



VAPT enote September 2009

Dear VAPT Playmates,

I hope you are enjoying the newly arrived crisp and cool fall weather. I look forward to seeing many VAPT members in Atlanta next week for the international Association for Play Therapy conference. Be sure to check the message board at the conference to learn when we will get together for a hello and hugs.

VAPT has a great deal to celebrate at this conference. We will

- Graduate 3 APT Leadership Academy participants
- Receive a Gold Branch award and recognition for increasing our membership
- Enjoy presentations by VAPT members Danielle Budash, Megan Fiore, Lennie Echterling, Eliana Gil, Kathrin Hartmann and Anne Stewart



AND (drum roll)

Honor **Eliana Gil** with the APT Lifetime Achievement Award

Congratulations, Eliana!!! We are very proud of you and grateful for your strong voice, curious mind and heart for children.

1. **Come play together in Virginia on October 15th !**

On October 15th the President of the Israeli Association for Play Therapy will present techniques for helping families and children play together with the therapist to change thoughts, feelings and behaviors. Dr. Ariel's workshop will help you identify and change 'bugs' in the system through playful interactions.



**Integrative Play Therapy Techniques for Children and Families:
Busting Bugs and Promoting Change**

**Shlomo Ariel, PhD
President, Israeli Association for Play Therapy**

6 CEU's

Thursday, October 15th, 2009

East Campus Dining Hall - Montpelier Room James Madison University
Harrisonburg, Virginia

See <http://vapt.cisat.jmu.edu/fallconference09/index.html> for more information and to download a registration form or contact Anne at stewaral@jmu.edu

2. APT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

At the national conference the **APT Leadership Academy** 2009 class graduates will include VAPT members:

- **Sheri Mitschelen**, LCSW, RPT-S
Fairfax, VA
- **Catherine Spooner**, LCSW
Gainesville, VA
- **Jessica Umhoefer**, NCSP
Harrisonburg, VA

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELL DONE!!!

Previous VAPT Leadership Academy graduates include:

2008-09 **Beth Sydnor, Renee Staton**

2006-07 **Danielle Budash, Megan Fiore**

2005-06 **Jennifer Gilbert**

2004-05 **Stephanie Pratola, Penny Critzer and Anne Stewart.**

You may want to talk with one of our grads to hear about their experience.

3. The truth about play

Take a quiz about how children learn through play! A great resource to help people learn more about the value of play.

http://www.zerotothree.org/site/DocServer/The_Truth_About_Play.pdf?docID=9381

4. Insights from Children with Autism

http://ttac.gmu.edu/telegram/article_6/

This article is from Sally Chappell from the Virginia Training and Technical Assistance Centers (T/TACs). The T/TACs have specialists trained in working with students with autism spectrum disorders, as well as a wealth of resources in lending libraries. Additional resources are also available at T/TAC Online (<http://ttaonline.org>).

5. Podcast: Predicting depression in preschoolers

Discover the top two predictors of depression in preschoolers. This is an article and podcast from Scientific American.

http://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode.cfm?id=predictors-of-preschool-depression-09-08-31&sc=DD_20090831

6. Counselor's Room

This is a FREE website which has organized classroom guidance lesson plans, therapeutic games and group activities for counselors to download. All of the resources are hands-on activities as opposed to worksheets, and follow the ASCA model.

http://www.counselorsroom.com/SC_Home_0908.php?SCID=08253740

7. BE a playful leader in our organization!

Please contact me if you would like to serve as a committee leader or member or officer for VAPT! Work on the membership committee, conference committee and/or participate with your VAPT chapter chair

(see http://vapt.cisat.jmu.edu/vapt_news/chapterchairupdatesummer2007.html for the chair in your geographic area).

8. I'm a bobbing bobcat. What are you?

Go to the following website to find out.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/science/humanbody/sleep/sheep/reaction_version5.swf

Go forth and Have Fun!

Playfully,

Anne

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Virginia Association for Play Therapy website

<http://vapt.cisat.jmu.edu>