

Jason B. Conover RDT/BCT, LCAT, CASAC

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LICENSURE & CERTIFICATION

Registered Drama Therapist	(RDT)
Board Certified Trainer	(BCT)
Licensed Creative Arts Therapist	(LCAT)
Certified Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor	(CASAC)
Time Slips Facilitator	

EDUCATION

New York University Master of Arts in Drama Therapy	2006
State University of New York at Fredonia Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts	1996

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

Planned Parenthood: Project SHINE Advisory Board Member	2021
North American Drama Therapy Association Membership Member	2007 - Present
North American Drama Therapy Association Tri-State Chapter Member and Recording Secretary	2011 - 2015

PUBLICATIONS

2020 "Bridging the Generational Divide: The Mixed Tape of Being A Gay Gen X Drama Therapist During the COVID 19 Pandemic" *Drama Therapy Review*

2015 "How Drama Therapists Impact Their Work Environment" North American Drama *Therapy Association Blog*, thedramascope.wordpress.com/2015/04/17/how-drama-therapists-impact-their-work-environment.

2008-2009 "AHRC Puppet Group" *AHRC Chronicle*

- An article was written and printed in the AHRC Chronicle profiling the puppet group and interviewing both the director and the puppeteers about the troupe. The article talked about how the puppet troupe writes scripts about the effects of alcohol and other drugs as well as other prevention topics such as tobacco use, prescription pills, and bullying.

PRESENTATIONS

Water and Stone Creative Arts Therapy PLLC Conference

Co-Presenter 2019

- “Big Apple Playback Theatre”

The North American Dram Therapy Association Conference (NADTA)

Co-Presenter 2019

- “The Dragon Fly Method” conceived by Natardia Lee Soy

Co-Presenter 2017

- “Is Research Your Tool?”

Presenter 2016

- “Time Slips Story Method with Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury”

Presenter 2010

- “Talking About My Generation: Exploring the Liminal Space Between Generations of Drama Therapists Working in the Field Today

Presenter 2008

- “Puppetry and Individuals with Intellectual and other Developmental Disabilities: Teaching drug and alcohol prevention education through creating and performing original puppet scripts”

Time Slips Webinar Timeslips.org

Presenter 2017

- “Time Slips with varied populations including traumatic brain injury and substance use recovery

FELLOWSHIP AND AWARDS

AHRC NYC 2018 - 2020

Person Centered Planning Fellow

Association of Adult Service Providers 2013

Service Award

- In recognition for all the years of presenting on creative engagement techniques for direct support professionals working with individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

FACILITATOR / CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The Drugs and Society Seminar, Columbia University

2020

Guest Speaker

- Presented power point slides on engaging individuals with ID/DD in evidence based drug and alcohol prevention education using creative arts therapy interventions

Stony Brook School of Social Work

2019

Guest Lecturer

- Taught best practices for working with Individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities with co-occurring substance use disorders

The Drama Therapy Graduate Program at NYU

2010 - Present

Cooperating Teacher

- Supervise drama therapy graduate student interns under the PEIR program at AHRC Health Care Inc. doing business as ACCESS Community Health Center and AHRC NYC.

AHRC Puppet Group

2007 - 2019

Founder and Director

- Facilitated a weekly drama therapy group using the projective technique of puppetry to improvise scripted scenes about drug and alcohol prevention; including original scripts about alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, bullying and the importance of good personal hygiene with a focus on teeth brushing.

Music Group

2007 - 2013

Facilitator

- Facilitated a weekly music therapy group utilizing the acoustic guitar and hand held instruments. Created original songs about issues related to recovery from substance use disorders.

AHRC Health Care Inc. Access Community

2005 - Present

Sobriety/PEIR Unit Manager

- Developed and adapted drug and alcohol prevention education curriculum for use with facilitating groups of individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities and mental health issues

AHRC NYC

2003 - 2005

Curriculum Developer

- Developed and facilitated over a hundred power point presentations to members of the community about the prevalence of alcohol and substance abuse among individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities, mental health issues, and substance use disorders.
- Developed and facilitated power point presentations on stress management, and creative engagement activities for use with individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities in order to foster peer interaction, and group cohesion.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

AHRC NYC Family and Clinical Services Department

2017 - Present

Sobriety/PEIR Unit Manager

- Provide evidence based drug and alcohol prevention education to individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities
- Provide clinical supervision to an LCAT-Permit holder and a drama therapy intern
- Write up group notes and submit monthly reports to city grant funders
- Manage the budgets of two grant funded programs in the outpatient clinic to ensure all allocated funds are utilized
- Develop and adapt curriculum to meet the needs of individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities
- Develop work plans and input data into the WITNYS system
- Attend trainings and meetings with grant funders at the DOHMH and OASAS

AHRC/ACCESS Community Health Center, PEIR Program

2005 - 2017

Unit Manager

- Lead a weekly support group for individuals with intellectual disabilities, mental health issues, and substance abuse who identify as LGBTQ
- Develop and implement curriculum that addresses substance abuse, healthy risk taking and personal empowerment to young adults with developmental disabilities, families, and care providers in the OPWDD and healthcare systems
- Act as liaison between AHRC/ACCESS and community-based programs
- Identify potential areas of improvement and create solution-oriented policies
- Provide supervision to PEIR counselors and social work/drama therapy interns
- Manage the Sobriety Respite program
- File monthly and quarterly reports and attend outreach events to develop relationships and extend programming
- Plan trips and utilize creative interventions involving drama, music, puppetry and art
- Conduct community trainings and outreach programming

AHRC/ACCESS Community Health Center, Chemical Dependency Unit

2010 - 2013

Sobriety Community Linkages Coordinator

- Conduct trainings on the co-occurrence of developmental disabilities, mental illness, and substance abuse
- Provide motivational interviewing to individuals identified as needing a higher level of care including twenty eight day rehabilitation and long term residential treatment
- Escort clients to intake appointments and for site visits to twenty eight day rehabilitation programs to lessen fears and anxiety about accessing treatment

AHRC/ACCESS Community Health Center, Chemical Dependency Unit

2008 - 2010

Substance Abuse Counselor

- Provide individual and group counseling for client's developmental disabilities, mental health issues, and chemical dependency diagnoses

- Document all progress in accordance with OASAS and OPWDD procedures
- Ensure strict compliance with all OSHA regulations
- Attend weekly case conference meetings to advocate for clients and ensure proper care coordination within multidisciplinary team

AHRC, Adult Day Services Department 2003 - 2005
Transition Developer

- Trained direct care staff individually and department wide on a variety of topics, including general teaching skills, community safety and the creative arts as a teaching modality
- Established and put into action curriculum for targeted groups in ADS program facilities according to individualized goals
- Acted as part of an interdisciplinary team designed to provide quality services to adults with developmental disabilities.

AHRC, Department of Camping and Recreation 2002 - 2003
Recreation Supervisor

- Ensured all staff received proper instruction on agency policies and procedures including all requirements for documentation
- Directly supervised 50 to 75 part-time staff in Day Respite and General Recreation Programs

AHRC, Brooklyn Day Habilitation Center 2001 - 2002
Community Resource Trainer

- Facilitated curriculum groups for individuals with developmental disabilities based on consumer interests
- Assisted participants in generalizing learned skills while out in the community
- Completed and filed all necessary paper work and attended staff meetings as part of the treatment team
- Facilitated drama therapy groups as part of an internship experience focusing on increasing expressive communication skills and improving interpersonal relationships

THEATRE EXPERIENCE

Big Apple Playback Theatre 2019- Present
Auxiliary Company Member

- Collaborated with AHRC NYC on a theatre project called, “Thankful”

New York University “As Performance” Series “The Empty Space” 2018
Playback Actor

- Therapeutic theatre piece called, “On Air”

Block Party Playback Theatre 2010- 2012
Founder & Playback Actor

- Facilitate a monthly peer supervision group using playback theatre 2017- Present
- Open to the public Valentine’s Day playback performance at Studio Maya Brooklyn NY

Village Playback Theatre

Artistic Director, Randy Mulder

2007- 2009

Playback Actor

- 2008-2009 Season Performance Venues
 - Project Hospitality • the Bridge • Neighborhood Defender Services of Harlem • Healing of Memories Institute • Rebirthing King, Rebirthing America • Picture the Homeless • University Settlement Beacon Program at ECHS • Empathy/Aggression Study -The Center School • Public Show at La Tea Theater
- 2007-2008 Season Performance Venues
 - AHRC Sobriety Services • The Bridge • Goodwill Industries • Human Rights Day • Manhattanville College • Neighborhood Defender Services of Harlem • University Settlement at ECHS Queens Hospital • Mary Manning Walsh Home •

VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

NADTA Tri State Chapter

2011- 2015

Recording Secretary

- Attended and took minutes at monthly chapter meetings
- Helped coordinate chapter events to engage members of the creative arts therapy community in NYC by providing opportunities for continued education and networking

Diversity Advisory Council

2008- 2013

Council Member

- Supported Senior Management and Board of Directors to assure AHRC's (Association for Help of Retarded Children) values are reflected in the caring community of our workplace.
- Act as a "diversity champion" to develop, promote, and support initiatives that promote cultural competency and caring community for the individuals receiving services, their families, and employees.

Girls Write Now

2011 - 2012

Therapy Panelist

- Provided on-call clinical supervision to mentors from Girls Write Now, a nonprofit organization that teaches writing skills to girls through partnering with professional woman writers in NYC.

POST GRADUATE COURSE WORK

NYU Steinhardt Drama Therapy Department

- Arts Based Research
- Cross Cultural Understanding for Artists, Educators
- Advanced Practices in Role Theory & Role Method
- Masking Making and Puppetry
- Advanced Practices in Psychodrama Level II

Instructors

Dr.Nisha Sajjani	2018
Lizzie McAdams	2015
Ashley Hamilton	2015
Robert Landy	2014
Ralph Lee	2013
Nina Garcia	2012