Call for Proposals: 2022 Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference  
Detroit, Michigan, USA, July 28-31, 2022

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 invites individual papers, panels, curated roundtable discussions, performances, and workshops investigating specific sites of rejuvenation, healing, growth, and health.

We bring together scholars and practitioners from a range of communities around the world working within a wide variety of contexts. We welcome reflections 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 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 into 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.

PANEL PROPOSAL SOCIAL
Join the WCA Focus Group to network, connect, and develop a panel at the intersection of theatre, community practice, and health.

- Thursday, Nov 11 at 9am PT / 12pm ET / 5pm GMT

Zoom Link:
https://port-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/85642610599?pwd=ZkwydkdhT25XaEdScTh2QXVWQnhIQT09
Meeting ID: 856 4261 0599
Passcode: u2hZN4A4
Individual paper proposals are due Nov. 1, 2021 11:59pm ET; these will be assigned to panels on common themes, when possible, and then submitted through the main ATHE panel proposal review process. Please submit abstracts of no more than 250 words to Conference Planner Erika Hughes (erika.hughes@port.ac.uk) and Focus Group Representative Andrew Gaines (andrew.gaines@ghc.edu)

Fully-formed panels can be submitted through December 3, 2021 11:59pm ET via ATHE. Check here for details as they become available: https://www.athe.org/page/22_conf_deadline

The debut panel deadline will be March 1, 2022. Individuals who have not yet presented at ATHE are invited to submit abstracts for individual papers to georgia.bowers@port.ac.uk

Questions?? Please contact Conference Planner Erika Hughes (erika.hughes@port.ac.uk) and Focus Group Representative Andrew Gaines (andrew.gaines@ghc.edu). Graduate students looking to get involved can contact Graduate Student Representative Georgia Bowers (georgia.bowers@port.ac.uk).