

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

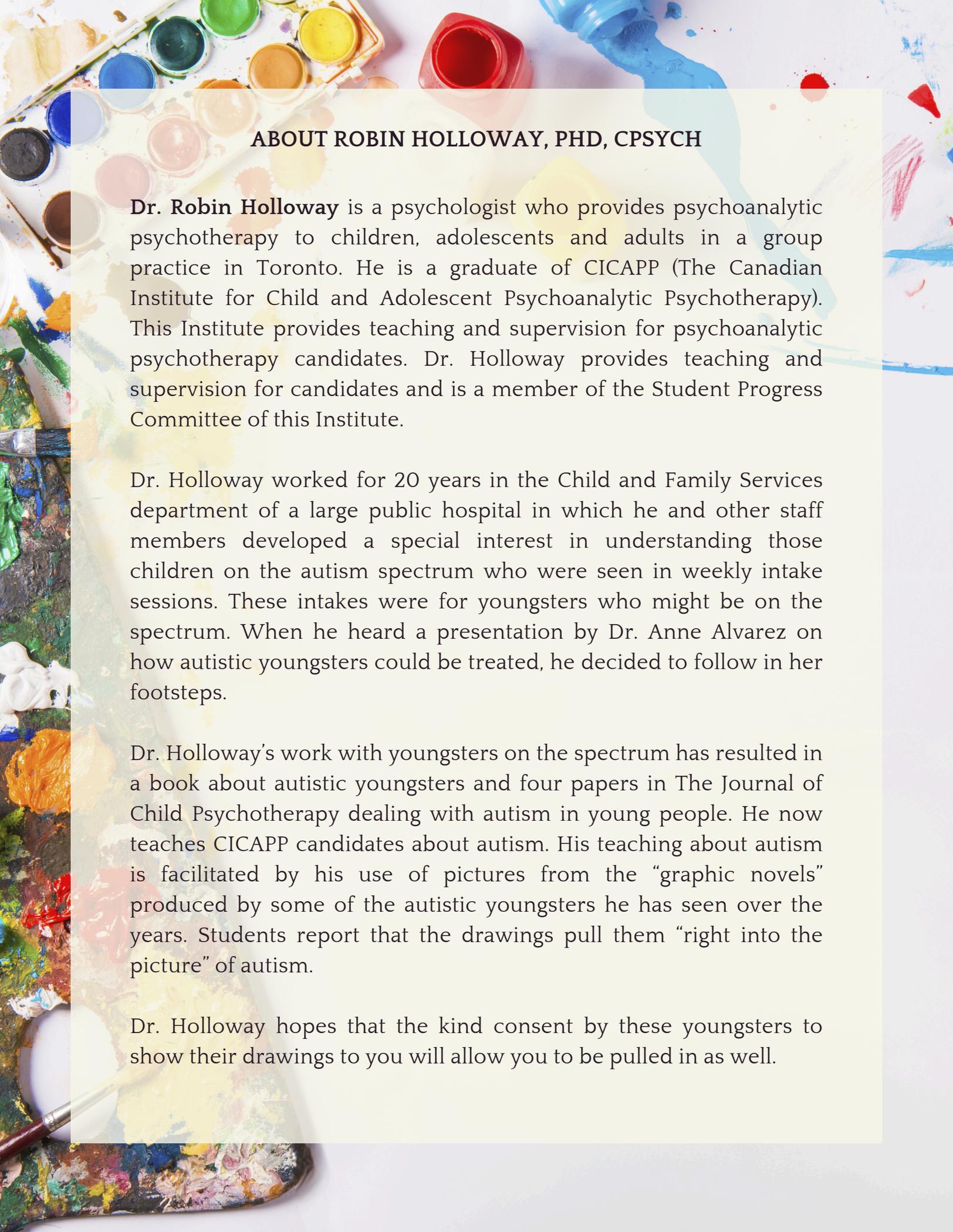
Virtual via Zoom

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 watercolor palette with various colored paints (blue, green, yellow, orange, red, black) and paint splatters on a white background. The palette is in the top left corner, and there are several paint splatters scattered across the page, including a large blue one in the top right and a red one in the middle right.

ABOUT ROBIN HOLLOWAY, PHD, CPSYCH

Dr. Robin Holloway is a psychologist who provides psychoanalytic psychotherapy to children, adolescents and adults in a group practice in Toronto. He is a graduate of CICAPP (The Canadian Institute for Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy). This Institute provides teaching and supervision for psychoanalytic psychotherapy candidates. Dr. Holloway provides teaching and supervision for candidates and is a member of the Student Progress Committee of this Institute.

Dr. Holloway worked for 20 years in the Child and Family Services department of a large public hospital in which he and other staff members developed a special interest in understanding those children on the autism spectrum who were seen in weekly intake sessions. These intakes were for youngsters who might be on the spectrum. When he heard a presentation by Dr. Anne Alvarez on how autistic youngsters could be treated, he decided to follow in her footsteps.

Dr. Holloway's work with youngsters on the spectrum has resulted in a book about autistic youngsters and four papers in *The Journal of Child Psychotherapy* dealing with autism in young people. He now teaches CICAPP candidates about autism. His teaching about autism is facilitated by his use of pictures from the "graphic novels" produced by some of the autistic youngsters he has seen over the years. Students report that the drawings pull them "right into the picture" of autism.

Dr. Holloway hopes that the kind consent by these youngsters to show their drawings to you will allow you to be pulled in as well.

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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The APsA CE Committee has reviewed the materials for accredited continuing education and has determined that this activity is not related to the product line of ineligible companies and therefore, the activity meets the exception outlined in Standard 3: ACCME's identification, mitigation and disclosure of relevant financial relationship. This activity does not have any known commercial support.



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The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Every session of this program offers CE credit for psychologists.

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

Rockland – East Fairmount Park
3810 Mt. Pleasant Drive Philadelphia, PA 19121
215-235-2345
pcop@philanalysis.org

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