



Play Therapy Student Research Award

Awards of Excellence

Purpose

The Association for Play Therapy (APT) acknowledges outstanding research by graduate or doctoral students that significantly develops, promotes, or advances the value of play, play therapy, and credentialed play therapists.

Criteria

The Play Therapy Student Research Award is presented to a Nominee who:

1. May or may not be an APT member in good standing.
2. Abided by the code of ethics, standards of practice, and all other legal standards or requirements promulgated by those authorities from which Nominee has been granted a license or certification.
3. Authored or co-authored original work in the form of a Master's thesis, doctoral dissertation, or other major research project for which the student is primarily responsible.
4. Authored or co-authored play therapy research that (see point values assigned on Evaluation Form):
 - a. Demonstrates the value and effectiveness of play and/or play therapy;
 - b. Increases play therapy knowledge or improves/evaluates play therapy techniques;
 - c. Significantly elevates/advances the credibility, effectiveness and/or field of play therapy;
 - d. Designed and conducted by rigorous standards and appropriately analyzed.
5. Was completed within two (2) years of research project completion [if nomination is unsuccessful, the manuscript may be resubmitted within two (2) years of project completion].
6. It is preferable that the research, in its entirety be published in the *International Journal of Play Therapy*. However, in the event that this research has been submitted elsewhere, applicant agrees to the preparation of an article based on the research submitted and appropriate for either *Play Therapy*TM magazine or the *International Journal of Play Therapy*.

Although an annual award, it may be presented to more than one individual a year but is not presented if not merited.

Benefits

1. The award recipient (if research was conducted by two or more students, benefits are divided equally) is honored during next APT Annual Conference and is granted:
 - a. one complementary 12-month APT Professional membership,
 - b. complementary registration to the APT Leadership Academy for up to two (2) authors,
 - c. \$1500.00 to defray conference-related expenses if attending the APT Annual conference.
2. Submissions are automatically submitted to the Editor to be evaluated for possible publication in the Journal.

Selection Process

1. Applications satisfying the above criteria and below specifications must be received via mail or email by APT not later than **March 31**:
 - a. One completed application form.
 - b. One 150-word typed abstract.
 - c. One complete edited and publication-ready typed manuscript per these specifications:
 1. Not more than 25 double-spaced pages prepared in accordance with the form and style of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*.

2. Addresses a) significance to the field of play therapy; b) research question; c) methodology, i.e. subjects, procedures, instrumentation, data analysis, d) results; e) discussion; f) ethical considerations; g) issues of diversity; and includes h) references.
- d. One vita/resume.
2. Applications are a) reviewed by a selection committee which may or may not consult others with research expertise for review and recommendations, and b) scored for relevance to APT interests and goals, originality, clarity, and contribution to field.
3. All Nominees are advised of the result of the selection process not later than **April 20**.

Previous Recipients

1993 Susan Cockle; **1994** Heidi Kaduson, Sue Bratton; **1995** Shari Duff; **1996** Iris Yuen-Fan Chau & Zella Harris; **1997** None; **1998** John Holmberg; **1999** Mary Costas; **2000** None; **2001** Elizabeth (Betsy) McLeod; **2002** Kelli Ritter; **2003** Jill Packman; **2004** Carolyn Solis; **2005** Jennifer Findling; **2006** None; **2007** Mary Morrison; **2008** Eunah Lee; **2009** Peggy Ceballos; **2010** None; **2011** None; **2012** None; **2013** None; **2014** Terri Gonzales; **2015** None; **2016** None; **2017** Brittany Wilson



Play Therapy Student Research Award – Application Form

Awards of Excellence

Applicant: To submit an award nomination, please:

- Review the above award purpose, criteria, benefits, and selection process
- Review the evaluation criteria to ensure that the submission can earn the minimal 14 points required for consideration
- Complete this Application Form and submit with vita and manuscript to CEO Kathryn Lebbly at klebby@a4pt.org no later than **March 31**.

Applicant

Name: _____ Degree: _____ License: _____ Mental Health Discipline: _____

Organization: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____ City, State, ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Research Manuscript

1. Manuscript Title: _____

2. Research Outcome: _____

3. Research Significance: _____

Attestation

I, the applicant, attest that the manuscript submitted is original, that it has not been published or submitted elsewhere for publication, that it is the product of original research completed with the past two (2) years, that I am its author or co-author, that all information herein is true, and that this application complies with all the award guidelines.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I have checked this box to signify my signature attestation: Date: _____



Play Therapy Student Research Award – Application Form

Awards of Excellence

Applicant: Research entry must have been produced within two (2) years of research project completion.

Evaluators: To ensure that this process is conducted ethically and transparently, please excuse yourself from this process if you are affiliated with one or more of the Nominees. Evaluate this nomination, complete this Evaluation Form and assign rating points to each criterion below, add comments if desired, and submit this form to CEO Kathryn Lebbby at klebby@a4pt.org, no later than **April 15**.

Nominee: _____ **Evaluator:** _____ **Date:** _____

#	CRITERIA	COMMENTS	POINTS
1	<p>The research <u>demonstrates the value and effectiveness of play and/or play therapy</u>. Scale 1 (poor) thru 5 (excellent)</p> <p><i>Numerical rating options:</i> 1 – Not related to play or play therapy 2 – Related to play or play therapy but does not show any value 3 – Related to play or play therapy and shows some value (may contribute to some positive change or experience) 4 – Related to play or play therapy and shows some effectiveness (at least as good as other methods OR better than baseline OR new positive qualitative information) 5 – Related to play or play therapy and shows good effectiveness (better than other methods)</p>		
2	<p>The research <u>increases play therapy knowledge or improves/evaluates play therapy techniques</u>. Scale 1 (poor) thru 5 (excellent)</p> <p><i>Numerical rating options:</i> 1 – Provides NO knowledge on play therapy 2 – Provides NO NEW knowledge on play therapy 3 – Provides some new knowledge by replicating a previous study 4 – Provides new knowledge that is somewhat helpful for the field 5 – Provides new knowledge that is very helpful for the field</p>		

<p>3</p>	<p>The research <u>substantially advances the field of play therapy.</u> Scale 1 (low impact) to 5 (high impact) <i>Numerical rating options:</i> 1 – Did not conduct play therapy research 2 – Conducted play therapy research but did not use a control group 3 – Conducted play therapy research and shows play therapy is more effective than a control group or as effective as a comparison group (quantitative) OR showed play therapy sustained behavior /mental health over time (single case study design) OR adds substantial positive information (qualitative) 4 – Conducted quasi-experimental play therapy research and shows play therapy is more effective than a control group AND a comparison group but was not randomized; OR improved behavior/mental health over time (single case study design) 5 – Conducted experimental randomized play therapy research and shows play therapy is more effective than a control group AND a comparison group</p>		
<p>4</p>	<p>The research was <u>designed and conducted by rigorous standards, and appropriately analyzed.</u> Scale 1 (poor) thru 5 (excellent) <i>Numerical rating options:</i> 1 – Did not conduct the appropriate analysis for the study 2 – Conducted the appropriate analysis but had errors 3 – Conducted the appropriate analysis and had very minor errors 4 – Conducted the appropriate analysis and had no errors 5 – Conducted the appropriate analysis by rigorous standards with no errors</p>		
<p>5</p>	<p>The manuscript was designed and produced in accordance with <u>APA Publication Manual.</u> Scale 1 (poor) thru 5 (excellent) <i>Numerical rating options:</i> 1 – Numerous errors in format (margins, headings), text (editing, grammar), citations, and references 2 – Some errors in format, text, citations, and references. 3 – Some errors in text, citations or references. 4 – Only a few errors in text, citations, or references. 5 – No errors.</p>		

6	The applicant is an <u>APT member</u> in good standing.	Yes 1, No 0	
7	<p>The research is <u>evidence-based research</u>, the implementation of play therapy treatments that include the use of replicable procedures (e.g., codified in manuals), reliance upon well-controlled research methodologies, replication of the treatment effects, and a body of evidence-based literature when such a literature exists.</p> <p>Yes 5, No 0</p> <p><i>Numerical rating options:</i></p> <p>1 – Did not conduct play therapy research</p> <p>2 – Conducted play therapy research but did not use a control group OR replicable procedures</p> <p>3 – Conducted play therapy research and did use a control group AND replicable procedures</p> <p>4 – Conducted play therapy research and used a control group, replicable procedures, and a body of evidence-based literature but was in a clinical setting</p> <p>5 – Conducted play therapy research and used a control group, replicable procedures, a body of evidence-based literature, and was in a “real world” setting (e.g. school, community agency, etc).</p>		
<p>Total Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 14 points required for consideration of award nomination 			

Notes: If two or more Nominees earn the same number of total points, APT will subjectively assign “impact points” to break tie.