

Conference Description

RETURNING TO THE SELF IN SANDPLAY

Sandplay therapy, a unique model of play therapy, provides an experience of the Self through embodied, symbolic play and witnessing. The 2012 STA National Conference offers an immersion in a theoretical and experiential exploration of the Self as expressed in the sandplay process with children and adults by presenters from around the world working with clients of diverse cultures. Dora Kalff, founder of sandplay therapy, agreed with C.G.Jung that the Self is the center of psychic totality. Sandplay therapy offers an opportunity for healing and integration for people whose lives and psyches are disconnected from their core selves. In this conference, you will hear and see how this multimodal and multicultural therapy draws on body, mind and spirit, in the context of the safe container of the therapeutic relationship, to help adults and children move forward in their lives.

The theme of Returning to the Self invites an in-depth consideration of important therapeutic questions. How do we help others to return to wholeness, safety, discovery and spirit? What are ways we facilitate or disrupt a relationship to Self with our clients? How do Jungian concepts illuminate the self-healing process and enhance our understanding? How do we cultivate our presence to witness the rhythm and flow of the unconscious and the body in Sandplay? Can we hold a free and protected space for our clients even when we may be wounded or distressed ourselves?

Our conference is designed to balance presentations and sandplay community events with time for personal self-reflection and integration. In sandplay therapy, we return to and connect with the essence of the Self.

SANDPLAY THERAPY DEFINED

Sandplay™ as developed by Dora M. Kalff is a nonverbal therapeutic play process based on the psychology of C.G. Jung. Sandplay also has roots in the World Technique of Margaret Lowenfeld, an early 20th century play therapist, and Tibetan Buddhism. 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 Self manifests. When this occurs one then has the opportunity to live life in a more conscious, authentic manner.

Conference Description (Continued)

ABOUT SANDPLAY THERAPISTS OF AMERICA™

Sandplay Therapists of America is a non-profit organization established to promote education, training and research in sandplay therapy. STA is an affiliate member of the International Society of Sandplay Therapy, which promotes professional development in sandplay in the tradition of Dora Kalff based on the theories of C.G. Jung. STA sponsors a national conference alternating yearly with a national assembly. Sandplay Therapists of America publishes *The Journal of Sandplay Therapy™*, offers courses at the Sandplay Therapy Institute and supports regional groups and trainings throughout the US. As a growing organization, STA encourages members to contribute to the field of sandplay therapy, volunteer and actively mentor those who train to become Practitioners, Certified and Teaching members. To learn more about Sandplay Therapists of America, visit our website at www.sandplay.org.

STA Membership Levels & Professional Designations

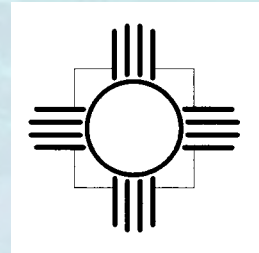
STA Associate

SP - Sandplay Practitioner

CST- Certified Sandplay Therapist

CST-T - Certified Sandplay Therapist, Teaching

ISST - International Society for Sandplay Therapy



The Board of Trustees of STA and the 2012 Conference Committee warmly invite you to join us for *Returning to the Self in Sandplay*.

– Audrey Punnett, STA Board President

Conference Committee:

Ellen Saul, MS, LP, CST-T, Program Committee Chair

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Event Coordinator: Shannon Kilkenny, Enterprising Events

Brochure design: Leslie Scopes Anderson, White Tree Design

Conference logo art: Ellen LeBel and Ellen Saul

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Operations Committee:

David Capitolo, MFT, CST (vendor chair)
Lynne Ehlers, PhD, CST (auction co-chair)
Bill Murray, PhD (tech support chair)
Ann Strack, PhD, CST-T (auction co-chair)

Mentoring Breakfast Chairpersons:

Mary Ann Brock, PhD, MFT, CST-T
Jill Kaplan, MA, MFT, CST-T

Regional Lunch Chairperson:

Christine Ford, MA, LPC, CST-T

Northern California Regional Sandplay Society:

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