



# New York Association for Play Therapy 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference

Workshop Series April 15-18, 2021

Our first all-virtual conference offering  
a series of live interactive trainings!

## Who should attend?

Social workers, psychologists, family therapists, psychiatrists, school counselors, child life specialists, nurses, mental health counselors and graduate students

Four National Presenters over 3 days! - Come to one session or all!



**David A. Crenshaw** is a board-certified clinical psychologist and the Clinical Director of the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie, NY. He is a licensed psychologist and a Registered Play Therapist-Supervisor through the Association for Play Therapy. He has taught graduate courses in play therapy and child/adolescent counseling at Johns Hopkins University

and Columbia University. He is the author, co-author, editor, or co-editor of 17 books and over 100 journal articles and book chapters on topics of child and adolescent therapy, resilience, child trauma and abuse and won the NYAPT Lifetime achievement award in 2018.

**Lisa Dion** is an international teacher, clinical supervisor, author, coach and entrepreneur in Boulder, Colorado. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor, Registered Play Therapy Supervisor and is at the cutting edge of her field creating new and innovative models of therapy with children and adults, as well as



a past winner of the APT Award for Excellence in Training and Education. She is the founder and President of the Synergetic Play Therapy Institute and the creator of Synergetic Play Therapy™. In her private practice, she works with clients of all ages from around the world on a full spectrum of issues.

**Sabra Starnes** is an Independent Clinical Social Worker and Registered Play Therapy Supervisor who has been practicing for 22 years in the DC-Maryland-Virginia area. She is the founder of Next Place Therapy Services, LLC, working with children and their families using Attachment-Based Play Therapy and is an Approved



Provider of play therapy training in person and online, with expertise in adoption and attachment, EMDR, Sandtray, TBRI, Daring Way, Kinesthetic Storytelling, and trauma. and She is a national and international speaker and trainer on adoption and foster care from a personal and professional perspective.

**Rachel Altvater** is a Licensed Psychologist in Maryland-D.C.-Virginia area, Registered Play Therapist-Supervisor, and Certified Clinical Trauma Professional. She is the owner of Creative Psychological Health Services and the president of the Maryland/DC Association for Play Therapy. She has published on her research of technology use in play therapy and is a contributing author in Integrating Technology in Modern Therapies: A Clinician's Guide to Developments and Interventions and Digital Play Therapy: A Clinician's Guide to Comfort and Competence. She is the recipient of the 2019 Emerging Leader Service Award from the Association for Play Therapy.



## DESCRIPTION and OBJECTIVES

**Program:** All workshops are live, online, limited to 40 participants; participants will be expected to be live and on camera and interact in breakout rooms on Zoom; Post-test will be required for CEs.

### Thursday April 15th, 2021

David A. Crenshaw, Ph.D., ABPP, RPT-S

#### Family Play Therapy in the County Jail: A Story of Resilience

Family Play Therapy integrates two evidence-based forms of treatment, play therapy and family therapy. The combination of these modalities and the intrinsic powers of play enabled a 3-year-old child to process many facets of her complex trauma—witnessing extreme domestic violence resulting in the mother's killing the father and the mother's incarceration, resulting in prolonged separation from her mother. Her progress in family play therapy was remarkable despite the obstacles faced including most sessions over a 19-month period took place in a county jail, in a conference room where there was no privacy, no toys, puppets or other play materials except for a sketch pad and crayons.

#### Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to list at least 3 reasons why family play therapy was the treatment of choice for this young child, her brother, and her mother.
2. Participants will describe the protective and therapeutic value of masking symbols when engaged with trauma play and the contrast with affect-porous play symbols.
3. Participants will be able to cite at least 4 features of post-traumatic play.
4. Participants will be able to delineate at least 4 characteristics of resilience expressed by this child in her symbolic play.

### Friday April 16th, 2021

Sabra Starnes, LICSW, LCSW-C, LCSW, RPT-S

#### Engaging the Therapeutic Powers of Play to Grow as a Culturally Attuned Play Therapist

APT defines play therapy as "the systematic use of a theoretical model to establish an interpersonal process wherein trained play therapists use the therapeutic powers of play to help clients prevent or resolve psychosocial difficulties and achieve optimal growth and development." Play therapists can use the therapeutic powers of play in being a culturally attuned play therapist who is aware of the social justices, racism and systematic disparities Brown and Black children and families face. We will apply Gestalt Play Therapy principles and help you to openly discuss and share your concerns and hopes in supporting your brown and black clients ages 3-18 years old and their families.

1. Discuss Gestalt Play Therapy how the therapeutic powers of play connect in focusing on the whole child in play therapy sessions and jointly exploring the cause of symptoms through play.
2. Discuss cultural equity and the relationship to ethical practice and powers of play therapy to connect with, impart empathy, healing with clients.
3. Explore how therapist self-awareness of values, beliefs and experiences can have a positive impact on a safe and collaborative therapeutic relationship with brown and black clients in play therapy sessions.
4. Identify professional strategies and resources to minimize the negative impact of the play therapist's privilege, power, and unconscious bias on treatment.

Recommended supplies for experiential portions: art materials, clay, Legos and/or sand tray and miniatures

### Friday April 16th, 2021

Lisa Dion, LPC, RPT-S

#### Play Therapy with Pre-teens and Teens

From twelve-year-olds to seniors in high school, adolescence is a time filled with change. This can make the notion of bringing play therapy to this population a challenge. Do we play? Do we talk? Using neuroscience, developmental theory and Synergetic Play Therapy theory, participants will explore these questions along with what is the most important goal when working with this population, how to maximize engagement in sessions, how to work with older children using directive and non-directive play techniques, the role of the play therapist during this important developmental phase, and how to turn the awkwardness into authenticity and healing.

#### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe why it is important not to have a script for when to apply directive and non-directive play therapy interventions with pre-teens and teens
2. Discuss the importance of assessing the pre-teen or teen's emotional age in the play therapy process
3. Explain the most important goal when applying play therapy to your work with pre-teens and teens

NYAPT general chapter meeting and awards will immediately follow Lisa's presentation and is open to all conference attendees.

Sunday April 18th, 2021

Rachel Altvater, Psy.D., RPT-S  
**Incorporating Digital Play in  
Play Therapy Practice**

Tele-play therapy became a universal therapeutic go-to as a way to maintain a supportive and healing therapeutic space during an unprecedented time. Since this method of service delivery remains in its infancy stage, many play therapists would benefit from additional guidance to competently and ethically navigate this play therapy platform. Play therapists will learn to conceptualize and creatively implement digital interventions based on chosen clinical framework. Play therapists will also implement online, digital interventions to traditional, in-person playrooms to meet the modern child where they are in a digital era. Ethical considerations, diversity factors, and limitations will also be explored

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Describe chosen core theoretical framework for play therapy practice.
2. Apply clinically sound tele-play therapy interventions based on theoretical framework and client problem behavior
3. Identify two diversity factors and two ethical considerations when navigating the tele-play therapy platform.
4. Demonstrate application of digital tools via tele-play therapy and transition of these interventions back to in-office play therapy sessions.



**Continuing Education Credit**

CEs are provided at no cost but participants will need to complete and written a CE application, post -test and evaluation. Instructions will be supplied to registrant's via email.

This program is co-sponsored by the New York Association for Play Therapy and the Institute for Continuing Education. Details for each profession follows. The program offers 3.00 contact hours per workshop, for a total of 12.00 hours if all 4 workshops are selected. CE credit is offered on a per workshop basis , with full attendance required for the days attended. There is no additional fee to apply for CE credit. Application forms will be emailed to registrants and certificates mailed following the Conference.

**NOTE:** It is the responsibility of attendees to determine if CE credit offered by The Institute for Continuing Education will meet the regulations of their state licensing/certification board.

(Please note that the supervision workshop is offered for play therapy supervision credit only under APT Approved Provider 98-044)

**Play Therapy:** The Institute for Continuing Education is approved by The Association for Play Therapy to sponsor continuing education specific to play therapy. The Institute maintains responsibility for the program APT Provider 98-040.

\*Due to COVID-19 health concerns, these one-time, online, live events have been approved by APT for CONTACT CE Hours

**Psychology:** The Institute for Continuing Education is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Institute for Continuing Education maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

**Counseling:** For counselors seeking CE credit, The Institute for Continuing Education will submit a co-sponsorship application to NBCC for this program. This website will be updated with information regarding approval.

**New York:** The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for mental health practitioners as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed counselors, Provider MH-0016.

**Social Work:** Application for social work continuing education credit has been submitted. This website will be updated with information regarding approval.

**New York SED:** The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers, Provider SW-0025.

**New Jersey:** CE credit for NJ social workers is not offered.

**Marriage-Family Therapy:** The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Mental Health Practitioners as an approved provider of continuing education for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists. Provider No. MFT-0012.

**Instructional Methodology:** May include Lecture, demonstration, audio/visual, experiential practice of techniques, large and small group discussion

*Play therapy credit will not be awarded to non-mental health professionals.*

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Come to one session or ALL!  
There will be a 15-minute break halfway through each workshop.

### Thursday April 15th

9am-12:15pm EST (3 CEs)  
David A. Crenshaw - Family Play Therapy in the County Jail: A Story of Resilience

### Friday April 16th

8:15am-11:30am EST (3 CEs)  
Sabra Starnes - Engaging the Therapeutic Powers of Play to Grow as a Culturally Attuned Play Therapist

12:30-3:45pm EST (3 CEs)  
Lisa Dion - Play Therapy with Pre-teens and Teens

3:45-4:30pm EST  
**NEW YORK ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING VIA ZOOM -**  
All are welcome to celebrate, hear branch news, see our student poster session projects and win prizes! Opt in for virtual raffle tickets when you register to support our scholarship fund!

### Sunday April 18th

1-4:15 pm EST (3 CEs)  
Rachel Altvater - Incorporating Digital Play in Play Therapy Practice



## REGISTRATION

**Early registrants** (before March 15) will be entered into a prize drawing for a **\$50 Gift Certificate to the Self Esteem Shop, our virtual conference bookstore!**

REGISTRATION  
DEADLINE



Conference registration materials available on the NYAPT website:  
<https://www.newyorkapt.info/21st-annual-play-therapy-conference-2/>

For questions and ADA accommodations, email us at [playtherapyfun123@gmail.com](mailto:playtherapyfun123@gmail.com) or call Camille Arth at (513) 550-2990

**\$50 each session**  
**\$60 each for non-members**  
**10% Discount :**  
**4 Workshop bundle for members \$180**

## SAVE on REGISTRATION FEES!

Join the Association for Play Therapy right now and save on your registration for this conference while receiving all the benefits of national membership including APT publications.

New York residents will automatically be enrolled in the New York chapter.

### MEMBERSHIP FEES:

\$100 for professional members,  
\$55 for students & affiliate members.

Click here to be directed to our membership page...  
[www.a4pt.org/page/membership](http://www.a4pt.org/page/membership)



## CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refunds will be made ONLY if requested up to 15 days prior to conference and will be subject to an administrative fee of \$10.

NYAPT, Inc. reserves the right to cancel the conference in the event of rare, unforeseen circumstances. In the event of cancellation, registrants will be notified and will receive a full refund of registration fees. In all instances, the liability of NYAPT, Inc. is limited to the refund of registration fees only.