

CONFERENCE DESCRIPTION

- 2 Keynotes • 4 Special Presentations • International Speakers • 34 Workshops
- Case Consultation • 24 CE Hours and STA Credits (18 without pre-conference)

At the 2010 STA National Conference in Boulder Colorado, the site of the Great Divide, we come together. Where East meets West and the 'rivers change direction', we will explore the vast diversity of landscapes within the world of sandplay. This is the place, given its central location and unique geography, for us to honor, discuss and provide a vibrant exchange about the multiplicity of differences within our cultures today.

Sandplay therapy presents an opportunity to work with people who are experiencing changes and movements within their lives. In our role as therapists, we contain their process. Similarly, in the world today, we are witness to great changes and are challenged to discover new ways to hold tensions that shift like the tectonic plates, which uplifted the Rocky Mountains from deep within the earth.

These momentous times offer opportunities to confront great differences while creating new possibilities to span the great divides within and between us. Now more than ever, we are faced with the challenge of bringing together multiple perspectives and building bridges to creatively connect new ideas and opportunities. The field of sandplay therapy offers powerful ways to integrate and expand the great divides of community, emerging neuroscience and spiritual dimensions, archetype and ego, mind and body.

Sandplay,™ as developed by Dora M. Kalff, is a nonverbal therapeutic process based on the psychology of C.G. Jung. The path to individuation, as understood in Jungian psychology, becomes visible in the symbolic expression of the sandplay. In sandplay, through the free and protected space, the individual is able to penetrate the depths of the personality and experience the Self. From this ground, a more naturally balanced relationship between the ego and the Self manifests. When this occurs, one then has the opportunity to live life in a more conscious, authentic manner.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

Participants will be able to:

1. Explain how sandplay therapy provides an opportunity to contain the process of change within the therapeutic milieu.
2. Give examples of how sandplay therapy expands our understanding of archetype and ego, neuroscience and mindfulness, mind and body.
3. Give examples of creative motifs within sandplay, which show the process of healing and transformation.
4. Describe a variety of sandplay therapy interventions targeted at individual, family, and clinician-client relational factors central to improving the client's emotional functioning during sandplay and play therapy sessions.
5. Identify sandplay therapy techniques, which enhance the relationship between client and therapist.