



# CHILD CHATTER



## LOUISIANA Association for Play Therapy

THE NEWSLETTER OF LAPT  
Volume 14 - Summer Issue

### LAPT Board Members

**Erin Dugan, PhD, LPC-S,**  
Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor  
*President*

**LeAnne Steen, PhD, LPC,**  
Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor  
*President - Elect*

**Ray Melerine, LPC, LMFT,**  
Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor  
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**Laura Fazio-Griffith, PhD, LPC-S, LMFT**  
Registered Play Therapist-Supervisor  
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Registered Play Therapist  
*Membership*

**Michelle Niemeier, PhD, LP,**  
Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor  
*Workshops & Conferences*

**Adrienne Frischhertz, PhD, LPC-S, CRC,**  
Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor  
*Promotions & Publicity South*

**Carolyn Ellender, LCSW, LPC**  
Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor  
*Legislative, Ethics & By-laws*

**Kristy A. Brumfield, PhD, LPC-S, NCC,**  
Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor  
*Newsletter & Website*

**Marcia Cox, LCSW,**  
Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor  
*Gold Branch / Historian*

**Dana Planchard, LCSW**  
*Historian*

^ Our greatest  
Natural resource  
Is the minds  
Of our children. ♪  
- Walter Elias Disney

## Congratulations, Marcia!



Marcia Abrams Cox, LCSW, Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor, was recently awarded the FIRST Lifetime Achievement Award from the Louisiana Association for Play Therapy at their annual conference held March 2-3, 2012 at Loyola University in New Orleans, LA. Marcia graduated from LSU with her MSW in 1972. She developed the first child therapy program at the Baton Rouge Mental Health Clinic. Her playroom was set up using Virginia Axline's book as a guide. In 1981, Marcia opened her private practice specializing in services to children and families. Marcia was a charter and founding member of the Louisiana Association for Play Therapy. She has served in many different capacities within the organization such as President and Secretary since the organization's inception in 1996. Marcia continues to serve children and families using play therapy as her main model of work and has been an inspiration to many other therapists as they develop their skills in working with children.



## Letter from the President

### LAPT SUMMER 2012

Dear LAPT Members and Friends of LAPT,

Summer is here! It's time to sit back and enjoy the sun. I hope that everyone is playfully out and about finding some rest and relaxation after a hard year's work. Our 2012 annual conference was a huge success. We thank each of you for attending and supporting LAPT and Dr. Garry Landreth as he presented "*Healing the Hurting Child: The Necessary Dimensions of Child-Centered Play Therapy*". With 14 workshops to choose from on Saturday, March 3, LAPT had an outstanding attendance record! Our new social kickoff was also a success as members and friends chatted about the conference and future endeavors on the horizon. Our regional groups were activated and many are currently scheduling their first meetings. Please look for the regional chair/co-chair in your area listed in this email blast. These regional meetings are designed to better acquaint play therapists in your area. HUGE NEWS!!! LAPT was honored with Gold Branch status. Each year APT awards branch chapters with a Gold Branch Award for attainment of necessary requirements including promotion, outreach, educational training, increase in membership, etc. We are thrilled and thank each of you and the LAPT Board for your hard work and support. Stay tuned for upcoming events!!!

Erin Dugan,  
LAPT President



## ONGOING MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

LAPT continues our **Membership Drive**. Each of you can help to spread the word about Play Therapy by talking with your colleagues and encouraging them to attend our Annual Conference and join LAPT.

Remember, you do not have to be a Board Member or RPT/S to **promote Play Therapy**. You can do a presentation about Play Therapy at your local NASW or LPC meeting, to your local OCS, or to your local churches or civic organizations, or anyone else who will listen. *Please be sure to let the Board know when you present a Play Therapy topic.* If you would like assistance in presenting or just some suggestions, please feel free to contact any of your Board Members.

We want to see you become more involved in your organization. Please let one of us know if you have an interest in serving on the Board or if you have a topic you feel comfortable presenting at future workshops.

## HOW YOU CAN PROMOTE PLAY THERAPY:

- ◆ Present a program to local PTAs on problems children face and how a PTA can help. Be sure to acquaint them with Play Therapy and how it helps kids overcome problems.
- ◆ Present to a mental health center staff.
- ◆ Do a newspaper story/article about the benefits of Play Therapy.
- ◆ Promote Play Therapy in your parent groups.
- ◆ Present to the Junior League.
- ◆ Present to a mom's group at a local church.
- ◆ Present at your local licensure monthly meetings.
- ◆ Present a workshop on Ethics and working with children using Play Therapy.

LAPT Board members will be more than happy to help you with your presentation including providing you with copies of the *Why Play Therapy* brochure and membership applications. If you do a presentation, be sure to let us know so we can send the information in to APT.

Thanks to all of you for your dedication to the children of Louisiana. LAPT can only be successful in promoting Play Therapy if **you are involved as a shareholder.**



# LOUISIANA PRIDE

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The [2012 APT Key Awards](#) have been announced, and our very own branch president,

[Erin Dugan](#),

Is the recipient of the

## **Professional Education & Training Award**

Visit <http://alliedhealth.lsuhs.edu/Patients/playtherapytrainings.aspx> for information about how you can attend one of her award winning trainings!

*\*We'd love to feature your trainings or workshops in our newsletter and on the website. Submit information to [brumfiek@bellsouth.net](mailto:brumfiek@bellsouth.net) for inclusion.*



Check us out on the web at

[www.la4pt.org](http://www.la4pt.org)

Send pictures to be included in our website slideshow.

# Do you know who your Regional Chairs are?

Baton Rouge

Marcia Cox & Carolyn Ellender

Hammond

Laura Fazio-Griffith

Lafayette

Daniel Yeager, Marcia Yeager, & Latifey LaFleur

Lake Charles

Scott Riviere, Ray Melerine, & Ann Landry

Metairie

Sue McCann & Wendy Durant

New Orleans

Sheila Gold & Adrienne Frischhertz

Northshore (Mandeville, Covington)

Melissa Desforges & Amanda Perrin

River Ridge

Angel Werner

Ruston

Judy Crow

Shreveport

Emily Wicker

[\\*see attachment for more information including contact information](#)



The Louisiana Association for  
Play Therapy presents...

# The Many Faces Of Play Therapy

February 22-23, 2013  
Loyola University  
New Orleans



## Keynote Speakers:

**Danny Yeager, LCSW,**

Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor

Morning Topic: **What Play Therapists Need to Know about  
Executive Function & Child Development**

Afternoon Topic: **Play Therapy with the ADHD Child**

&

**Scott Riviere, LPC,**

Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor

Morning Topic: **Play Therapy Interventions for Disruptive  
Behavior Disorders**

Afternoon Topic: **Play Therapy Interventions for Adolescents**

# 2012 LAPT Volunteers and Dr. Garry Landreth



## Mission Statement

**To promote the value of play, play therapy, and credentialed play therapists.**

To satisfy this mission, the Association for Play Therapy will advance the psychosocial development and mental health of all people by providing and supporting those programs, services, and related activities that promote the:

1. Understanding and valuing of play and play therapy.
2. Effective practice of play therapy through education, training, and research.
3. Recognition, incorporation, and preservation of diversity in play therapy.
4. Development and maintenance of a strong professional organization to accomplish these objectives.



# LOUISIANA

## Association for Play Therapy

### CHILD CHATTER:

#### The Newsletter of LAPT



## A note from the

## Play Therapy

Space is available for those wishing to advertise continuing education opportunities, products, or other services. The following rates have been adopted: full page - \$100; half page - \$50; quarter page - \$25. A discount of "4 for the price of 3" is given if you choose to advertise in 4 consecutive issues.

If interested, please contact Kristy Brumfield, (504) 250-4178 or send e-mail to [brumfiek@bellsouth.net](mailto:brumfiek@bellsouth.net).

We welcome contributions to the newsletter, such as play therapy techniques, website recommendations, and books. LAPT reserves the right to reject or accept any submission.

I look forward to continuing as your newsletter editor and hope to hear from you soon.

*Kristy Brumfield*

"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."

## Why play?

Play is a child's natural form of communication just as talking is an adult's natural way of communication. Children, even children who are quite talkative, express themselves more fully through their play. Emotions are often difficult to understand for children and even more difficult to express. Play provides a non-threatening way for children to express themselves.