FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AGPA CONNECT ANNUAL GROUP-BASED MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS TRAINING
TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK CITY, MARCH 2 – MARCH 7, 2020

NEW YORK, December 5, 2019— The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) is coming to New York City for its 2020 Annual Training, AGPA Connect, March 2 – March 7, at the Sheraton New York Times Square Hotel. Entitled “Group: Growth and Renewal,” 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, a valuable modality due to its effectiveness and cost-effectiveness. The theme reflects the meeting’s emphasis on the power of groups to effect change in meaningful ways on personal and societal levels.

“AGPA Connect is the source for experiential training in leading therapeutic groups,” said Eleanor Counselman, Ed.D, CGP, DLFAGPA, AGPA President. “This annual training is a one-of-a-kind educational opportunity to learn group skills in an innovative format that blends learning with self-care and rejuvenation.”

The meeting will include over 200 programming events over six days; highlights include:

- Two Special Institutes providing experiential learning in a large group will be offered on Monday, March 2. "The Untelling: A New Look at Working with the Unconscious in Group" with Robert Grossmark, Ph.D., ABPP and "A Psychobiological Approach to Couple and Group Therapy" with Stan Tatkin, Ph.D.
- Jerome Gans, MD, CGP, DLFAGPA, will deliver the Institute Opening Address on Tuesday, March 3 “Getting the Most Out of Your Institute Experience: Some Personal Reflections.”
- The documentary “Far from the Tree” on compassion and acceptance in parenting unique children is the focus of the Mitchell Hochberg Memorial Public Education Event on Wednesday, March 4. Andrew Solomon, Ph.D., author of the book, and also featured in the film will be presenting.
- Jonathan David Haidt, Ph.D. is presenting the Conference Opening Plenary on Thursday, March 5, entitled “How Social Media Is Changing Social Networks, Group Dynamics, Democracies, and Gen Z.”
- Molyn Leszcz, MD, FRCPC, CGP, DFAGPA, incoming AGPA President will deliver the Annual Anne and Ramon Alonso Presidential Plenary Address, Friday, March 6 entitled, “All I Really Need to Know in Life, I Learned in Group.”
- Morris Nitsun, Ph.D., will deliver the Louis R. Ormont Lecture on Saturday, March 7, "Reflections on Art and Life through Dolls: The Power of Visual Images to Evoke Personal and Social Themes.”
This one-of-a-kind event, bringing together many of the nation’s leading group therapists, will explore the variety of ways in which group therapy can help people and communities in today’s world. Scholarships are also available to attend this Meeting. 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 AGPA Connect 2020. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA

The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) 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 Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, its philanthropic arm; and the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. AGPA represents over 2,000 mental health professional members including psychologists, psychiatrists, and social workers, as well as mental health, family, and pastoral counselors, many of whom have been recognized as specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential. 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 association also has 21 local and regional societies located across the country.

AGPA is committed to supporting the dignity and psychological safety of every individual without discrimination regarding race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sex, age, or disability. Central to our mission is a belief in the power of groups to treat mental illness, heal the scars from traumatic events, and enhance the well-being of adults and children in their families, schools, corporate settings, and communities.

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