



AMERICAN GROUP
PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION
GROUP FOUNDATION
FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH
INTERNATIONAL BOARD FOR
CERTIFICATION OF GROUP
PSYCHOTHERAPISTS

25 East 21st Street
Sixth Floor
New York
New York 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 FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH LUNCHEON IN HOUSTON
CELEBRATES SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD WINNERS AND CONTRIBUTORS
MARCH 3, 2018**

NEW YORK, March 1, 2018— During AGPA Connect this week in Houston, February 26 - March 3, 2018, the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, 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.

Award recipients being honored include:

- The Alonso Award for Excellence in Psychodynamic Group Therapy will be presented to Robert Grossmark, PhD for his article "Narrating the Unsayable: Enactment, Repair, and Creative Multiplicity in Group Psychotherapy."
- Purple Songs Can Fly is receiving the Aaron Stein Memorial Award for their creative use of groups in non-therapeutic settings to benefit the community.
- Over 200 individuals have received scholarships to attend the meeting, supported through endowed scholarship funds and private donations.

"The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health is privileged to honor those whose use of groups in clinical and community settings helps people in need," said Karen S. Travis, LCSW, BCD, CGP, FAGPA, 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."

This luncheon is a highlight of AGPA Connect 2018 in Houston. The theme "The Healing Power of Groups in a Fragmented World," celebrates the power of groups to connect individuals, families and communities in meaningful ways to effect change on personal and societal levels. AGPA Connect annually attracts more than 1,000 group therapists, researchers and scientists from around the world, of all disciplines, as they 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. For more information, contact AGPA at (877) 668-AGPA (2472) or visit www.agpa.org.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Media are invited to attend select sessions of the AGPA Connect 2018. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA and the Group Foundation

For 75 Years the American Group Psychotherapy Association has been the foremost professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy. It operates through a tri-partite structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, its philanthropic arm; and the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. This multidisciplinary association has approximately 2,500 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 21 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 Foundation for Advancing Mental Health is a philanthropic organization dedicated to changing lives through therapeutic group work by advancing the most effective and innovative approaches to group therapy education, training, research and community outreach. 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.

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