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Graduate Education for Mind, Body, and Spirit

INSTITUTE OF TRANSPERSONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Alumni Association News

September 2007

Dear John,

A great many of you have expressed your desire for support in bringing your Transpersonal approach into the world. As ITP alumni ourselves, we know first hand the need for - and the value of - such support. To begin to answer this need, we are working with the ITP Career Resource Center (CRC) to expand its pilot mentoring program to integrate Alumni as mentors to CRC mentees. As an alumn of ITP, you can take full advantage of CRC resources - either as a mentor OR as a mentee.

We're also working with the Library and the CRC on a fun holiday event (December 1st) for Alumni and students entitled, "Responding to Your Calling: Life beyond the Degree." In this workshop you will be introduced to various tools and an exercise that can help you connect or reconnect with your skills and talents. A practical skills session will offer advice and handouts on building your practice including business card and website tips, and registering with directories.

We hope this will begin a continual enhancement of support for bringing our gifts and our transpersonal education to a world in great need.

Warm best wishes,

Lisa J Ferguson-Arthur and Valentine McKay-Riddell
Alumni Association Co-Presidents

Featured Profile:

Valentine McKay-Riddell, Ph.D. (2007)

I was drawn to ITP in the year 2000 and completed the MACP in 2003. I received my PhD in 2006 and am now in the next phase of my relationship with ITP as both a contract member of the Global faculty and as Co-President (with Lisa J. Ferguson Arthur) of the Alumni Association.

I was born a "Navy brat" in Orlando, Florida, and have lived in Canada, Mexico, and much of the United States, and have traveled in England, Ireland, and the British West Indies. I studied creative writing, education and child psychology at the University of Texas in Austin, painting and sculpture at the University of Nebraska in



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on your life and we'll print
it in the Alumni**

Omaha, and Arts and Consciousness at John F. Kennedy University in Orinda, California. I have a BFA in painting and sculpture from the San Francisco Art Institute and have taught art-making to young people and adults since 1965. I also teach and practice energy healing as a certified Reiki Master in the Usui Lineage.

In 1984 I developed Healing Art[®] - a blend of shamanism and body-focused art-making - which I used to heal myself of cancer. Over the years I have used variations of Healing Art[®] in my work with AIDS and cancer patients; incarcerated, homeless, and "at-risk" youth; developmentally disabled adults; and women in transition in Texas, California, Oregon, and New Mexico. In order to facilitate this work, I founded Orenda Healing International, a 501.c.3 nonprofit organization devoted to promoting individual and community health and well being in Santa Fe, in 1993.

I'm currently expanding upon my dissertation research, and have two new research projects underway: the self-empowerment of adolescent girls through reconnection with the Earth as Mother/Goddess-Gaia, and the reconnection of Navajo elders and adolescents through the magic of story and film in the Four Corners area.

I maintain a private practice in holistic counseling and shamanic healing in Berkeley, California, where my husband, Lewis Riddel and I share our home with two cats, several raccoons and skunks, and an amazing number of squirrels, birds and other urban wildlife. In my free time I write fantasy for teens and visit with my two adult daughters and five grandchildren.

The mission of the ITP Alumni Association is to serve alumni by providing lifelong connections to the ITP community, along with opportunities to connect to shared values and spirit.

ClassNotes section of "Connections" (published every Spring and Fall).

Alumni Association Newsletter Schedule

January:
eNewsletter

March:
eNewsletter

May:
Section in "Connections"

July:
eNewsletter

September:
eNewsletter

November:
Section in "Connections"

For archived copies of past newsletters, please [click here](#).

To submit articles, events announcements or alumni classified ads, please email alumni@itp.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AIKIDO BENEFIT SEMINAR -

In support of Iraqi yudansha escaping Baghdad violence

September 29, 2007

Sponsored by Aiki Extension, Inc.

Classes 10am - 12pm and 1:30 - 4:30pm / Potluck and talk 12-1:30pm

\$50-75 sliding scale (tax deductible)

Aikido of Berkeley 1352 S 49th St, Richmond

Featuring Dr. Robert Frager and four other Aikido masters.

Information & Registration: 510-412-9999

ITP GLOBAL SEMINAR - Engaged Spirituality: The Movement of Spirit in Action

September 30 - October 5, 2007

Menla Mountain Retreat & Conference Center in Phoenicia, New York (*New Location!*)

Day Passes are available

Information & Registration: chines@itp.edu.

BOOK EVENT - Listening from the Heart of Silence: Nondual Wisdom and Psychotherapy, Vol 2

Friday, October 5, 2007

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Great Sophia Room at ITP

Co-authors **John J. Prendergast, Ph.D.** and **G. Kenneth Bradford, Ph.D.** will present their latest book: *Listening from the Heart of Silence*. The title refers to a quality of listening that originates prior to the duality of the one who listens and the one who is heard. It is a listening that is global, spacious and, paradoxically to the mind, extremely intimate. When we listen from this Heart, we invite healing on the deepest level, welcoming everything just as it is. Once the heart of Silence is fully recognized, our lives begin to move from the inside out with greater honesty, love, spontaneity and power and increasingly embody our deepest truth.

Admission FREE

RETURN TO GAIA - A Women's Weekend Retreat

October 6-7, 2007

10am-5pm

Ocean Song Farm & Wilderness Center - Occidental, CA

Find emotional, physical and spiritual renewal in Gaia, our Mother Earth. As we gather to enjoy the peaceful beauty of Ocean Song, we will learn how to access the deep inner well of wisdom at the Heart of Gaia, our Mother Earth. Sitting in circle, we will share dreams, shamanic journeys and art-making to find answers to the questions and concerns that we women share.

Facilitator: Valentine McKay-Riddell, Ph.D., an urban shaman of Native American/Celtic heritage. She holds a Ph.D. in Transpersonal Psychology and an M.A. in Counseling Psychology from the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, where she is an Adjunct Faculty member in the Institute's Global Ph.D. program. She is a certified Reiki Master and Teacher in the Usui Lineage and the Founding and Executive Director of Orenda Healing International (www.orenda-arts.org). She practices shamanic healing and wellness counseling in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Information & Registration: 510-558-3324 wholebeing@orenda-arts.org

LECTURE / BOOK SIGNING: "Civil Courage in War Time"

October 19, 2007

1:30 - 3:00pm

Great Sophia Room at ITP

Dr. Svetlana Broz is a humanitarian writer, lecturer, journalist and activist. She will speak on civil courage based on stories of selfless humanity that crossed ethnic and religious barriers during the Bosnian war as recounted in her book, *Good People in an Evil Time: Portraits of Complicity and Resistance in the Bosnian War*.

Admission FREE

TERS COLLOQUIUM: "Kyrgyzchylk" - Searching Between Spirituality and Science

October 23, 2007

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Samadhi Classroom at ITP

Dr. Gulnara Aitpaeva and Dr. Elena Molchanova investigate *kyrgyzchylk* in its relationship to the dimensions of life mission, traditional spiritual knowledge, and supernatural abilities. They consider the applications of the analytic psychology of Carl Jung and the transpersonal psychology of Stanislav Grof to the *kyrgyzshylyk* concept.

Admission FREE- Open only to ITP faculty, students and alumni.

CELEBRATING BOB FRAGER'S 50 YEARS IN MARTIAL ARTS

November 2, 2007 (*Note NEW date!*)

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Great Sophia Room at ITP

Join us for an exciting Aikido demo and talk by Dr. Robert Frager, ITP co-founder and 7th degree black belt in Aikido. Refreshments will be served.

Admission FREE

ALUMNI CLASSIFIEDS

RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS WANTED

Have you had a paranormal experience that stands out for you as important, profound, or meaningful? Are you willing to share your experience with us in writing for research purposes and future publication? **Residential and Global faculty, students, alumni, administrators, and staff** are invited to participate in this study by contacting one of the researchers---ITP Core Faculty members Genie Palmer, Ph.D. (Residential) at rememberingthemagic@comcast.net or William Braud, Ph. D. (Global) at william@integral-inquiry.com. Very little time will be required for this.

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Adults over the age of 21 are needed to participate in a scientific psychological study concerning adult development. Participation involves filling out two brief questionnaires and two psychological assessments given in two stages. The total time involved will be 30-60 minutes. The procedure will be done by mail. To participate or ask questions please contact Steve Curley at curleystudy@earthlink.net or at 408-554-9475.

MENTORS NEEDED

Gaia's Girls is a research project that will help adolescent girls recognize their connection to Gaia, our Mother Earth, and to their own inner Feminine Wisdom. During the Fall school semester 2007, you will join a small group of women mentoring 8th grade girls at the 49ers Academy in East Palo Alto. Together we will help the girls learn about the many ways in which Mother Earth talks to us. We will take Shamanic Journeys to meet Animal Spirit Guides, make Magical Masks, and co-create a powerful Rite of Passage to celebrate the girls' connection to Gaia and their ability to overcome any challenges they may be facing. For information contact: Valentine McKay-Riddell, Ph.D. at (510) 847-0412 or wholebeing@orenda-arts.org

ITP RESOURCES

The Center for the Divine Feminine at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology is a resource to students, alumni, faculty, staff, and the local and global communities by offering a variety of scholarships, grants, seminars, and workshops focused on educating and creating awareness about the Feminine face of the divine and how it shows up in men's and women's lives. **Visit** www.centerforthedivinefeminine.com **for more information and to get on their mailing list** to receive the latest information on their programs and event.

TRANSFORMATIONAL COACHING TRAINING PROGRAM

Begins October 2007 for its 7th year with Rosie Kuhn, Ph.D. This will be Rosie's last year as the primary facilitator of this training as she is moving in the direction of publishing and speaking in larger arenas. Todd Zimmerman will continue to run the program beginning in 2008. Todd has been facilitating with Rosie since the inception of the program and is well equipped to take the lead. He and Rosie support each other not only during the training program but also as life-partners. Rosie will continue to participate in the program but in a less visible role. **For more information www.theparadigmshifts.com or www.itp.edu. Or, call Rosie at 360-376-4323, or Todd at 650-969-2410.**

PRENATAL WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Supporting the emotional needs of pregnant women for a more empowered and fulfilling pregnancy and birth. Birth Art. Circle Songs. Drumming. Santa Cruz, CA (831) 345-4700. Lisa J. Arthur, MA, MFT Intern #51827 Supervised by licensed psychologist Harris Clemes, PhD., #2651.

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