Wellness, Community, and Aging (WCA) Focus Group
“Rehearsing the Possible: Practicing Reparative Creativity”

The wellbeing of our communities is held in the balance now more than ever. ATHE’s Wellness, Community and Aging Focus Group brings together scholars and practitioners from a range of communities around the world working within a wide variety of contexts. This year we invite submissions from those who have not presented at ATHE before to debut panel, which will investigate specific sites of rejuvenation, healing, growth, and health. We welcome individual papers which reflect on modes of practice, ethics of wellness and wellbeing, case studies, and critiques of the relationships between commodified arts, wellness practices, and institutional responsibility - particularly as they relate to issues of inequality and inequity. The Wellness, Community, and Aging Focus Group welcomes proposals from graduate students, early career researchers, and interdisciplinary scholar practitioners that investigate and harness the possibilities of creative practice across all ages, stages, communities, and abilities.

Provocations to consider...

- How is our research and practice harnessing the healing power of theatre to imagine and live a better future?
- How are we engaging restorative relationships across generational lines?
- How are we addressing the trauma of white supremacy for our communities?
- What interventions are effectively facilitating reparative creativity?
- What changes need to be made to existing rehearsal and technical rehearsal practices to facilitate a more restorative and supportive environment?
- How are we navigating or embracing the thin line between therapy and healing-centered practices in reparative creativity?
- How can theatre be used as a tool for promoting practitioner and performer wellness?
- How do graduate students working in the field of theatre support their own wellbeing while managing the stress of the research process?

SUBMISSION DETAILS

The debut panel will only accept submissions from those who have not previously presented at ATHE.

Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words and submitted to WCA Focus Group Graduate Student Representative Georgia Bowers (georgia.bowers@port.ac.uk). The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2022.

For those who are accepted the ATHE conference fee will be waived and you will also be offered a mentoring session with a senior scholar at ATHE 2022.