamics: similarity of privilege, privilege favoring the therapist, privilege favoring the patient, and similarity of non-privilege.

This four-hour program will be broken into presentations and workshops focusing on addressing issues of privilege in clinical work, at agencies, and in supervision. The day will include case discussions and break-out groups for specific exercises. The newly filmed APA DVD, *The Dynamics of Power and Privilege in Psychotherapy with Malin Fors* will be shown and discussed. Clinical topics explored include voluntary and involuntary self-disclosure, visible and invisible similarities between patient and therapist, internalized oppression, and choosing whether or not to address privilege explicitly, among many others.

Malin Fors is a Swedish clinical psychologist and psychoanalyst who lives in the world's northernmost town, Hammerfest, Norway. She has worked for a decade at the local hospital's psychiatric outpatient unit and in private practice. She is also an assistant professor at the University of Tromsø, the Arctic University of Norway, where she teaches medical students on topics of diversity, privilege awareness, and critical perspectives on cultural competency. As a guest lecturer at Gothenburg University in Sweden for more than 12 years, Malin has been teaching students about the ways in which power, privilege, and gender create biases in the assessment of psychopathology. In 2016, APA's Division 39 and APA Publications awarded her the Johanna K. Tabin Book Proposal Prize for her proposed "A Grammar of Power in Psychotherapy." After the book's publication in 2018, she made an APA DVD in the Therapy Series: *The Dynamics of Power and Privilege in Psychotherapy*. In spring, 2020, she was the Erikson Scholar at the Austen Riggs Center in Stockbridge, MA.

Course Goals and Educational Objectives:

After attending this session, attendees will be able to:

- (1) Distinguish between four types of core dyads of relative privilege in the patient therapist dyad.
- (2) Name one core feature behind moral self-licensing behavior.
- (3) Integrate this approach into your favorite therapy approach/technique/method.
- (4) Identify possible racial, sexist, and heterosexist institutional enactments existing at your place of work.
- (5) Identify three objections against the paradigm of cultural competency.
- (6) Identify privilege black out.
- (7) Enumerate three different concepts/theories on internalized privileges.

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