### **PSYCHOANALYTIC SEMINAR**



The Art and Process of Interpretation: The Power of "Mere" Words

With Alan P. Spivak, Ph.D.

Training and Supervising Analyst, LAISPS

Three Saturdays Febuary 3, 10, 17, 2024 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM LAISPS Classroom 12011 San Vicente Blvd., Suite 520 Los Angeles, CA 90049

Interpretation is both a listening attitude and a tool whose aim is to dismantle pathological mental structures, foster the growth of a more flexible and integrated mind, and enhance a sense of personal agency. Its skillful use empowers a psychodynamically oriented therapist, uniquely, to offer a patient far more than the removal of symptoms. The healing impact enables split-off areas of mind to come together by, first, having come together in the mind of another. The net effect, when all goes optimally, is a lasting impact on personality development.

Principles and guidelines, illustrated with clinical vignettes, will be presented for formulating interpretations of the dynamic unconscious that convey empathy, understanding, and recognition. Criteria for deciding what, how, or if to interpret at a given moment are addressed. Also emphasized is the follow-up process, as the patient struggles with the multiple effects interpretation may have on him or her, including enhanced aliveness, hopefulness, sadness, or resistance to the frightening aspects of self-knowledge and growth.

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# **Instructor Information**

Dr. Spivak is a member of the faculty of LAISPS and the Wright Institute of Los Angeles.

Dr. Spivak has twice been the recipient of the Sanville Award for Creative Writing in Psychoanalysis. He has presented papers and lectures nationally and internationally with special emphasis on the process of clinical formulation and interpretation.

# Course Objectives and Main Points:

- 1. View the criterion of change as improved psychic integration, not simply insight.
- 2. Appreciate that interpretation is a process and an attitude, not a one-time act.
- 3. Interpret at an appropriate level, thereby transforming an archaic communication from the patient into a more advanced one.
- 4. Recognize that naming inchoate feelings is a first step, not an end in itself, in an interpretive-developmental process.
- 5. Describe how being understood interpretively is simultaneously an intrapsychic and a relational experience.
- 6. Utilize resistance and transference analysis more effectively.



### **Target Audience**

This program meets the needs of all mental health professionals, including Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists.

#### **CE Credit Information:**

Important Disclosure: All planners, faculty, staff and others involved with this activity have reported no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

This activity has not received commercial support.

#### **Accreditation Statements:**

Psychologists: LAISPS is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. LAISPS maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Board of Behavioral Sciences: The California Board of Behavioral Sciences accepts courses approved by the APA for Continuing Education for LCSW, LMFT, LPCC and LEP licenses.

To Earn Credit: Participants must complete an online evaluation within two weeks of completing each session of this CE activity in order to receive credit.

Psychiatrists: CME credit will not be offered for this program

#### **Attention Psychologists:**

Psychologists can earn a maximum of 9 CE credits for this program. Partial credit may not be awarded, based on APA guidelines

#### Refunds/Cancellations:

Refunds, less a \$10 administrative fee, will be made if cancellation notification is phoned or postmarked three (3) business days in advance of this program. There will be no refunds on requests received after the refund deadline. Full refunds are made in the event that LAISPS must cancel this program.

#### **Returned Checks:**

A \$35.00 service charge will be assessed for checks returned by the bank.

### Confidentiality:

By registering for this educational event, attendees agree to strictly maintain confidentiality of any clinical material shared and will not distribute or convey such confidential material outside of the conference.

\* To maximize the learning experience class size will be limited. To insure a place and to receive readings in advance by email early enrollment is advised. Enrollment closes Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

No door enrollments will be accepted.

### ALAN SPIVAK PHD

The Art and Process of Interpretation: The Power of "mere" Words Three Saturday Afternoons February 3, 10, 17, 2024: 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM 9 CE Credits



# To pay by credit/online

Zelle Address: martha@laisps.org https://www.laisps.org/news-andevents/scientific-programs

### Admission

Licensed Professional \$225 Pre Licensed/Student \$150

## Location

LAISPS Classroom 12011 San Vicente Blvd., Suite 520 Los Angeles, CA 90049

# To Pay By Check

Make Checks Payable to LAISPS and Mail to: 12011 San Vicente Blvd., Suite 520 Los Angeles, CA 90049

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