

THE CREATE INSTITUTE

CENTRE FOR EXPRESSIVE ARTS THERAPY EDUCATION

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2023 V1/ISSUE 1

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FOND FAREWELLS

RETIREMENTS

Rowesa Gordon

A member of CREATE since its inception first as a student and then as a core faculty member for the following years. Rowesa has taught the foundations of EXAT and many of the graduates continue to remember her warmly.

Scott MacLean

Scott as Board Chair held the financial reins for over 20 years and is credited with and appreciated for steering CREATE through some difficult times. Thanks to Scott for his dedication to CREATE and for a job well done.

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

This communique is to be in touch and share with you some CREATE happenings.

Well, I have made it through my first academic year in the new position as Director at CREATE it has been both challenging and rewarding...phew!

The horizon looks good, we have a 32-year first – the highest number of student enrolment for Year one plus a hungry waiting list.

Because of this growth spurt, it was necessary to hire more faculty to accommodate the increase in enrolment and other staff changes. We have been busy over these past few months and have been gifted with recruiting some amazing, academically qualified, and artistically creative new teaching talent.

CREATE steps forward as the only CRPO-accredited Expressive Arts Therapy school in Canada!

With this being our first year as an accredited educational institution under the CRPO (College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario) we have also been busy ensuring our academic coursework, experiential practicum, and clinical supervision remain on par with our requirements.

We are very pleased to announce we passed our first-year review with the CRPO. We also can boast of our first batch of graduates who have applied for and been accepted as RPs (Qualifying)- Well done!

The CREATE program is robust, chock full of knowledge and experiential hands-on learning! We continue to keep the expressive arts philosophy as the heartbeat in all we aspire to do at CREATE.

Welcome faculty, staff, the Board, and our new and returning students.

Ouida Pihulyk

WHAT'S NEW AT CREATE A NEWSLETTER!

I intend to reach out a few times in the academic year to connect us all via a newsletter with updates on what's happening...

A NEW BOARD!

Effective March 2023. We are pleased to recognize and welcome:

Catherine Mellinger (Acting Chair), **Marjorie Richards** (Director)

and our newest Director **Shambvi Sharma**, CREATE alumni.

NEW GRADUATES

Friends, families and CREATE representatives attended a wonderful celebration of our graduates on Saturday May 13th, 2023.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
CREATE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2023

- Mira Berlin
- Stephanie Drouin
- Savannah Lockie
- Pekhna Kaur
- Renata Chubb



ACADEMIC YEAR - 2023-24 - WELCOME TO THE CREATE TEAM.

(see CREATE website for more details on all our faculty)

Professor Emeritus

Stephen Levine Guest Lecturer and Co-founder of CREATE

NEW FACULTY

David Yeh Core Faculty Year 1
Ayana Spivak Associate Faculty Year 2
Olena Darewych Adjunct Faculty
Daryl Vineberg Adjunct Faculty

RETURNING FACULTY

Lee Shields Core Faculty Year 1
Lesley Swartz Core Faculty Year 2
Ellen Levine Core Faculty Year 3 and Co-founder of CREATE
Daniela Garcia Director of Practicum & Faculty

RETURNING ADJUNCT FACULTY

Cecilia Chau
Norma Araiza
Terri Robertson
David Jurasek
Gary Diggins
Lysa Toyne

RETURNING STAFF

Pamela Rosales Director of Administration & Registrar

A NEW CALL FOR STUDENTS TO BUILD A CREATE STUDENT AND AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

A place to network, keep in touch, share ideas and contribute your thoughts:

For those interested in joining the CREATE student association

please contact Anto Chan at anto.m.chan@gmail.com

REACH OUT PLEASE

*If you have questions, feeling overwhelmed
or if you need help with coursework, essays, research
contact any of the following:*

- Faculty
- Advisors
- Teaching Associates- Peer Tutoring

NEW STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE

Contact: Student Success Centre director@thecreateinstitute.org

In consultation with specialists, we will be sourcing tools to better facilitate learning accommodations.

Please continue to self-refer if you would like accommodations of any kind.

NEW- DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION TRAINING

We are committed to upholding CREATE as a safe and inclusive place, to that end all staff, faculty- core and adjunct, TA's and clinic supervisors will undergo sensitivity training to support this mandate.

THE CREATE SPACE/LOCATION

CREATE has a good problem...we are growing. We love our location/space but with expansion comes the need for larger premises.

We are actively looking for a new location for 2025, the wish list includes high ceilings, light and airy space, more rooms for activities., a student lounge, faculty/staff offices with a dedicated space for the CREATE CLINIC.

We are calling on the wisdom of the community if you hear of/or see any spaces that may fit our needs please bring them to the attention of Pamela or Ouida.

A CHAT WITH OUR VISIONARY FOUNDERS

As we begin a new school year at CREATE, we would like to reflect on the program, how it began and how it has evolved. CREATE began in 1991 as ISIS-Canada (International School of Interdisciplinary Studies). We were inspired by the work of Shaun McNiff and Paolo Knill at Lesley University, who put the arts at the centre of the therapeutic process.

Expressive arts therapy distinguishes itself from the creative arts therapies not only by being intermodal, but also by being arts-based, rather than relying on established psychological frameworks. A phenomenological approach enables us to be open to whatever emerges and leaves room for improvisation, imagination and creative discovery.

We have worked to keep this focus over the years, while at the same time modifying the program to take account of the need for acceptance by the mainstream psychological community. Recognition by the CRPO (College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario) in 2022 demonstrates the success of our approach.

In terms of new directions for the field of expressive arts, we are expanding into other areas, such as social and environmental change (ecopoiesis), while keeping our arts-based focus.

We hope that the program will always be open to new initiatives in response to the emerging needs of individuals and the broader community. In this spirit, we welcome new and returning students and encourage you to engage in your own creative exploration and development.

Let us begin the new year together with the creativity and openness that the arts require.

Ellen and Steve Levine.

Contact Us:

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www.thecreateinstitute.org