

## The Salem Center Fall 2008 Conference

# Engaging Difficult and Resistant Children and Adolescents

## Who Are Not Interested In Therapy

This conference focuses on working with children who have not responded to therapy or who are not interested in participating in therapy. We explore ways of analyzing this “resistance” and describe ways of working that can diminish resistance. We, at the Salem Center, have a long history of working with children and their families who have not responded well to traditional inpatient or outpatient therapies. Typically, the children we meet have long histories of DSM diagnoses; like Bi-Polar Disorder, Attention Deficit Disorder with or without Hyperactivity, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, PTSD, and so on. Typically, these young people are having problems with school, parents, and peers, as well as their sense of themselves as problem people. Often they have long histories of psychotherapy and psychopharmacological treatments that have not helped.

In this workshop we are interested in sharing our experiences of what we have found helpful when working with young people who experience these kinds of problems and histories. While we are concerned about these young people, we also are concerned about the effects for practitioners when they are not sure how to help. Some negative effects that can result include a sense of failure, powerlessness, and burn out. We want this conference to provide some possible antidotes for these problems.

We have found ways of working with difficult contexts and problems through novel and progressive ways of thinking about therapy and helping. These alternative ways of thinking can often be enhanced with creative, playful, and expressive ways of working. For this workshop, we will describe various ways of working that has been helpful with young people who are struggling severely with life, school, and family relationships, as well as self-mutilation, eating, anger, mental illness, and so on. Our intention is to offer our practice ideas and stories as a means for opening conversations with you about ways of working that will support you and the young people you might meet in your work.



**November 15, 2008 • Salem, Massachusetts**

## Conference Schedule

8:30 – 9:15	<b>Opening Keynote:</b> <i>Distinguishing Postmodern and Traditional Therapies with Children and Adolescents</i> (Evan Longin)
9:15 – 9:30	<b>Break</b>
9:30 -- 10:15	<b>Workshop:</b> <i>Stories of Playful Work</i> (Marjorie Roberts)
10:15 – 11:00	<b>Workshop:</b> <i>Stories of Work with Art</i> (Debbie Nathan)
11:00- 11:15	<b>Break</b>
11:15 – 12:00	<b>Workshop:</b> <i>Stories of Work with Families and Therapy Teams</i> (Evan Longin)
12:00 – 1:00	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00– 1:45	<b>Afternoon Keynote:</b> <i>Considerations of Young People and Identity Construction</i> (Stephen Gaddis)
1:45 – 2:00	<b>Break</b>
2:00- 2:45	<b>Workshop:</b> <i>Stories of Work with School Communities</i> (Frank Kashner)
2:45 – 3:30	<b>Workshop:</b> <i>Stories of Work with Personal Narratives</i> (Stephen Gaddis)
3:30 – 3:45	<b>Break</b>
3:45 -4:30	<b>Closing Keynote:</b> <i>Reflections on fifteen years of working with children and families from collaborative and dialogic perspectives</i> (Marjorie Roberts)

## Conference Details

**Hours:** Saturday, November 15, 2008, 8:30am to 5:30pm

**Meals Provided:** Morning and afternoon coffee/tea, lunch

**Location:** Veteran's Hall, Ellison Building, North Campus  
Salem State College, Salem, MA 01970

**Directions:** Visit our website for more details: [www.thesalemcenter.org](http://www.thesalemcenter.org)

**Fees:** **Register early to save!**

Before 11/3/08: \$75; \$50 for all Students and SSC Faculty/Staff  
After 11/3/08: \$85; \$60 for Students and SSC Faculty/Staff



*A Portion of the proceeds from this conference will go toward continuing  
The Salem Center's training and educational programs.*

## Presented in partnership with Salem State College

Please fill out and mail this form, with a check or money order, made payable to **The Salem Center**. Send to: The Salem Center, Fall Conference, 204 Lafayette St, Salem MA 01970.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*e-mail addresses are required so that we may send a registration confirmation.

I would like CEUs for:  LICSW  LMHC  LMFT  CEUs not required.  
CEUs not available for Psychologists.

**For more information, visit us at [www.thesalemcenter.org](http://www.thesalemcenter.org), e-mail us at [thesalemcenter@gmail.com](mailto:thesalemcenter@gmail.com), or call (978) 744-7162.**

