



AMERICAN GROUP
PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION
GROUP FOUNDATION
FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH
INTERNATIONAL BOARD FOR
CERTIFICATION OF GROUP
PSYCHOTHERAPISTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION TO AWARD DISTINGUISHED FELLOWSHIPS TO RONNIE LEVINE, PHD, ABPP, CGP, AGPA-DF, AND D. THOMAS STONE JR., PHD, CGP, AGPA-DF

NEW YORK, February 20, 2025— The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) announced that **Ronnie Levine, PhD, ABPP, CGP, AGPA-DF, and D. Thomas Stone Jr., PhD, CGP, AGPA-DF**, will be awarded Distinguished Fellowship in the Association at its upcoming AGPA Connect 2025 in San Francisco, March 3 – March 8 at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco. The award presentation will take place during the Tri-Organizational Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, 6:00 PM. Distinguished Fellowship is the highest honor bestowed by the Association, recognizing outstanding leadership and contributions to the field of group psychotherapy.

Dr. Levine is being recognized for her outstanding contributions to group psychotherapy, her commitment to advancing the field, and her exemplary professionalism, compassion, and humor in group settings. A highly respected educator, she has taught for over 30 years at the Center for the Advancement of Group Studies and served on the faculty of the Eastern Group Psychotherapy Society and New York University School of Medicine. As a dedicated member of AGPA, Dr. Levine has contributed significantly through her work with Affiliate Societies and her role on the editorial board of the *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy*. Known for amplifying diverse voices and her exceptional communication style, her AGPA institutes remain among the most sought-after.

Dr. Stone is being recognized for his more than 30 years of dedicated leadership and service to AGPA and the broader field of group psychotherapy. His contributions include significant work with disadvantaged populations, immigrant and refugee groups, and his commitment to antiracism. In addition, he has conducted a wide array of group training and educational programs in diverse settings. During challenging times, Dr. Stone's composed, firm, and compassionate presence has been invaluable. Colleagues praise his energy, intelligence, humility, and friendly demeanor, as well as his enduring dedication to group psychotherapy.

"Distinguished Fellowship recognizes those who are seminal leaders, teachers, clinicians, researchers and authors in the global community of group psychotherapy," said President Lorraine Wodiska, PhD, ABPP, CGP, AGPA-F. "Drs. Levine and Stone, with their local, national and internationally renowned leadership in AGPA and the group psychotherapy field, epitomize this recognition."

This award presentation is a highlight of **AGPA Connect 2025**. The meeting, with this year's theme "*Being Seen: The Many Faces of Group*" attracts 1,000 group therapists, researchers, and scientists from around the world. Group therapists of all disciplines will gather to learn the most effective techniques in working with a variety of populations in groups, an increasingly utilized modality due to its effectiveness and cost-effectiveness. For more information, contact AGPA at (212) 297-2190 or visit www.agpa.org.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Media are invited to attend select sessions of AGPA Connect 2025. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call (212) 297-2190.

About AGPA

The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) is the foremost professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy, operating through a multi-organizational structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, a philanthropic arm; the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body; and the Affiliate Societies Assembly representing 21 local and regional affiliate societies providing continuing education, consultation, and support for group therapists across the country. AGPA represents over 2,000 mental health professional members, including clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, and psychiatrists, as well as mental health, family, school, and pastoral counselors, many of whom have been recognized as specialists through the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists. AGPA members are experienced licensed mental health professionals who lead psychotherapy groups and/or various non-clinical groups. Many members are organizational specialists who work within the corporate world, non-for-profit organizations, and other groups to help them improve their functioning and delivery of services.

AGPA is committed to supporting the dignity and psychological safety of every individual without discrimination regarding race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, age, or disability. Central to our mission is a belief in the power of groups to treat mental illness, heal the scars from traumatic events, and enhance the well-being of adults and children in their families, schools, corporate settings, and communities.

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