

**Portland Institute for Loss and Transition**  
East Coast Learning Retreat (May 7-11, 2021)  
**List of Presenters**

**Harrington-LaMorie, J., DSW, LCSW**

**Jill Harrington-LaMorie** maintains a private practice in the Washington D.C. area and is currently a grief educator, field research consultant and Adjunct Professor at The Chicago School for Professional Psychology, where she teaches *Grief Counseling*. She started off in the field as an oncology social worker and transitioned her focus the last fifteen years primarily with those affected by sudden, violent death-loss. She is the former Senior Field Researcher for the National Military Family Bereavement Research Project and is one of the first published authors on military family bereavement. Dr. Harrington-LaMorie has published articles, book chapters and her books include *Superhero Grief: The Transformative Power of Loss* (in progress) with Robert Neimeyer, published by Routledge.

**Konopka, A., PhD**

**Agnieszka Konopka** maintains a private practice in The Netherlands focusing on expats facing transition. She is the founder of Composition work, an art-therapy/coaching method for work with emotions and identity in transition, and gives training and supervision for practitioners internationally. Co-author (with Hubert Hermans) of '*Dialogical Self Theory. Positioning and Counter-positioning in a Globalizing Society*', published by CUP; editor of the *Handbook of Dialogical Self Theory and Psychotherapy*, with Hubert Hermans and Miguel Goncalves. Agnieszka is an author of publications in 6 languages, including: *Composing the Self: Toward the Dialogical Reconstruction of Self-Identity*, with Robert Neimeyer and Jason Jacobs-Lentz.

**Krawchuk, L., MSW, LCSW, MPH**

**Lara Krawchuk** is Co-founder and Clinical Director of Healing Concepts, LLC in West Chester, PA. Her clinical work is focused on individuals and families facing a diverse range of death-related and ambiguous losses, including life threatening illness, end of life, bereavement, attachment injuries, trauma, and professional compassion fatigue. Krawchuk teaches courses on Advanced Clinical Social Work Practice, End of Life, and Loss Across a Lifecycle at the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy & Practice. She has written chapters for both volumes of *Techniques of Grief Therapy*.

### **Lichtenthal, W., PhD**

**Wendy Lichtenthal** is Director of the Bereavement Clinic and an Assistant Attending Psychologist in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medicine. As a licensed clinical psychologist, her clinical practice focuses work focuses on supporting cancer patients and their families, with a focus on the bereaved. She was a recipient of the International Psycho-Oncology Society Kawano New Investigator Award and the Association for Death Education and Counseling Research Recognition Award for her research, supported largely by the National Institutes of Health, which focuses on developing psychosocial interventions to assist with prolonged grief and meaning-making in grieving populations and strategies for identifying the bereaved in greatest need.

### **Lomelino, F., LCPC**

Fabio Lomelino is a nationally certified Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor working in private practice as well as offering groups, workshops, and retreats in partnership with community organizations. With previous experience working with traumatized refugees rebuilding their lives, as well as grieving families in hospice care, Fabio specializes in working with people who are in deep existential suffering and find their lives have lost meaning. With an undergraduate background in philosophy and graduate training in the integration of mental health and spiritual exploration, Fabio helps clients transform their suffering into wisdom. He has spoken on the impact of social isolation on bereaved individuals, trained clinicians on working with grieving refugees and asylum seekers, designed an innovative grief writing group curriculum, and runs a monthly mindfulness retreat for grieving adults. He also consults with non-profit and health care organizations looking to protect staff against compassion fatigue and facilitates integrative strategic planning processes.

### **Neimeyer, R. A., PhD**

**Robert A. Neimeyer, PhD**, is Professor Emeritus of the Department of Psychology, University of Memphis, maintains an active consulting and coaching practice, and also directs the *Portland Institute for Loss and Transition*. Neimeyer has published 30 books, including Routledge's series on *Techniques of Grief Therapy*, and serves as Editor of *Death Studies*. The author of over 500 articles and chapters and a popular workshop presenter, he is currently working to advance a more adequate theory of grieving as a meaning-making process. In recognition of his contributions, he has been given Lifetime Achievement Awards by both the Association for Death Education and Counseling and the International Network on Personal Meaning.

### **Ng, C., PsyD, FT, MMSAC, RegCLR**

**Carolyn Ng** maintains a private practice as a trainer, supervisor and therapist in Singapore, while also serving as Associate Director of the Portland Institute. Previously she served as Principal Counselor with the Children's Cancer Foundation in Singapore, specializing in cancer-related palliative care and bereavement counseling. She is a registered counselor, master clinical member and approved supervisor with the Singapore Association for Counseling (SAC), a Fellow in Thanatology with the Association of Death Education and Counseling (ADEC), as well as a consultant to a cancer support and bereavement ministry in Sydney, Australia. She is certified in Solution-Focused Brief Therapy and Narrative Therapy, and holds an MA in Pastoral Ministry from Trinity Theological Seminary in the USA.

### **Stang, H., MA, C-IAYT**

**Heather Stang** is the author of *Mindfulness & Grief*. She holds a Masters degree in Thanatology (Death, Dying, and Bereavement) from Hood College in Maryland, and is a certified Yoga Therapist. She has led mindfulness-based grief workshops for organizations such as the National Fallen Firefighters Association and Hospice of Frederick County, and is a member of the Association of Death Education and Counseling. Heather's mission is to help people who are grieving to stay healthy and benefit from the transformative experience of grief, using mindfulness-based practices, relaxation, and expressive arts. She has an established practice offering Phoenix Rising Yoga Therapy sessions, day-long retreats, and 8 Week Yoga for Grief groups.

### **Strouse, S., MA, ATR-BC, LCPAT**

**Sharon Strouse** is a board-certified and licensed Art Therapist with 30 years of clinical experience with adults. She serves as Practicum Faculty with the Portland Institute for Loss and Transition. Her Art Therapy private practice and national presentations focus on grief, suicide bereavement and Gold Star families suffering traumatic loss. Sharon's experiential workshops for survivors and professionals involve creative processes that highlight meaning reconstruction and continuing bonds work with the deceased. She is author of, *Artful Grief: A Diary of Healing* ([artfulgrief.com](http://artfulgrief.com)).

### **Thompson, B. E., OTD, LCSW**

**Barbara E. Thompson** is a Professor of Occupational Therapy, Russell Sage College in Troy, NY, where she also maintains an active psychotherapy practice. She founded the Hospice Day Program and ALS Regional Center at St. Peter's Hospice in Albany, NY and has published articles, book chapters and two books on use of contemplative practices and the creative arts in palliative, end-of-life and bereavement care. Her books include *Grief and the Expressive Arts: Practices for Creating Meaning* (2014) with Robert Neimeyer, and *Prescriptive Memories in Grief and Loss: The Art of Dreamscaping* (2019) with Nancy Gershman, both published by Routledge.

### **Vaughans, D. C., PhD**

**Doris C. Vaughans** is a nationally-certified licensed counselor. Her doctorate degree is in Counselor Education, The University of Alabama, where she is currently a faculty member. Dr Vaughans owns a private professional counseling practice, Tuscaloosa Center for Cognitive Therapy; as well as is a faculty member of Portland Institute for Loss and Transition. She has a very diverse clientele primarily with anxiety, depression, and bereavement therapy needs. She has extensive training and experience in bereavement counseling, cognitive behavioral and meaning-making therapies, bereavement research, publications, consulting, training, and as a presenter. She worked in Oncology and Hospice care as RN.

**Vollmann, S., MPS, ATR-BC, LICSW**

**Sarah Vollmann** is a registered, board-certified art therapist and a licensed independent clinical social worker. She is a counselor for adolescents at Buckingham Browne and Nichols School in Cambridge Massachusetts and she maintains a private practice with a focus upon grief and loss. As a member of the Artful Grief team of art therapists Sarah works with Gold Star families facing suicide bereavement and traumatic loss. She has published articles and book chapters on grief and loss, and she presents both nationally and internationally on art therapy, grief, and bereavement.

**Zampitella, C., PsyD, FT**

**Christina Zampitella** is a licensed clinical psychologist in both Delaware and California, Fellow of Thanatology, co-owner and director of clinical services at Integrative Psychology Group, professor/faculty member, and professional speaker. She works as an adjunct faculty member at Marian University's Master's in Thanatology program and National University, focusing her research, course development, and teaching on Bereavement Studies and Integrative Psychology. She served as the chair for the Continuing Education Committee for the San Diego Psychological Association and the Delaware Psychological Association. She specializes in death, loss, and bereavement, integrative psychology, spirituality, and nature-based therapy. She is the former resident psychologist on Fox 5 News in San Diego, and often appeared on NBC News. She has been featured in Elle Magazine, BuzzFeed, and The Huffington Post.