



25 East 21st Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10010

(877) 668-AGPA (2472)

www.agpa.org

Media Contact:

Diane C. Feirman, CAE

877-668-AGPA (2472)

dfeirman@agpa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY FOUNDATION LUNCHEON IN NEW YORK, NY CELEBRATES SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD WINNERS AND CONTRIBUTORS MARCH 5, 2011

NEW YORK, Feb. 22, 2011— During the American Group Psychotherapy Association's (AGPA) 68th Annual Meeting in New York, NY, February 28 – March 5, the Group Psychotherapy Foundation (GPF), the philanthropic arm of the AGPA, will once again sponsor a luncheon honoring scholarship and award winners, as well as the generous contributors who make the program possible. A myriad of tuition, travel and monetary awards, supporting the training of group therapists and the use of group in communities to effect change, are distributed through the Foundation. A highlight of the celebration will be a performance by Sing for Hope, a charitable organization that mobilizes professional artists in volunteer service programs that benefit schools, hospitals and communities. Media are invited to attend this event.

Award recipients being honored include:

- **Robert and Lenore Davis are receiving the Humanitarian Award for their significant financial contributions to fulfilling the mission and vision of the Group Psychotherapy Foundation**
- **The Alonso Award for Excellence in Psychodynamic Group Therapy will be presented to Susan Gantt, Ph.D. and Paul Cox, M.D. for the special issue of the *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy* they edited, "Neurobiology and Building Interpersonal Systems: Groups, Couples and Beyond."**
- **"Elders Share the Arts" of Brooklyn, NY is receiving the Aaron Stein Memorial Award for the creative use of groups in non-therapeutic settings to benefit the community.**
- **Francis Kaklauskas has won the Honor Your Mentor Essay contest for his essay in honor of his mentor, Robert Unger.**
- **More than 140 individuals have received scholarships to attend the meeting, supported through endowed scholarship funds, private donations and corporate grants.**

“The Group Psychotherapy Foundation is privileged to honor those whose use of groups in clinical and community settings helps those in need,” said Lisa Mahon, Ph.D., CGP, FAGPA, GPF Chairwoman of the Board. “This luncheon is also our opportunity to publicly thank our donors, whose generous contributions make it possible for us to carry out our mission, including supporting the training of those new to the field.”

This luncheon is a highlight of the AGPA’s 2011 Annual Training in New York City. Entitled “Group as a Source of Resilience and Change,” this meeting attracts more than 1,000 group therapists, researchers and scientists from around the world. Group therapists of all disciplines will gather to learn the most effective techniques in working with a variety of populations in groups, an increasingly utilized modality due to its effectiveness and cost-effectiveness, particularly in today’s economic climate. The theme reflects the meeting’s emphasis on the power of groups to effect change that contributes to societal strength and well-being. For more information, contact AGPA at (877) 668-AGPA (2472) or visit www.agpa.org.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Media are invited to attend other select sessions of the AGPA 2011 Annual Meeting. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA and GPF

The American Group Psychotherapy Association is the foremost professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy, operating through a tri-partite structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Psychotherapy Foundation, its philanthropic arm; and the National Registry of Certified Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. This multidisciplinary association has approximately 3,000 members, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, clinical mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, pastoral counselors and creative arts therapists, many of whom have been recognized as specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential. The association has 31 local and regional societies located across the country. Its members are experienced mental health professionals who lead psychotherapy groups and various non-clinical groups. Many are organizational specialists who work with businesses, not-for-profit organizations, communities and other "natural" groups to help them improve their functioning.

The Group Psychotherapy Foundation is a philanthropic organization that is committed to the fact that “Groups Change Lives” and believes in the power of therapeutic group work to improve people’s quality of life. The Foundation supports group psychotherapy education, research, training, and information dissemination for the benefit of the public and professional communities. Among the Foundation’s most vital roles is the recognition of excellence, promise, and vision by honoring those individuals and groups who have demonstrated these qualities with awards and scholarships.