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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY FOUNDATION LUNCHEON IN WASHINGTON DC  
CELEBRATES SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD WINNERS AND CONTRIBUTORS  
FEBRUARY 23, 2008**

**NEW YORK, Feb. 7, 2008**— During the American Group Psychotherapy Association's (AGPA) 65th Annual Meeting in Washington DC, Feb. 18-23, 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 the Capitol Steps, the acclaimed musical satirists who focus their skills on the personalities and events on Capitol Hill, the Oval Office and other centers of power around the world. Media are invited to attend this event. Awards being presented include:

- CREATE Arts Center of Silver Spring, Maryland is receiving the Aaron Stein Memorial Award for the creative use of groups in non-therapeutic settings to benefit the community.
- The Alonso Award for Excellence in Psychodynamic Group Therapy will be presented to Phyllis Cohen, Ph.D., Psy.D., CGP, FAGPA for "Anniversary Reactions in the Therapy Group" and Robert Grossmark, Ph.D. for "The Edge of Chaos: Enactment, Disruption, and Emergence in Group Psychotherapy"
- More than 70 individuals have received scholarships to attend the meeting, supported through endowed scholarship funds and private donations.

"The Group Psychotherapy Foundation is privileged to honor those who use groups in clinical and community settings to help those in need." said Patricia Barth, Ph.D., CGP, FAGPA, GPF Chairwoman of the Board. "This luncheon is also our opportunity to publicly thank our contributors, who make it financially possible for us to carry out our mission."

This luncheon is a highlight of the AGPA's 2008 Annual Meeting in Washington DC, Feb. 18-23 at the Hilton Washington Hotel. Entitled "Passion, Power and Politics: Dynamic Interplay in Groups," this meeting attracts more than 1,000 group therapists, researchers and scientists from around the United States. Group therapists of all disciplines will gather to learn the most effective techniques in working with a variety of populations and to further their professional development with this powerful and effective treatment modality. The theme, Passion, Power and Politics, reflects the meeting's emphasis on the dynamics that occur in groups, whether small or large, public or private, that can effect change on micro and macro levels. For more information, contact AGPA at (212) 477-2677 or visit [www.agpa.org](http://www.agpa.org).

EDITOR'S NOTE: Media are invited to attend other select sessions of the AGPA 2008 Annual Meeting. To register, please send an e-mail request to [dfeirman@agpa.org](mailto:dfeirman@agpa.org) or call 212.477.2677.

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### ***About AGPA***

The American Group Psychotherapy Association is the oldest and largest 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.

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