



2023 Virtual Conference

November 18 - 19, 2023

November 1 to November 15, 2023	
Event Package	Registration Rate
Both Days	75
One Day Only (Saturday or Sunday)	45

The North American Drama Therapy Association (NADTA) has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 6819. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. The NADTA is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs. The NADTA has been approved to provide continuing education to LCATs in New York State. Provider Number: #CAT-0027.

Please Note: that you must request your NBCC or LCAT Certificate within 30 days after the conference.

US Time Zone	Start Time	End Time	Event Name	Workshop Titles	Presenter(s)	Abstract	CE Credits
Saturday, Nov 18, 2023							
HST	6:00 AM	6:30 AM	All Conference Event	Opening	NADTA Conference Committee	Welcome to our Virtual Conference Day!	
PST	8:00 AM	8:30 AM					
CDT	10:00 AM	10:30 AM					
EST	11:00 AM	11:30 AM					
HST	6:30 AM	9:30 AM	3 Hour Workshops	Puppets for the People	Jessica Litwak, PhD, MA, MFA, BFA, RDT, ACC	Drama therapy/theatre as a vehicle for personal and social change, a career that includes travelling the world, building puppets with varied populations. In this workshop each participant will make a puppet by first creating what is inside, and building the puppet around it from found materials.	3 CE Credit - RDT, NBCC
PST	8:30 AM	11:30 AM		[PERFORMANCE] Untitled Fat Liberation Project	Dani Bryant, MS, LMHC, RDT Jessica Elwart, MA, LCAT, RDT Ellen Smittle, MA, RDT, LCAT-LP	Created by an ensemble of fat creative arts therapists, "Untitled Fat Liberation Project" is a new piece of therapeutic theater that tells gut-punching stories of anti-fat bias, the importance of reclaiming space as resistance, and radical liberation for all bodies.	3 CE Credit - RDT CHED, LCAT, NBCC
CDT	10:30 AM	1:30 PM		Accessing Hope and Resilience Through Psychodrama	Barbara Ann McKechnie, MA, LPC, LCAT, RDT/BCT, RPT, TEP	Hope is often thought of as a wistful state, wishing for something that is yet to happen or does not exist. But hope is an active state, where one lives in possibility and feels empowered to take action. In this workshop we will integrate elements of Positive Psychology and Mindfulness with Psychodrama, trying on new roles, exploring new possible outcomes and cultivating a hopeful state of being.	3 CE Credit - RDT, LCAT, NBCC
EST	11:30 AM	2:30 PM		Climate Care: The Role of Drama Therapy in Ecological Change	Jessica Bleuer, MA RDT, OPQ Alida Gersie, PhD Nisha Sajani, PhD, RDT/BCT	Building on an initial meeting of climate-concerned Drama Therapists at New York University's Theatre and Health Lab in February 2023, this workshop intends to bring more Drama Therapists into the conversation and facilitate an embodied dialogue about Drama Therapy's role in ecological response/ability.	3 CE Credit - RDT CHED, NBCC
HST	6:30 AM	8:00 AM	1 Hour & 30 Minute Workshops	The Hero/Shero's Journey: A Strength-based drama therapy approach for telling personal stories	Jason Conover, MA, LCAT, RDT/BCT	Workshop attendees will learn about a drama therapy approach using poetry and the archetype of the hero's journey to tell a personal story to gain new insights or to tell the story from a different role or perspective. Workshop attendees will have the opportunity to create characters for a hero/shero's journey and move through the frame of a structured short story template.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT, LCAT, NBCC
PST	8:30 AM	10:00 AM		A Snapshot of the Literature in the Field: From Empirical Research, to Theory, to Student Work	Angelle Cook, PhD, RDT/BCT Chyela Rowe, PhD, RDT/BCT Alivia Holkesvig, BA Shelby Davis, MA, LPCA, P-RDT Kamran Afary, PhD, RDT	The NADTA research subcommittees: Empirical, Theory, and Student research teams will review current projects and freely available research tools to the community to highlight resources to support member research practices. Results from research investigations of the theory and student research committees will be shared.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT, NBCC
CDT	10:30 AM	12:00 PM		The Ziyarat Arbaeen Model: Unintended Drama Therapy and Collective Healing in Crowd Dynamics	Bushra Juhi Jani, PhD Nawal Juhi Jani, PhD	This study aims to explore the inadvertent integration of drama therapy principles within the crowd dynamics of the Ziyarat Arbaeen pilgrimage and its potential for collective healing.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT CHED, NBCC
EST	11:30 AM	1:00 PM		Easter Passion Plays in a Therapeutic Community for Substance Addiction Recovery	Katerina Zachova, MA	This paper presents a qualitative study of the preparation and public performance of Easter Passion plays by clients of a therapeutic community for substance addiction recovery. The clients work under the guidance of a drama therapist, but the goal is to have them take as much responsibility as possible into their own hands.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT
HST	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1 Hour & 30 Minute Workshops	Health Care Clowning in Pediatric Hospitals with the Laughter League	Emily Faith, MA, LPC, RDT Tiffany Riley, MA	Join Health Care clown and founder of Laughter League, Tiffany Riley, MA, and RDT and Healthcare clown, Emily Faith, to learn more about the path of pediatric healthcare clowning. This offering will provide an introduction to the history of therapeutic clowning in hospital/medical camp settings and an experiential to infuse joy into your own work.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT, NBCC
PST	12:00 PM	1:30 PM		Imagining Well-Exploring the role of the drama therapist in Holistic Healing	Jennifer Faith Brown, MA, RDT Marie O'Brien, DNP, ANP-C, PMGT-BC, CCRN	Join our presenters as they explore the career path of the drama therapist as a collaborative member of the holistic healthcare team. This interactive presentation will provide a unique perspective of how drama therapists can contribute to the creation of holistic wellness and resiliency promotion programs.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT, NBCC
CDT	2:00 PM	3:30 PM		River of Life LGBTQ+ : Using Drama Therapy to Heal Internalized Queer Phobia in the LGBTQ+ Community	Grace Walcott, AMFT	This session will include a viewing of River of Life LGBTQ+, followed by an exploration of drama therapy techniques that promote community building, interrupt internalized oppression and facilitate empathic understanding of the ways toxic oppressive patterns can play out even in well-intentioned spaces.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT CHED
EST	3:00 PM	4:30 PM		Consultant as Container: Expanded Roles for Drama Therapists	Elizabeth Spech, PhD, LCAT, RDT/BCT	Drama therapists and trainees may find themselves cast in the role of de facto consultant. This workshop will be an opportunity for participants to play with the Organizational Consultant role.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT, LCAT, NBCC
				Creating a Mobile Drama Therapy Unit Through the Lens of Specific Design	Zoe Lola Vanier-Schneider, MA Zoé Burns-Garcia, BFA	In this hybrid presentation, participants will go through an incursion into the designing and the making of a mobile drama therapy unit, after which they will be invited to discover the potentialities of a given place and to question themselves on the triangular dynamic between the client, their therapist and the therapeutic space.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT

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				Implementing Drama Therapy and Expressive Arts in Telehealth	Tanja Lee, PhD, RDT, CTP-2	Participants will gain knowledge in using a multi-modal approach for sharing emergent stories and supporting creative expression for healing in virtual settings.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT
				[PERFORMANCE] The Novice BIPOC Researcher's Journey: A Performance Response of the BIPOC Research Subcommittee's Investigation of the Experiences of Novice BIPOC Researchers	Michelle Christina Moreno, MS, RDT, CTP Mary Morris, MA, LCAT Chyela Rowe, PhD, RDT/BCT Erica Denise Lee, RDT Harmanbhavan Kalcut, BA	A performance response of the BIPOC research subcommittee's investigation of the experiences of novice BIPOC researchers, utilizing participatory autoethnographical and arts-based research methods. It is our intent to foster equity and accessibility for future researchers.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT CHED, LCAT, NBCC
HST	11:45 AM	12:45 PM	1 Hour	RDT Application Process	Diana Chu, LMFT, RDT/BCT		
PST	1:45 PM	2:45 PM					
CDT	3:45 PM	4:45 PM					
EST	4:45 PM	5:45 PM					
HST	1:30 PM	4:30 PM	All Conference Event	Diversity Forum	CHED Committee	The Cultural Humility, Equity, and Diversity Committee will re-introduce the CHED Committee, their roles and duties, current initiatives and projects to membership and guide them through various experientials	3 CE Credit - RDT CHED, LCAT, NBCC
PST	3:30 PM	6:30 PM					
CDT	5:30 PM	8:30 PM					
EST	6:30 PM	9:30 PM					
Sunday, Nov 19, 2023							
HST	5:00 AM	6:00 AM	1 Hour	Alternative Track Meeting	Diana Chu, LMFT, RDT/BCT		
PST	7:00 AM	8:00 AM					
CDT	9:00 AM	10:00 AM					
EST	10:00 AM	11:00 AM					
HST	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	1 Hour	Eastern Regional Meeting	Lillian Ribeiro, MA, RDT		
PST	8:00 AM	9:00 AM		Western Regional Meeting	Ryan Lisman, MA, RDT, APCC		
CDT	10:00 AM	11:00 PM		Central Regional Meeting	Lisa Moreno, M.Ed, MA, LPC, RDT, CSC, NCC, IPT-CST		
EST	11:00 AM	12:00 PM		Canadian Regional Meeting International Regional Meeting	Meaghan Buckley, MA, RDT TBD?		
HST	7:30 AM	10:30 AM	3 Hour Workshops	Taking Risks with and as The Integrated Mirror - an exploration of working with individuals with eating disorders utilizing a multimodal approach	Courtney Dowdell, MA, LCAT, CEDCAT, RDT/BCT	This workshop will explore eating disorder recovery using an integrated approach of body based therapy, interoceptive awareness, neuropsychology, reflective mirroring, polyvagal theory, social justice, diet culture, and fat liberation.	3 CE Credit - RDT CHED, LCAT, NBCC
PST	9:30 AM	12:30 PM		Ancestral Attunement and Drama Therapy: Paths to Healing Generational Trauma	Gary Raucher, MA, LMFT, RDT/BCT	Ancestral/cultural trauma complicates relationships with our ancestors; we may honor them yet experience overwhelm or numbness from their painful histories. This workshop cultivates deep attunement to ancestral pasts, enabling compassionate assimilation of historical lessons and trauma-informed perspectives on contemporary crises. We will use a mix of contemplative and experiential methods.	3 CE Credit - RDT CHED, NBCC
CDT	11:30 AM	2:30 PM		Re-entering the Paradoxical Playspace for Ketamine and Psychedelic Assisted Therapies: Proposing DvT w/ EXA's as Best Practices	Kimberly Cohn, RDT/BCT, MFT, CPTR/MAPS	Trauma-vernacular increasingly references Psychedelic-Assisted Therapies (PAT's) from Netflix specials to FDA approval of MDMA as "PTSD Breakthrough Therapy". Despite 50+ years research, Ketamine (KAP) is the only legally approved novel medicine. Concurrently, DvT and EXA's are now considered adjunctive Best Practices for Preparation/Integration/Harm Reduction when provided by Certified/Licensed clinicians.	3 CE Credit - RDT, NBCC
EST	12:30 PM	3:30 PM		Disability and Debility Justice: Improving Access for All People in the NADTA	Maria Hodermarska, MA, RDT/BCT, CASAC, LCAT	The Disability Justice Group of the NADTA invites all members to participate in an experiential forum to draft a recommended accessibility statement for the organization. How do we insure that everyone has access in the organization? It starts with a values statement written in collaborative process.	3 CE Credit - RDT CHED, LCAT, NBCC
HST	7:30 AM	9:00 AM	1 Hour & 30 Minute Workshops	Wraparound Care: Exploring the Multiple Roles of Drama Therapists Working with a Child and their Support Systems	Savannah Couch, MA, LPC, RDT	In drama therapy with children, wraparound care helps clients do well in all settings. We will cover the significance of play and relationships in development and emotion regulation, best practices for collaborating with clients' caregivers, and explore the roles used in collaboration.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT, NBCC
PST	9:30 AM	11:00 AM		Drama Therapy as a Course of Study at the University of Ghana: The Overwhelming Reception of Students and the Way Forward	Tabitha Deh, PhD	This paper highlights how Drama Therapy, a novel course of study introduced to the students of the Theatre Arts Department, University of Ghana, Legon, helps and develops students' capacities and confront issues through alternative forms of expression by employing projection, role, among others, as a developmental paradigm.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT CHED
CDT	11:30 AM	1:00 PM		Reviewing 7 Drama Therapy Core Processes	Anne Porst, MA	Come As You Are. A Long Table Discussion on the Seven Core Processes of Drama Therapy, hosted by Anne F. Porst, Guest of Honor: Dr. Laura L. Wood.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT
EST	12:30 PM	2:00 PM					

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				How We Create Our Own Speaking Voice at the Crossroads of Theatre of the Oppressed, Trauma-informed Practices, Civic Engagement, Immigration, and English Language Learning	Jennifer Schaupp, MA	I plan to have participants embody the role of ESL learners. We will perform activities from Boal's Cop in the Head to improvisational storytelling to Menakem's racial awareness exercises, while practicing verbal and non-verbal expression that uses technology. Ultimately, I wish to examine how ESL teachers can incorporate dramatherapeutic tools.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT CHED
				Identifying the Drama Therapy Core Processes in Clinical Practice Demonstrations: Operationalizing, Observing, and Coding	Jason S. Frydman, PhD, RDT/BCT, NCSP Calli Renee Armstrong, PhD, Psychologist (OPQ), RDT Chyela Rowe, PhD, RDT/BCT Angelle Cook, PhD, RDT/BCT	The core processes sub-committee of the NADTA is working toward measurement development. The current status of this research will be shared and examined; workshop participants will engage in an active coding experience.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT, NBCC
				Qualitative Meta-Analysis of Client Experiences of Drama Therapy	Tobias Constien, BA, H.Dip Akhila Khanna, MA, LCAT Amelie Wiberg, BA	This presentation presents a meta-analysis of qualitative studies reporting on client experiences of drama therapy. By synthesizing reports from various studies, this analysis allows a comprehensive representation of clients' experiences that may contribute to the current discourse on specific therapeutic factors of drama therapy.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT
HST	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1 Hour	Student Forum	NADTA Student Committee		
PST	1:00 PM	2:00 PM					
CDT	3:00 PM	4:00 PM					
EST	4:00 PM	5:00 PM					
				Ethics Plenary	Adam Reynolds, RDT/BCT, LCSW, PhD		1 CE Credit - RDT
HST	12:00 PM	1:00PM	1 Hour	Student Meet and Greet with the Board	NADTA Student Committee		
PST	2:00 PM	3:00 PM					
CDT	4:00 PM	5:00 PM					
EST	5:00 PM	6:00 PM					
				BCT Meeting	Diana Chu, LMFT, RDT/BCT		1 CE Credit - BCT CE
HST	1:30 PM	3:00PM	1 Hour & 30 Minute Workshops	"Just Ask"- An Ethnodrama About Nonconsensual Pelvic Exams	Alivia Holkesvig, BA Allison Adams, BA Kirsten Ajax, BA	A reading and talkback of participants reactions to witnessing one woman's story about receiving a nonconsensual pelvic exam under anesthesia. We will discuss the practice and ethicality of these exams and how the roles of storyteller and ethnodramatist can be therapeutically healing to our clients.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT
PST	3:30 PM	5:00 PM					
CDT	5:30 PM	7:00 PM					
EST	6:30 PM	8:00 PM					
				Crossing Borders: Drama Therapists Return To Their Home Country	Samah A Ikram, MA, LCAT, RDT Akhila Khanna, MA, LCAT Mallory Minerson, MA, RDT, CCC, CDWF, TITC-CT, LPN Naomi Saikachi, MA, RDT Anupriya Banerjee, MA Vjosa Ramadani, MA, RDT	A series of presentations and experiential activities led by a group of international drama therapists who are now practicing in their home countries. We will explore our journeys so far, our obstacles and guides, and how we (re)imagine the future of Drama Therapy in our own cultural contexts.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT CHED, LCAT, NBCC
				Creating Impact through Trauma-Informed Drama Therapy using Videos and Films: The Efficacy of Purposeful Performance	Joshua Cohen, PhD	The future of the field of drama therapy is documenting and sharing our work by using film and video, as an educational, therapeutic, research, and advocacy tool for social impact, change, and healing to occur in working with trauma.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT
				The Charisma Effect: Enhancing Drama Therapy Through Virtual Immersion	Kristy Allen, MFA Kaitlyn Niederstadt, MS	Discover the Evolution of Charisma Virtual Social Coaching, a transformative approach to social cognition training. Learn how this innovative project aligns with exploratory dialogue principles, fostering collaboration and empowerment. Explore the potential of virtual environments to enhance social interaction skills, bridging the gap between virtual and real-world interactions. Join us in Charisma for Compassion and Connection!	1.5 CE Credit - RDT
				Examining Drama Therapists' Attitudes Toward Dis/ability	Turner Hitt, BA Angelle Cook, PhD, RDT/BCT Sandy Doria, BFA Caitlin McFann, BA Kelly Young, BA	This workshop will review the preliminary results of a community-wide survey examining attitudes and experiences of drama therapists related to dis/ability. A mix of presentation, experientials, and discussion will be used to explore our initial results.	1.5 CE Credit - RDT CHED, LCAT, NBCC