

# Monthly Newsletter

SAN FRANCISCO  
CENTER FOR  
PSYCHOANALYSIS



April 2025 Issue



## A letter from our NEW Newsletter Editor and what's to come!

As the new editor for the SFCP newsletter, I would like to introduce myself. Although I currently hold many other volunteer positions at SFCP, I see the position of editor as an especially personal one. I have actually wanted to be editor here for years, and just finally decided to allow myself to do what I want. I have wanted to be editor because while I was earning my MA in journalism, I developed the belief that the role of a newsletter is to be an organ for the many voices in the organization—for us to communicate with each other. Although in the past, I have held positions as reporter, editor and even publisher—I see the opportunity to work as editor of the SFCP newsletter as a way to marry the two abiding interests in my life: journalism and psychoanalysis.

I have been, and will continue to be, working with the Management Team to breathe life into this organ. We have begun by refreshing the Masthead. Also, we are dividing the newsletter into “ROOMS,” where you can just click on an item you're interested in.

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## CONVERSATION ROOM

In this issue, we feature the new CONVERSATION ROOM—the beginning of what we hope will become a room of lively conversation among members. As you can see in the invitation from Nicole, we are hoping that you will use this room to share who you are. We want responses to what you have read, as well as letters, stories, editorials, reviews of movies, books, etc., poems, articles—anything written by members. This month we are pleased to share a thoughtful essay by Lisa Koshkarian, and an inspiring announcement about Aaron and Helen’s new adopted daughter!

To submit your own work, send it in an email to Nicole at [nicole.lee@sfcpc.org](mailto:nicole.lee@sfcpc.org).



## OPPORTUNITIES ROOM

And in the OPPORTUNITIES ROOM, we can learn about ways members can participate in programs and events.



## ADMINISTRATION ROOM

In the ADMINISTRATION ROOM, we hear from the volunteers who turn the wheels and shift the gears as this organization moves through time. In this room also, we will hear from one of the volunteers who provide the fuel that makes SFCPC a living vehicle: who push paper and make phone calls and write letters and do the work to help the wheel-turners get things done.

To that end, this month, we present the first Volunteer of the Month (although this month we have two): Renu Cappelli and Miriam Lundy.

I am looking forward to exploring these exciting newsletter changes with you!

Thank you,

*Mary McMillan*

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# Conversation Room



Letters, stories,  
editorials,  
reviews of  
movies, books,  
etc., poems,  
and articles—  
anything  
written by  
members



# AN INVITATION TO MEMBERS FROM THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

*Do you have a passion or hobby you love? A story or life experience that shaped who you are? We want to hear from you!*

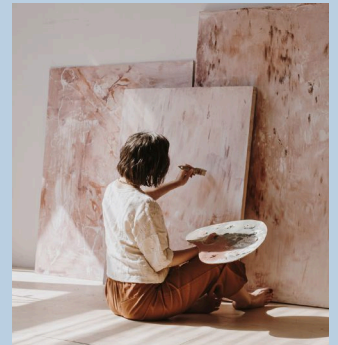


The newsletter committee wants to promote the idea that we are each a whole person, with a history, a family, and relationships—with people, animals, plants, and with institutions, cultures, societies, etc. Both inside and outside the Center, we are involved in projects, occupations, interests, passions, and concerns .

To this end, we are inviting members to participate in the newsletter by giving our readers an opportunity to experience the variety, complexity and diversity in the current lives and histories of our members.

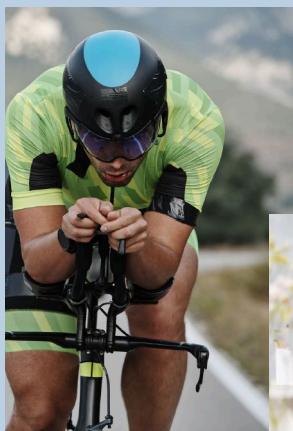
We want to know who you are, how you have come to where you are, what occupies and compels you—within and without the field of psychoanalysis.

Are you producing, creating or building something? Are you generating or participating in an interesting project? Maybe you are passionate about a concern, and want to express it. Or you would like to express something simple, short, or lighthearted.



We welcome each and every one of you to take this opportunity to share a piece of your life with other members.

When you are ready , please reply to this email with an indication of what you might be interested in sharing, and how you would like to share it-- whether you would like someone to interview you, or you would like to write something yourself—maybe a short story or essay.Or maybe you would like to show the result of something you have produced or created.



To stimulate your imagination, here are some possible topics to explore:

*A person, incident or idea that influenced me*

*A problem I am solving or have solved*

*Something I love doing*

*What drew me to psychoanalysis*

*Something I have achieved*

*Been there, Done that*

*Something I think about a lot*

*Something I would like to do*

*Something I wish I had done.*

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## REDRESS

Lisa Koshkarian, Ph.D.

I was rolling along with my perpetually muffled silent scream for omnipresent sociocultural atrocities, attempting to balance this dueful recognition and feeling state with an orientation toward hope and love, when I received an unexpected email from a fellow psychoanalytic writer. So pleasantly surprised was I by his initiative to reach out for a conversation with a stranger, even further moved by the vulnerability contained in his note and attached papers, I immediately soaked in all of his words. It was one of those uncanny life experiences when I thought I was existing just fine, meeting all of the needs I was aware of as best as I could, when someone appears out of the blue who senses, defines, and meets an inner hunger all at once. Oh, the ache of that.

Among other poignant shares, he introduced a term called “ethical loneliness”, originally coined and written about by Jill Stauffer (2015). Ethical loneliness refers to the assault of being utterly abandoned by humanity followed by the cruelty of wrongs going unacknowledged, thereby barricading all pathways of redress. In two simple words, his offering enveloped and told the story of grief underlying that muffled scream. For me, it captured and explained the most pressing pandemic of all which preoccupies much of my mental life, the carelessly enacted barbarity of discounting vulnerable beings. Suddenly, this colleague afforded a spaciouly precise construct to accompany me in images of a Gazan father holding his dead baby in his arms, an Israeli hostage describing sexual assault in captivity, a non-binary child taking their life after being bullied at school, a woman forcibly impregnated by a family member no longer legally able to access abortion,



a client hiding in her closet for hours at a time as a child because those walls were the only “persons” who could absorb her emotional pain. And on and on. I longed for this phrase without ever previously knowing of its existence because it gave me a companion to my silent scream who could help me narrate my perpetual horror and sadness about inhumanity. The injustice of not being seen or heard, and the ensuing existential loneliness.

And I needed it to come from a psychoanalyst, but I only understood why after the fact. I rejoined with this gentle collaborator that I, too, experienced ethical loneliness as a child, despite being raised within a psychoanalytic community, the very place where one might assume my subjectivity and humanity would have been adequately attended to. My choice as an adult to return to psychoanalysis has afforded me ongoing opportunities to witness, accompany, and return voice to clients abandoned by humanity. This has positioned me as available to fellow life travelers who care to think and feel together about the suffering, joys, and everything in between, of what it means to be human. I appreciate my choice most acutely in these beautifully serendipitous moments when my passion is spontaneously quenched.

*Lisa Koshkarian*

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# Welcoming Hiu Sin (Candy) into Aaron and Helen's Family

SFCP Staff

Many of us know Aaron as the go-to person for anything tech-related, but what you may not know is that for the past five (5) years, Aaron and his wife, Helen, have been on a life-changing journey, one that will soon welcome a bright, artistic, and resilient young girl into their loving family.

Their daughter, Hiu Sin (Candy), is an 11-year-old from Hong Kong who loves drawing and music and is naturally curious about the world. Though her path has not always been easy, she has shown incredible strength and determination. With perseverance, the support of dedicated caregivers, and guidance from mental health professionals, she has made remarkable progress, excelling in school, singing in the choir, and learning to play the drums.

Aaron and Helen's path to adoption has had its share of challenges. The process required patience, resilience, and navigating unexpected hurdles, including a shift in adoption agency that forced them to start over. Despite these obstacles, they remained committed, knowing their daughter was waiting for them.

Aaron and Helen recently received official approval from the adoption agency in Hong Kong, and they are now working through the final stages of the United States immigration process. While it may still be a few months before Candy joins them in the United States, preparations to welcome her are well underway.



The addition of their daughter marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the Chow family. In the months ahead, they look forward to introducing Candy to their extended community and helping her build a life filled with stability, love, and opportunities to grow into her fullest self.

As they prepare for Candy's transition to life in the United States, Aaron and Helen are seeking wisdom and guidance from the community. While they are overjoyed to become parents, they recognize that welcoming an older child brings both unique joys and challenges. They would love to hear from those with experience in parenting, adoption, childhood trauma, or supporting children through major life transitions.

If you have insights, resources, or personal experiences to share, Aaron and Helen would deeply appreciate your guidance. Whether it is advice on helping a child adjust to a new environment, understanding the emotional needs of adoptees, or simply offering a listening ear, your support is deeply appreciated and warmly welcomed.

For those who have asked how they can celebrate this occasion with Aaron and Helen, know that they are deeply grateful for your kindness and support. Whether through words of encouragement, shared experiences, or a personal gesture, your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated. If you would like to celebrate in another way, small gifts can be sent via Zelle to Aaron at [aaronchow0727@me.com](mailto:aaronchow0727@me.com) or 415-806-3872.

Aaron and Helen are incredibly thankful for the warmth and generosity of the SFCP community and look forward to sharing this journey with all of you.

With heartfelt gratitude,

*Rashmita Sriram*  
*Nicole Lee*  
*Dimitri Jenkins*  
*Tina Phu*

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# Administration Room



Hear from the  
volunteers who  
turn the wheels  
and shift the  
gears as this  
organization  
moves through  
time



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# Board Chair Report

Brett Penfil, MFT, MPH

SFCP Board Chair

At our March Board Meeting, the Trustees unanimously approved SFCP's new vision and mission statements. These statements reflect almost a year of work by our members. The process started in April 2024 when the Strategic Planning Team, under the authority of the Board, invited all members to provide written input for the vision and mission statements. All members were also invited to participate in a facilitated, day-long process in which they provided additional input. A writing team spent the next nine months reading, understanding, and synthesizing all comments – a total of 150 from the membership – into draft statements. Multiple rounds of feedback were given

to the writing team, which rewrote the statements until a final draft was brought to the Board in February 2025.

I would like to thank members who provided input for our vision and mission statements. Your thoughts, comments, and feedback allow us to have a unifying vision by which the organization can align its work. I'd like to also thank the incredibly dedicated and hard working writing team for their hours of work to ensure that all member comments were understood and incorporated to the greatest extent possible. The writing team members were: Ari Backrach, Deb Fletcher, Maria Longuemare, Mary McMillan, and Dara Sheik.

Following are SFCP's new Vision and Mission, which will be posted on our website and at 444 Natoma in the next few months.

**At SFCP, we aspire to cultivate a diverse community dedicated to the teaching, practice, and ongoing evolution of a pluralistic and socially-relevant psychoanalysis that aims to reduce suffering and promote psychological growth.**

We are a non-profit, volunteer-driven organization, working together to:

- **Offer increasingly accessible and inclusive psychoanalytic training, psychotherapy training, and lifelong psychoanalytic education** to students and clinicians who work in a variety of settings and disciplines.
- **Extend the availability of psychoanalysis, psychoanalytic psychotherapy, and exposure to psychoanalytic thinking** in the wider community.
- **Generate evolving psychoanalytic theories of psychic functioning, human interaction, and lifespan development** that integrate individual unconscious, social unconscious, and interpersonal lived experiences.
- **Recognize the complex unconscious influence of the ever-present past within ourselves, our society, and our institutions** as we work to address the legacy of discrimination and systemic bias embedded in our generative and vital psychoanalytic history.
- **Foster collaborative interdisciplinary endeavors in research, academic, and community settings** to enrich the breadth, depth, and applicability of the field.
- **Cultivate and sustain an open, supportive, and self-reflective community of volunteers** that works to embrace contradiction, value difference, and repair harms.
- **Embody the potential of psychoanalysis to transform understanding** of ourselves, our effect on one another, and our interconnectedness within a complex, multicultural world.





Other Board Updates:

- We are delighted to announce that Tina St. Lorant will serve as the new Ombudsperson for SFCP. The Ombuds role is to:
    1. Provide a confidential and safe space to talk about an issue or concern.
    2. Explore options to help resolve conflicts.
    3. Bring systemic concerns to the attention of the organization for resolution.
  - On April 4th the Art Task Force – a temporary task force of the Facilities Committee – will meet at SFCP and re-hang existing art and add new art.
  - Amy Friedman, Robin Deutch, and Michael Donner hosted a community building event at Amy's house on Sunday, March 23. Approximately 25 people joined – including current members and non-members who are interested in engaging with SFCP. Thank you, Amy, Robin and Michael.
  - The Board received an update from the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Steering Committee; and also engaged in an interactive session led by our Treasurer, Rui Bao, to increase our working understanding of SFCP financial reports, budget, and budgeting process.
- If you would like to talk to Tina about any issues, you can reach her at: [tstlorant@gmail.com](mailto:tstlorant@gmail.com) or (408) 236-2070
- Robin Deutch will be serving as the temporary Chair of the Board's Nominating and Governance Committee.
  - The Annual Campaign contributions are currently at \$58,260. This does not include the matching gift donation of \$22,500. Thank you to those who have given. Here is the [link](#) to give for those who are able to donate.
  - The Facilities Committee, chaired by Amy Friedman, reported the best possible news, which is that there have been no issues with 444 Natoma. The roof, plumbing and windows are in great shape even after the heavy rain.
- As always, please reach out to me with any questions or concerns. And thank you to everyone who continues to create the Center.
- Best wishes,

*Brett Penfil*

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## Volunteer of the Month

Mary McMillan

SFCP Newsletter Editor

*How did they get that idea?*

What is the first thing that analysts and psychotherapists do? We listen. Not only with our ears, but with our whole bodies. Every session with a patient is not a job. It is an experience.

That is why the fundraising event on April 5, subtitled “Musing on Listening,” is so exciting. In their explanation of how they will lead the event, Forrest Hamer and Alice Jones say that they will “engage the group in an interactive listening experience.” Both Hamer and Jones are renowned poets and analysts—and members of SFCP—and they have volunteered to lead what promises to be maybe a once in a lifetime opportunity for our members to “engage as a group in the experience of sending and receiving.” Although the event will be available on Zoom, it is apparent that those who are present will have a more intense experience.

Adding to that experience is another dimension of the event. The committee that created this opportunity is calling the event, “An Afternoon of Poetry and Art.” They have scoured their resources to not only find Hamer and Jones, but also to find exceptional artists—who have joined in the committee’s enthusiasm for the cause, and donated their work for a silent art auction. And the very important third dimension of the event? Food! Homemade goodies will be available, produced and donated by the committee members.

All of this work and talent has come together to give our members an opportunity to support the Candidate Training Grant, which aims to

help people of color and those without the resources to pay for pursuing analytic training, by breaking down the financial barriers.

Which brings us to this month’s Volunteer of the Month feature. Because the effort to launch this event came from the Candidate Training Grant committee, and two of the members of this committee were particularly active in the effort, this month we feature two volunteers: Miriam Lundy and Renu Cappelli. They are both candidates at SFCP.

When I asked these women how the idea for this event came about, Miriam said, “We needed to raise money for the grants, and we wanted to do something different.” Renu (pronounced Ray-New) added, “We didn’t want to compete with the other fundraising activities, and just send emails asking for donations. cont...



*Renu Cappelli*

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*Miriam Lundy*

Someone suggested an event—and we started getting excited. We thought that an event at the Center, rather than at someone’s home, would reduce the implication of any hierarchy—we wanted it to be for everyone.” They said the original idea was to host some kind of lecture, but after a while, someone talked about one of the CCSW programs where people were spontaneous and there was food—and it became a really moving experience—and we all got really excited and decided that’s what we wanted,” Miriam continued. “Then we were

asking ourselves who we could get to lead the event, and finally we asked Forrest and Alice. This process took time, but throughout the months, we were all engaged, and it was fun!”

Last summer, when the committee was first being formed, was when both Miriam and Renu joined it. They told me, “It was a rough road for a while, we lost some people,” but those remaining “had a common purpose.” What was that purpose? Miriam said that she had wanted to apply for training ten years ago, but didn’t have the resources then. “Things changed, and so now I do. But I just don’t think it’s right that there are so many people like I was, who are able, and want the training, and can’t get it because they don’t have the money.” Renu said that a primary motivation for her to be on the committee is “Anger. It’s not right that you have to be rich to be an analyst. The cost shouldn’t be a barrier.” They said that another motivation is that they want to be part of “the important shift that’s happening at SFCP now. There’s a greater sensitivity and awareness of the way things are for people who aren’t wealthy.”

They both emphasized that participating in this committee has not been drudgery—even though they were meeting on Zoom at 7:30pm—it has been fun working with other people—a creative experience.

(Look in the Opportunities Room for more information about the event.)

*Mary McMillan*

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# Psychoanalytic Training Corner

## Messages and Updates



Beth Steinberg, PhD  
Psychoanalytic Education Division Chair

Several exciting events are coming up! Please join us in celebrating our graduates on May 10. Chuck Fisher will be the speaker, and the list of graduates is forthcoming!

Plus, don't miss An Afternoon of Poetry and Art, our Candidate Training Grant fundraiser - another great way to show your support for the candidates!

Visit the links below to view the flyers for more details:

♥ [Graduation](#) - **May 10**

♥ [An Afternoon of Poetry and Art](#) - **THIS SATURDAY, April 5!**

I look forward to us coming together and making these events a success!

I hope to see you there!

*Beth Steinberg*



[Click here to apply](#) to any of our Psychoanalytic Training Programs!

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# Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Training Program Corner

Messages and Updates



## Palo Alto PPTP

No update.



## Child/Adolescent PPTP

Mary-Stone Bowers, LMFT  
CAPPTP Co-Chair

Thank You for Attending  
Our CAPPTP Open House!  
Your interest and  
engagement mean a lot  
to us, and we hope you  
found the sessions  
informative and inspiring.

If you're ready to take the  
next step, we welcome  
you to apply to our  
CAPPTP program!

**Applications are due  
May 15th.**

**Have Questions? Let's  
Connect!** If you'd like  
more information or have  
any questions about the  
program, feel free to  
reach out to Tina at  
[tina.phu@sfcps.org](mailto:tina.phu@sfcps.org).

We look forward to  
continuing to grow our  
CAPPTP community!



## San Francisco PPTP

No update.



[Click here to apply](#) to any of our Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Training Programs!

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## SFCP Annual Group Relations Weekend APRIL 26 & 27, 2025

Committee on Groups

The Committee on Groups (COG) would like to invite you to participate in the upcoming SFCP Annual Group Relations Weekend.

Group relations refers to the study of human behavior and relationships in groups and organizations. It focuses on understanding the dynamics of power, authority, leadership, and interpersonal relationships in groups and the ways in which these dynamics shape group behavior and decision-making. Group relations theory seeks to uncover the unconscious patterns of behavior that emerge in groups and organizations, and to help individuals and organizations work more effectively and cooperatively.

A group relations conference is an event where participants engage in experiential learning about group dynamics, organizational behavior, and leadership. It is a unique form of professional development and personal growth that combines theory and practice. Participants work together in small and large groups to explore the dynamics of power, authority, and interpersonal relationships. The conference is facilitated by experienced group relations consultants who guide participants in their learning process. The goal of a group relations conference is to provide individuals with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of themselves, their relationships with others, and the ways in which they interact and make decisions within groups and organizations.

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**Facilitators:**

Alan Ruiz, MFA, and Janice K. Wagner, LCSW

**Alan Ruiz, MFA**, is an artist and educator, originally born in Mexico, whose work examines how space is produced as material and ideology. His practice extends into the discursive form of writing, public lectures, and group workshops. He has taught classes at the Rhode Island School of Design, and Wesleyan University, and currently teaches in the School of Constructed Environments at Parsons, Eugene Lang College, The New School, and Hunter College. Alan holds Group Relations experience across a variety of different roles. He is a faculty member of the CSGSS "Leading from Experience" workshop, a Group Relations International Co-Creator, a member and certified consultant of the A.K. Rice Institute, and President of its regional affiliate, the New York Center for the Study of Groups, Organizations, and Social Systems.

**Janice Wagner, LCSW**, is in private practice offering psychotherapy, consultation and clinical supervision in Boston, MA. She is a Fellow of the A.K. Rice Institute, a past-president and member of the Center for the Study of Groups and Social Systems, and a Co-Creator of Group Relations International. Vice-Chair of the Reparations Committee of the A.K. Rice Institute. Experienced Group Relations conference consultant in the US, Europe, and China. Ms. Wagner worked for many years as a social worker, psychotherapist, unit director and team leader in child welfare, criminal justice, and medical/psychiatric settings. She is a former Clinical Supervisor, Faculty Field Advisor and Group Work Instructor at Boston University, Boston College, and Simmons College Schools of Social Work. She is a graduate of Smith College School for Social Work and holds a certificate in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy from the Boston Institute for Psychotherapy.

**Location & Registration:**

We will meet on April 26 and 27, 2025, Saturday and Sunday, at SFCP from 9 am to 5 pm. Both days will involve working in both large and small groups.

We have room for 24 participants; 8 spots will be filled by the COG members, and 16 openings for others. We aim to be inclusive and will work to create a group that represents diversity of membership on many levels. We welcome new participants to the group process experience and encourage those who have participated before to join us again. All are welcome.

The fee for the weekend is \$600. This includes two days of paid facilitation, coffee, breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Financial assistance is available. To support our commitment to accessibility, those who are able and willing may choose to contribute an additional amount during the registration process. Your generosity is deeply valued.

If you wish to register for the event, please fill out the following form: <https://forms.gle/bGdxgaiz24ZJf8eT8>

We will respond to your inquiry and provide confirmation regarding the availability of space in the group.

**Questions:**

Please contact any member of the committee if you have questions or wish to learn more.

**Committee on Groups Members:**

Ari Bachrach, PMHNP-BC  
Ben Goldstone, MFT  
Mia Gutfreund, LCSW  
Fei Hu, MFT  
Brett Penfil, MFT  
Mayumi Pierce, MD  
Jane Reingold, MFT  
Sydney Tan, PsyD

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## Group Relations Weekend - Testimony

Jennie Merovick, LCSW

The 2025 Group Relations weekend is coming up. I attended last year, which makes it sound like a time-bound experience. It's not. The "weekend" has stayed with me for 9 months. It has a Hotel California (Eagles, 1976) sensibility. The space had its own riches and feels haunting. "You can check out any time you like but you can never leave" feels apt, but the weekend had more interesting set of take-aways.

The first morning there seemed to be swirling vortices of thought within the group. I noticed that a thought I wanted to have would be followed by thoughts I didn't want to be having. Each thought would be followed by an awareness that when that thought was intimated or spoken by someone else, the intensity of that thought wave would dissipate. The unspoken thoughts seemed to be floating around in our groupthink, appeared to find resonance in the unspoken thoughts of others and then something would manifest. That "thing" could feel both dreadful and a relief, or joyful and infuriating, or some other pairing that would make me want to own it and disavow it at the same time. As these pairings surfaced, I often felt like I couldn't watch but, in fact, I couldn't look away. Someone seemed to volunteer to become the group scapegoat. It was irritating, painful to watch and I wanted to believe that I wasn't part of pinning the person in the role. I felt relief that it wasn't me or anyone I was close to. At one point I thought the person had left and I was stunned to have the thought that I knew who would take the scapegoat role next. Was I really tracking that? Some part of me was. Various group members shared generous and provocative thoughts and seemed to offer a clear way forward for the group for a while. Sometimes the group seemed to ride along on the ripples of these insights and remarks. At other times the words of the "caring person" seemed kind but empty and I would sense that the person had spoken a nice thing from the groupthink and what was left to say were the not-so-nice things. I would feel an anxiety to speak to get my voice in the mix before the collection of the group's thoughts had been drained of the easy or welcome ideas and only the difficult ideas were left. It was unpleasant to raise the latter, but I also felt some pressure to do so because if they weren't said, they would be acted out and all of us would be cast members.

Now I notice these and other dynamics from the weekend in my clinical day. A patient talks about something that happened between her and her colleagues; another describes exchanges that unfurled in their vacation. Classes, meetings and family gatherings are full of iterations of these interactions. Like at the Hotel California, I had a strangely mixed sense. It is captured in the Eagle's line "We are all just prisoners here of our own device" where there is a desire to be accountable for my behavior as well as an awareness that I was in something that was inescapable.

*Jennie Merovick*

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## Group Relations Weekend - Testimony

Renu Cappelli, MFT, PhD

The experiences I had during the Group Relations weekend in 2024 visit me often, in snippets or as evolving and revolving questions. I attended the event with prior group processes in mind, and those past events were quickly eclipsed. The weekend itself is unique. It is made by its moment in time and by its participants. Very broadly speaking, the group created a space for dialogue but also, and maybe most potently, for acting in and acting out. The event is structured enough to allow for unexpected encounters, and not so structured that it tames these when they occur. I found that the group extended some of the ongoing work in my personal analysis, allowing me to experience aspects of the weekend in an expanded field, and giving me the opportunity to find it in a new way within my personal analysis. Clearly defined themes arose quickly over the course of two days, and it was these themes, dynamics, tensions, and queries that the group applied itself to with various feelings and reactions. These themes are long-standing ones: outside/inside demarcations; belonging and not belonging; questions of responsibility and ethics; effects and causes of conflict; the compelling attraction of controversy, as well as its fast decline and submergence; the profound anxieties around leadership roles. I found it instructive to be assisted in observing the roles I took up and played in these various discourses, and perhaps most importantly, I was enriched by the variety of perspectives that I suspect only a group process can offer to us.

*Renu Cappelli*



# SFCP LIBRARY

Here to Support You

Need help retrieving articles via **EZProxy** or **PEPWeb**? Do not hesitate to connect with us via email.

[rashmita.sriram@sfcps.org](mailto:rashmita.sriram@sfcps.org)

We are happy to assist.

Whether you have questions about our services or archives, we encourage you to visit our reference desk on **Fridays from 9 AM to 1 PM.**

For any inquiries, you can contact our librarian, Rashmita Sriram, at [rashmita.sriram@sfcps.org](mailto:rashmita.sriram@sfcps.org)



# Annual Giving Campaign Update!

## Our 2024-2025 Goals

1. RAISE \$130,000
2. EARN THE SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION OF **ALL** SFCP MEMBERS
3. INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN OUR IN-PERSON COMMUNITY BUILDING EVENTS

## April Update

WE HAVE ALREADY RAISED **\$59,269!** THAT IS 45.6% OF OUR GOAL.

WE ALSO HAVE 16.6% OF OUR MEMBERS' PARTICIPATION SINCE OUR LAUNCH 4 MONTHS AGO!

[CLICK HERE TO CONTRIBUTE!](#)





# THE ENRICO JONES FUND FOR EQUITY AND EQUALITY

97 people of color have received  
tuition credits since 2021

- 15 students received tuition credits in 2021
- 25 students received tuition credits in 2022
- 27 students received tuition credits in 2023
- 30 students are estimated to receive tuition credits in 2024

*This fund was established in memory of Enrico E. Jones, PhD, an African American Psychologist and Professor of Psychology at UC Berkeley who did his analytic training at SFPI and was a Faculty member of SFPI.*

## WAYS TO DONATE ONLINE

### BY MAIL:

**Payee:** SFCP  
**ATTN:** Enrico Jones Fund  
444 Natoma Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

### BY PHONE:

(415) 563-5815

## A recipient told us:

*"I strongly believe that as a psychoanalytic community, we all benefit from the Enrico Jones Fund's implicit and explicit recognition of the painful racism in our community in need of acknowledgement and repair. And for that I am the most grateful."*

## Join Us!

*Our members' participation in this effort has been excellent, but we need a continuing effort to achieve the diversity of members which we desire. All contributions help!*

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# Opportunities Room



Ways members  
can participate  
in programs  
and events

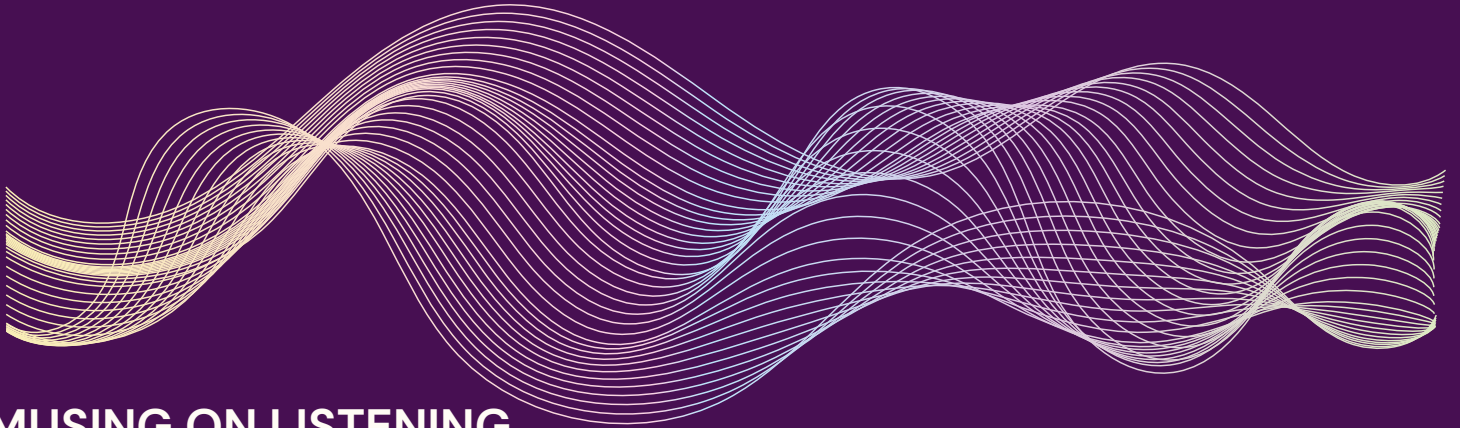




# AN AFTERNOON OF POETRY AND ART

WITH FORREST HAMER AND ALICE JONES

Please join us for a Special Fundraising Event for the  
Candidate Training Grants for Equity and Diversity Program



## MUSING ON LISTENING

**Forrest Hamer, PhD** and **Alice Jones, MD** – distinguished poets and SFCP members – offer an event where they each speak for a few minutes about their writing on listening and on muses. They will then engage the group in an interactive listening experience which will involve observing and thinking about how we receive language, tone, music and presence of another. What is generated inside the analyst/listener/writer by way of response? How does the muse give rise to a creative impulse to respond? How do we take in another's being across differences of self and other, culture, race, age, gender etc. How do we make use of ourselves in response? We will then read some poems together, engaging in noticing how we listen, what we hear, and how we respond in feelings and in words. Together, we will engage as a group in the experience of sending and receiving (call and response) as a basis for how we respond to one another, and how a space can open between us and inside each of us. (1.5 CME/CE Credits pending)

Saturday, April 5, 2025  
3:00-5:00 PM

Attend in Person or via Zoom  
San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis  
444 Natoma Street, San Francisco

If you have art you would like to donate for the Silent Art Auction,  
please contact [besteinberg@comcast.net](mailto:besteinberg@comcast.net).

SILENT AUCTION!

BID ON ART  
DONATED BY  
SFCP MEMBERS!



For more information and to register, visit: [www.sfcps.org/afternoon-of-poetry-and-art/](http://www.sfcps.org/afternoon-of-poetry-and-art/)

**\*ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE AND WILL GO DIRECTLY TO THE  
CANDIDATE TRAINING GRANT FUND**



## All of Us! - *The Ones We See and the Ones We Erase*

Please join us in gathering as a group to talk about the social unconscious in our clinical work, our communities, and between us and them. We will begin the workshop with a brief presentation of clinical and social dilemmas that emerge in our practices and daily lives as we navigate – from our own positions in the social unconscious – those of each other, and in particular the ways that certain others are seen while others are erased. We imagine this day to be one that enables us to ask new questions, consider new possibilities, and imagine new futures in our psychoanalytic work when we are able to consider the “all” of us.

Two presenters, **Karim Dajani** and **Danny Yu**, will start off the day with a presentation and discussion of clinical material, followed by some comments on the conception of a social unconscious and its role in our lives and work. The group will then take up some of the themes presented in the context of a spontaneous conversation that we hope will help us to demonstrate a new way of thinking about the inherently social underpinnings of our theories and practices – and the new possibilities that are generated when they are avowed, invited, and celebrated. In addition to Karim and Danny, the rest of the planning group will be in conversation as well – Ari Bachrach, Renu Cappelli, Tim Kim, Beth Kita, Clara Kwun, Jen Merovick & Jyoti Rao – with all attendees.



**This event will be IN PERSON ONLY at SFCP (444 Natoma SF CA 94103) on Sunday April 6, 2025, from 9am-12pm.** To register, please visit:  
<https://www.sfcpsf.org/2025-04-06-ccsw/>



This event is \$30 but no one will be turned away due to lack of funds. All are welcome and we welcome all.

SFCP in conjunction with the C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco and The Regional Bion Symposium present:

# W.R. Bion's Reading of C.G. Jung's "Memories, Dreams, and Reflections"

Saturday, April 19, 2025

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM (Pacific Time)

In-person at SFCP (444 Natoma Street, San Francisco) and Online via ZOOM



Image montage created by Stephen Garratt. Used with permission.

Join us for a ground-breaking collaboration between the **C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco**, **The Regional Bion Symposium**, and the **San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis (SFCP)** which explores previously unrecognized links between the fields of psychoanalysis (founded by Sigmund Freud) and analytical psychology (founded by Carl G. Jung). In this initial program, **Joseph Aguayo, PhD** will examine W.R. Bion's personal annotations in his copy of Jung's *Memories, Dreams, and Reflections*, shedding light on how Jung's ideas may have influenced Bion's concept of intuition and his theory of transformation in "O". Dr. Aguayo's paper will be discussed by **Peter Goldberg, PhD** from a Bionian perspective, and **Mark Winborn, PhD** from a Jungian vantage point, with ample time reserved for questions from both remote and in-person participants.

Preview the discussion with Joseph Aguayo, PhD, and Mark Winborn, PhD, in this 8-minute promo video:

<https://tinyurl.com/55nz2bu4> (password: qf^741jt)

Mental health clinicians and students of all backgrounds are welcome.

**To Register:**

<https://sfcf.org/bion-on-jung/>

General Admission	\$ 105
Members of SFCP or C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco	\$ 85
Candidates, Students, and SFCP PPTP Trainees	Free
Optional CME/CE Credits available for \$15 per credit. (Free for SFCP Members)	





# CRITICA

Critica is an inclusive and transdisciplinary publishing platform that focuses on offering a reflective and aesthetic space to consider complex social and cultural issues through psychoanalytic and creative lens. We invite dialogue while offering the possibility of expression and creative expansion of our understanding of contemporary cultural and collective issues in the hopes of promoting social change.

**Learn more:**  
**[www.critica.press](http://www.critica.press)**

Critica is published online twice a year, in the Fall and Spring. Previous issues can be found in our archives, and printed on demand. The publication receives submission of essays, literary and artistic pieces, and book/film reviews in response or in conversation with contemporary collective/social experiences.

Our theme for the Spring 2025 issue of Critica is **On Freedoms**. We invite submissions on Freedoms (and the lack thereof) and their impact on ourselves and the community.

## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

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Deadline:  
April 26th, 2025.

Questions:  
[critica.press/submissions](http://critica.press/submissions)



# SFCP'S ANNUAL GROUP RELATIONS WEEKEND

*The Committee on Groups (COG) would like to invite you to participate in the upcoming SFCP Annual Group Relations Weekend.*

A group relations conference is an event where participants engage in experiential learning about group dynamics, organizational behavior, and leadership. It is a unique form of professional development and personal growth that combines theory and practice. Participants work together in small and large groups to explore the dynamics of power, authority, and interpersonal relationships.

The conference is facilitated by experienced group relations consultants who guide participants in their learning process. The goal of a group relations conference is to provide individuals with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of themselves, their relationships with others, and the ways in which they interact and make decisions within groups and organizations.



**APRIL 26- 27  
2025**

**9AM - 5PM**

## FACILITATORS

**ALAN RUIZ, MFA, AND  
JANICE K. WAGNER, LCSW**

SFCP  
444 Natoma Street  
San Francisco, CA

## EVENT COST

**\$600**

This includes two days of paid facilitation, coffee, breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Financial assistance is available. To support our commitment to accessibility, those who are able and willing may choose to contribute an additional amount during the registration process. Your generosity is deeply valued.

We have room for 24 participants; 8 spots will be filled by the COG members, and **16 openings remain.**

**All are welcome!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, VISIT:  
[www.sfcpsf.org/annual-group-relations-weekend/](http://www.sfcpsf.org/annual-group-relations-weekend/)**





Please join us for

# VISITING PROFESSOR WEEKEND

Featuring Nicola Abel-Hirsch, FIPA  
*meeting with us from London via Zoom for the  
following programs:*

## “A MORNING WITH NICOLA ABEL-HIRSCH: BION’S TECHNIQUE”

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025  
10:00AM - 12:00PM  
ONLINE AND IN PERSON

\$ 65 — General Admission

\$ 50 — SFCP Members

Free — SFCP and non-SFCP Candidates, SFCP PPTP  
Trainees, and University Level Students

Dr. Abel-Hirsch will present her ideas on Bion's  
technique, followed by a discussion with the audience.

*2 CME/CE credits available for free (for SFCP members)  
or \$ 30 (for non-members)*

## “PROFESSOR’S CHOICE”

Professor's choice with Nicola Abel-Hirsch discussing  
Bion's paper "**Container/contained transformed**"

\*available on PEP-web.

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025  
10:00AM - 11:30AM  
ONLINE AND IN PERSON

\$ 50 — General Admission

\$ 40 — SFCP Members

Free — SFCP and non-SFCP Candidates, SFCP PPTP  
Trainees, and University Level Students

*1.5 CME/CE credits available for free (for SFCP members)  
or \$ 30 (for non-members)*

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[WWW.SFCP.ORG/VISITING-  
PROFESSOR-WEEKEND-2025/](http://WWW.SFCP.ORG/VISITING-PROFESSOR-WEEKEND-2025/)



## NICOLA ABEL-HIRSCH

**Nicola Abel-Hirsch, FIPA**, is a training and supervising analyst of the British Psychoanalytical Society. She works in full-time psychoanalytic practice. Known internationally as an insightful thinker, writer, and speaker, she has presented papers on Bion's work in the UK, Taiwan, Europe, the US and Mexico. Among her publications are *Bion: An Introduction* (2023) and *Bion: 365 Quotes* (2019), in addition to multiple papers available on PEP-web. She was the editor of Hanna Segal's last book, *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* (2007). Under the auspices of Understanding Primitive Mental States NYC, she chairs an ongoing series of seminars on Bion's later work.

## Abel-Hirsch: 10 Quotes

In order to get a sense of Dr. Abel-Hirsch's analytic attitude, here are 10 quotes from a recent event to launch her new book,  
***Bion in the Consulting Room...***

[Click here to learn more!](#)



## **Unwound and Unwound-ing: A Poetic Psychoanalytic Exploration of Whiteness**

**Wednesday, May 7, 2025**

6:45pm - Greetings and Socializing

7:00pm – 09:00pm - Program

**Location:**

In-person at

San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis

444 Natoma Street

San Francisco, CA 94103

**Panelists:**

**Hazel White**

Poet and Writer

**Jyoti Rao, MFT**

Private Practice

Member and Faculty, SFCP

**Forrest Hamer, PhD**

Poet

Member and Faculty, SFCP

**Moderator:**

**Clara Kwun, LCSW**

Member and Faculty, SFCP

**Program Fee:**

This program is free

**To Register:**

<https://www.sfcf.org/2025-05-07-ccsw/>

**Questions?**

Daniel Yu, LCSW

[d.yu.lcsw@gmail.com](mailto:d.yu.lcsw@gmail.com)



SFCP  
PSYCHOANALYTIC EDUCATION  
DIVISION

SAVE THE DATE!

GRADUATION 2025

CHARLES FISHER, MD  
GRADUATION SPEAKER



Saturday, May 10, 2025

Ceremony: 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Reception: 4:30pm - 6:15pm

Reception will be at SFCP.

Stay tuned for details!

San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis  
Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy  
Education Division  
SFPPTP, PAPPTP, AND CAPPTP

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SAVE THE DATE!

# GRADUATION 2025

Graduation Speaker:  
Gary Grossman, PhD

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SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST  
2:00PM - 5:00PM

444 NATOMA STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

Dialogues In Contemporary Psychoanalysis presents

# Listening Into Being: An Actor's Invitation

**Saturday, June 14**  
**10:00am-12:00pm PT**

**What do therapists and actors have in common?** Both are always listening for something to emerge — a character coming to life, a story taking shape, a feeling taking form. But what happens when we direct this form of listening toward one another? Following the recent publication of her essay, "Listening Into Being" (in *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 2023), Emmy-nominated film and television actress **Robin Weigert** (*Deadwood*, *Big Little Lies*) will join us at SFCP to discuss profound resonances between the actor's and the analyst's practices of listening. Showcasing moments from some of her most compelling performances, we will form a dialogue between our kindred disciplines about the deeply responsive art of *listening into being* — listening to one another, and finding out who we become.

**Educational Objectives** Upon completion of this activity the learners will be able to:

1. Describe parallels between an actor's character work and a psychoanalyst's listening stance.
2. Identify how co-creation in acting informs psychoanalytic views of identity.
3. Analyze receptive, immersive listening in acting and clinical practice.
4. Apply an actor's approach to presence to clinical technique.

Special Guest

**Robin Weigert**

in Dialogue with

**Kristin Fiorella, Psy.D.**

Hosted by

**Adam Blum, Psy.D.**

**in person & on zoom**

\$40 General Admission

\$20 SFCP Members

Free for Students

2 CME/CE credits

Register at [sfcpsf.org](https://www.sfcpsf.org)