

PSYCHOANALYTIC CENTER OF PHILADELPHIA  
KRAMER MAHLER FORUM

# The Moving Picture: How Children's Art Illustrates Change During Treatment

Robin Holloway, PhD, CPsych

Saturday, January 25th 2025 – 9:30 - 11:30 AM EST

Virtual via Zoom

2 CE/CMEs Available

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## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

**Robin Holloway, PhD, CPsych**, will use children's artwork from psychotherapy to explore how drawings provide insights into a child's mind, helping to understand fears, relationships, and emotional growth. It is often remarked in psychoanalytic circles that children's play is the analogue of free association in the adult. In this presentation Dr. Holloway will give shape and texture to this assertion. As Melanie Klein once wrote: "The child expresses its phantasies, its wishes and its actual experiences in a symbolic way through play and games. In doing so, it makes use of the same archaic and phylogenetic mode of expression, the same language, as it were, that we are familiar with in dreams." (Klein, *The Psychological Foundations of Child Analysis*) All skill levels and familiarity with child work will be able to connect with the immediacy of the images, which elegantly capture psychic change over time. Pictures will be used from several treatments to highlight both the commonalities as well as the particularities to each treatment. Topics to be discussed include: (1) how child art offers a visual snapshot of a child's mind, (2) how children work through fears and fantasies in drawings, (3) the use of drawing to represent important relationships and object relations, (4) drawing as a way to gain mastery over difficult affects and spheres of life.



A background image featuring a watercolor palette with various colored paints (blue, green, yellow, orange, red, black) and several paint containers (red, blue, white) scattered around. The palette is in the foreground, and the paint containers are in the background. The overall scene is artistic and colorful.

## ABOUT ROBIN HOLLOWAY, PHD, CPSYCH

**Robin Holloway, PhD, CPsych**, is a licensed psychologist who has worked with infants, children, teens, parents and families for over 25 years, including 20 years in the Child and Family Services department of a large hospital. Prior to his training in child psychotherapy, Dr. Holloway taught for a number of years. He is qualified as a teacher in Ontario at both the high school and elementary school levels. Dr. Holloway received his first Ph.D. in educational theory from the University of Toronto (1978) and his second Ph.D. in clinical and developmental psychology from York University (1986). He is a member of the Canadian Society of Clinical Hypnosis. In addition, Dr. Holloway is a graduate of the Toronto Child Psychoanalytic Program, and is now a teacher and supervisor in that program. He is the author of On Emerging from Autism and into the Terror of Relationships, published in the Journal of Child Psychotherapy, and Asperger's Children: Psychodynamics, Aetiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment, published by Karnac Books in 2016.



**EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:** At the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Demonstrate how child art facilitates and demonstrates treatment change over time.
2. Examine how art is a useful arena to help children work through difficult affects.
3. Describe how drawings represent object relations and relationships.

**CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION/CONTINUING EDUCATION Continuing Medical Education (CME):**

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of American Psychoanalytic Association and the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. The American Psychoanalytic Association is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

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In accordance with the requirements of the Commonwealth of PA dated 12/23/06 [PA Code: Title 49, Ch. 47-49], The State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors recognizes the American Psychological Association (APA) as a preapproved provider of continuing education programs for social workers and clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists, and professional counselors in the State of Pennsylvania. The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education programs.

For more information, please contact the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia:

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