



**THE SANVILLE INSTITUTE**

For Clinical Social Work & Psychotherapy

and

National Institute for Psychoanalytic Education and Research  
in Clinical Social Work (NIPER) Inc., educational arm of the

**aapcsw**

American Association for  
Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work

Celebrate the centenary of the birth of Selma Fraiberg

## **The Magic Years of Selma Fraiberg: Clinician, Researcher, Writer**

Saturday, March 24, 2018

9am-5pm

6 CE credits for California LCSWs, MFTs & Psychologists  
6 CE Hours for New York/New Jersey LMSW/LCSWs

San Francisco State University  
Seven Hills Conference Center  
1600 Holloway Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94132

[www.sanville.edu/selma](http://www.sanville.edu/selma)

Lunch included



*Selma Fraiberg's integration of social work and psychoanalysis had a profound impact on infant mental health, child development, psychoanalysis and the larger community. Beginning with group work with disadvantaged children and an unconventional psychoanalytic training, Fraiberg's interventions with blind children, her groundbreaking innovations in infant mental health and her prolific writings -- including her classic works, The Magic Years and Ghosts in the Nursery-- have left a lasting legacy.*

**9:00am-9:15am: Introduction**

*The Sanville Institute, AAPCSW, and Lisa Fraiberg*

**9:15am-10:30am: Selma Fraiberg, Her Life and Work**

**Joel Kanter, MSW, LCSW-C**

Based on archival research and interviews with a diverse array of colleagues, trainees and relatives, this presentation will review Fraiberg's professional training in social work and psychoanalysis, her early clinical work with children's groups, her emerging psychoanalytic expertise, her diverse literary contributions and her important clinical research on blind infants and at-risk infant-mother dyads. The lasting impact of her contributions will be summarized.

**10:30am-10:45am: Coffee Break**

**10:45am-12:00pm: Ghosts and Angels in the Nursery:**

**The Lasting Impact of Selma Fraiberg's Legacy**

**Alicia F. Lieberman, PhD**

Selma Fraiberg taught us to create a holding environment where the clinician enables parents and baby to feel safe to experience the full range of their emotions, to explore how the past is coloring the present, and to build enjoyable new ways of relating to each other. Her most influential contribution involved the understanding of the intergenerational transmission of psychopathology from the parents' childhood fear and pain to their attributions to their baby in the here and now. This talk will highlight her continued influence and the new applications of her thinking in current infant mental health practice

**12:00pm-1:15pm: Lunch**

**1:15pm-2:10pm: Selma Would Never Have Called It Mindfulness,  
But That's Exactly What She Showed Us**

**Michael Trout, MA**

Is infant mental health a strategy, or a way of being with? This keynote will consider the origins of our field, which was originally fueled by a deep scientific and psychoanalytic curiosity about the nuances of infant-parent interaction, the meaning of early experience, the remarkable transferences between parental early experience and relating to the child in the present. What is most important to us, now? What would Selma say? She taught us mindfulness without ever using the then-unknown word. She taught us the bliss of modesty and not-knowing, of attunement, of following, of holding. She required the discipline of self-knowing, and resulting self-regulation.

**2:10pm-3:00pm: Reflections on *The Magic Years*  
by Clinician-Mothers Today**

**Elizabeth (Beth) Kita, PhD, LCSW**

**Rebecca Mahayag, MSW, LCSW-C**

These clinicians, who are also mothers of young children, will reflect on their reading of Fraiberg's classic *The Magic Years* as it impacts their current parenting experiences.

**3:00pm-3:15pm:** Coffee Break

**3:15pm-4:10pm:** **Selma and Me:  
Master Teacher and Trauma-obsessed Trainee**  
**Lenore Terr, MD**

From 1964 to 1966, Terr attended Fraiberg's Continuous Case Conference on child treatment at the University of Michigan Children's Psychiatric Hospital as well as presentations on Fraiberg's research on blind babies. She will share her recollections about these interactions, discussing how she absorbed Fraiberg's ideas and methods as she pursued her research on childhood trauma.

**4:10pm-5:00pm:** **Video of Selma Fraiberg and concluding panel  
with Lisa Fraiberg and presenters**

**5:00pm-5:30pm:** Please join us in the lobby for a wine and cheese reception.

## About the Presenters

**Joel Kanter, MSW, LCSW-C:** *Faculty, Institute for Clinical Social Work; Distinguished Practitioner, National Academies of Practice; Author, Face to Face with Children: The Life and Legacy of Clare Winnicott.*

**Elizabeth (Beth) Kita, PhD, LCSW** is a clinical social worker in San Francisco, California. She completed her MSW at UC Berkeley and her PhD at Smith College School for Social Work. Beth has worked within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for the past 15 years providing mental health treatment both in prison and on parole. Beth also has a private practice in Hayes Valley, teaches in the MSW program at UC Berkeley, and is Chairperson of the Coalition for Clinical Social Work.

**Alicia F. Lieberman, PhD,** is the Irving B. Harris Endowed Chair in Infant Mental Health, Professor and Vice Chair for Faculty Development at the University of California, San Francisco, Department of Psychiatry, and Director of the Child Trauma Research Program at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital.

**Rebecca Mahayag, MSW, LCSW-C** is in private practice in Rockville, Maryland. She received her MSW from the University of Maryland and is a graduate of the Modern Perspectives in Psychotherapy at the Washington Center for Psychoanalysis. She currently serves on the board of the American Association for Psychoanalysis in Social Work.

**Lenore Terr, MD:** *Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, University of California, San Francisco; Winner of the Ittleson, McGavin, and Marmor Awards, American Psychiatric Association; Author of Too Scared to Cry, Unchained Memories, and Magical Moments of Change: How Psychotherapy Turns Kids Around.*

**Michael Trout, MA:** *Director, Infant-Parent Institute; Founding President of the International Association for Infant Mental Health.*

*After attending this presentation, participants will be able to:*

Identify Fraiberg's central contributions to psychoanalysis, child development and infant mental health.

Extrapolate Fraiberg's concept of "ghosts in the nursery" to the intergenerational transmission of trauma exposure through traumatized parents' difficulties in recognizing cues to danger and taking protective action on behalf of the child.

Name two clinical behaviors that become possible through mindfulness.

Describe one example, from their own clinical experience, in which mindfulness contributed to assessment.

Describe Fraiberg's effectiveness in communicating her ideas about child development to the lay community

Assess how teaching and learning function together as an interchangeable process.



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