2018 Collaborative Creativity

OCTOBER 25-28
The Westin Seattle
Seattle, Washington

19th Annual Networking and Educational Forum

International Academy of Collaborative Professionals
collaborativepractice.com
#CPCreativity
**2018 FORUM AT A GLANCE**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25**
8:00AM–9:00AM
Registration for Thursday Pre-Forum Institutes Only

9:00AM–3:00PM
*Pre-Forum Institutes:*
#1. Communicating the Passion: Powerful Elevator Messages & Informed Process Choice Conversations
Presenter: Pauline H. Tesler, M.A., J.D., CFLS

#2. Deepening without Drowning: Accessing Hope, Understanding Threats and Breathing Fresh Air
Presenter: Jacinta Gallant, B.A., J.D.

#3. Values & Identity & Our Proficiency in Dispute Resolution
Presenter: Nancy Cameron, Q.C., LLB

#4. When Collaborative Practice Collides with the Hardball Negotiator
Presenter: J. Mark Weiss, J.D., CDFA

10:00AM–5:00PM
Forum Registration Open

5:00PM–6:30PM
Leadership Links Reception
(by invitation only)

7:00PM
Dine-Around Seattle
(meet in lobby at 6:35pm)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26**
8:00AM–9:00AM
Registration for Friday Pre-Forum Institutes Only

9:00AM–3:00PM
*Pre-Forum Institutes:*
#5. When the Family Meets the Law: Team Approach to Family-Centered Parenting Plans
Presenters: Karen Bonnell, ARNP, M.S., Elise Buie, J.D.

#6. Blending Worlds: Complexities of Multiculturalism and the Collaborative Divorce Model
Presenter: Theopia Jackson, Ph.D.

#7. Creating and Maintaining a Successful Practice Group: Leadership Skills for Practice Group Leaders
Presenters: Lori Gephart, Francesca King, Zanita Zacks-Gabriel and Ross Evans

#8. Honey We Shrunk the Case: Collaborative Success in Two Meetings – the Critical First 20 Hours
Presenters: Dr. Tina Sinclair, Marguerite Picard and Tricia Peter

10:00AM–5:00PM
Forum Registration Open

3:00PM
Bookstore and Exhibits Open

3:30PM–5:00PM
Special Gatherings

5:30PM–6:30PM
Networking Hors D’oeuvres Reception

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27**

7:00AM–8:00AM
Yoga

8:00AM–9:00AM
Coffee for Forum Registrants

8:00AM–5:00PM
Forum Registration, Bookstore and Exhibits Open

9:00AM–10:30AM
Workshops 1–14

10:30AM–11:00AM
Refreshment Break

11:00AM–12:30PM
Stu Webb Lecture:
Modern Families: Courageous Conversations about Culture, Diversity, and Divorce
Speakers: Theopia Jackson, Ph.D. and Anne Lucas, M.A., LMHC

12:30PM–1:45PM
Lunch: Pre-purchased ticketed event

2:00PM–5:00PM
Workshops 15-27

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28**

8:00AM–8:45AM
Breakfast and Coffee for all Forum Registrants

8:00AM–12:30PM
Bookstore and Exhibits Open

9:00AM–10:30AM
Workshops 30–43

11:00AM–12:30PM
Closing Plenary:
Communication FLOW: Bringing Authenticity and Presence to Practice
Speakers: Jacinta Gallant, B.A., J.D. and Harmony Wagner, R.Ac

**Saturday Night Event!**
You won’t want to miss an evening of amazing food, dancing, friends and fun at the annual Forum Saturday Night Event! Special surprises for Count Me In participants.

*CEU applications in progress. Visit collaborativepractice.com for more information.*
Re-Thinking Collaborative Practice: What Are You Going To Do In A Visual Era?

If it weren’t for that vexing thing called communication, collaboration would be a whole lot easier, right? Mis(sing) communication plagues the process of working together to find solutions and agreement, especially where there’s intense conflict.

We’ll explore a scenario where the important things people try to communicate to each other are not just spoken and then evaporate into thin air. The key messages and points in the conflict resolution process are visually recorded so parties can see comments in real time, confirm their meaning and reflect on them.

Discover 7 things you can do to evolve the way you work with clients to take advantage of visual communication to:

• Mitigate the effect of stress on communication and boost your parties’ ability to listen, understand, think and remember.
• Facilitate an automatic shift from “my point of view” to a “big picture” perspective.
• Keep parties focused on the most productive parts of their discussion/key elements of solving their problems.
• Avoid misunderstandings and increase the odds that everyone leaves meetings with one “group” memory.

In 2013, after experiencing the complete absence of visual communication in two failed mediations during her own divorce, Lisa set out to bring the benefits of the methods that make her visual facilitation practice so successful to the field of mediation. Lisa is trained by the Justice Institute of BC and certified by Mediate BC and Family Mediation Canada. She has a visual divorce mediation practice in Victoria, BC and is the creator of BIG Beginnings in Visual Mediation – the only online program that teaches visual communication skills nuanced to mediation (www.bigbeginningsinvisualmediation.com). Lisa will inspire you to wake up your creativity, pick up your markers, and proclaim, “For the sake of easier collaboration, iDraw!” (even if you think you can’t).

Modern Families: Courageous Conversations about Culture, Diversity, and Divorce

According to Heine (2010), culture refers to “any kind of information that is acquired from members of one’s species through social learning that is capable of affecting an individual’s behaviors.” It also “refer[s] to groups of people who exist within a shared context, where they are exposed to similar institutions, engage in similar practices, and communicate with each other on a regular basis.” It can be postulated that today’s family structures are distinct cultural groups with their own beliefs and practices that inform their resilience and capacity to cope with change. Like the families served, the cultural nature of the professional teams informs the complexities of the divorce discourse. Embedded in this discourse is the conceptualization that implicit bias is arguably an innate human condition, a to-be-expected context that is operating for both the client and the professional. The Collaborative Divorce Model, from an epistemological perspective, is well positioned to aptly struggle with addressing such complexities. Join Dr. Theopia Jackson and Anne Lucas as they discuss multiculturalism and its impact on changing family structures. In order to better serve the diverse communities in which we practice, we must have a clear understanding of the evolving views and values of ‘modern families,’ and be comfortable discussing some of the most feared and fragile topics. From sexual orientation to religion, politics to race, we’ll delve into these delicate (but crucial) conversations to provide alternative and transformative approaches to conflict resolution in diverse contexts. Through the modeling of such courageous conversations, we hope to promote the collective experience of opening our heads and hearts to achieve optimal collaboration.

Theopia Jackson, Ph.D. is a licensed clinical psychologist specializing in child, adolescent, & family therapy, with particular attention to issues of complex trauma, multiculturalism, resilience, and social justice. She is the Chair of the Clinical Psychology Degree Program at Saybrook University, a Psychologist at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, and President-Elect of the Association of Black Psychologists.

Anne Robinson Lucas, M.A., LMHC is a licensed mental health counselor, mediator and Collaborative Divorce Coach specializing in couples, families and partners in conflict and transition. She is the Treasurer of IACP’s Board of Directors.
More Information

**PRE-FORUM INSTITUTES (PFIs),** listed above, are an opportunity to dive deep into advanced material and a specialized aspect of Collaborative Practice. We also have over 40 workshops as part of the Forum. For workshop descriptions and to register go to [collaborativepractice.com](http://collaborativepractice.com).

* CEU applications in progress for select PFIs and Workshops.

**SPECIAL GATHERINGS** are an opportunity to get together and network with other professionals around a specific topic, such as Ethics, Civil Practice, or Training Others. Friday afternoon – join us! Descriptions at [collaborativepractice.com](http://collaborativepractice.com).

**COUNT ME IN:** Members from around the globe step up to support Collaborative Practice by generously making a donation worth one of their billable hours. Make sure you’re counted this year. Donate at [collaborativepractice.com](http://collaborativepractice.com).

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**Communication FLOW: Bringing Authenticity and Presence to Practice**

Internal Martial Arts Instructor Harmony Wagner and Collaborative Lawyer-Mediator Jacinta Gallant combine forces for an experiential Sunday Plenary that will help move you into FLOW – by fostering curiosity and enhancing the presence we bring to our work and our lives.

Drawing from Jacinta’s *Authentic Professional Series,* and Harmony’s Communication FLOW techniques, we will come together using gentle Tai Chi exercises to experience the challenges we face in staying open, authentic and truly present in the midst of conflict. We will analyze our “stance” and how it interplays with others, and will discover ways to hold our stance – with presence and integrity – in challenging situations.

During this plenary, our last gathering at the 2018 IACP Forum, we will move together to weave the threads of collaborative creativity into our professional community, so that we can truly embody authenticity in our work, and achieve more FLOW in our relationships.

Movements will be gentle and people will be given the option to remain seated/just watch.

Harmony Wagner, R. Ac. is a practitioner of Traditional Chinese Medicine and a certified instructor of Internal Martial Arts with the North American Tang Shou Tao Association. She has taught both martial arts and traditional medicine systems around the world. Harmony developed FLOW as a communication workshop that utilizes experiential learning and Tai Chi principles to examine the “stance” we bring into the world and how that impedes or progresses our capacity to dialogue, move our agenda forward and dissolve conflict.

Jacinta Gallant, B.A., J.D., an internationally-recognized conflict trainer, developed the *Authentic Professional Series* to help people bring more integration into their personal and professional lives. As a conflict trainer working with approaches to curiosity and presence, Jacinta was immediately drawn to (and curious about) Harmony’s FLOW concepts.

As luck would have it, Harmony and Jacinta both live on Prince Edward Island, on the east coast of Canada, which has allowed them to become good friends and collaborators, and has led to their many conversations about work, life, authenticity and FLOW that will be the focus of our Sunday Plenary.
Not enough clients choosing Collaborative divorce? Come to this workshop and learn how to bring passionate vision into your informed process choice conversations with every client, every time. Practice describing our work in ways clients usually find irresistible. Learn how to craft elevator messages that won’t be ignored. Spend the morning with Pauline Tesler learning how to answer the implicit question “what’s in it for me?” every time you talk about Collaborative Practice. Only about 5% of incoming clients don’t have what it takes to succeed in Collaborative divorce. If 95% of your new clients aren’t seriously interested in choosing collaboration, this workshop is for you. This workshop is appropriate for all levels, from the most experienced practitioners to newcomers.

Have you ever been stumped, and discouraged, by the continuing and sometimes escalating couple conflict at the Collaborative table – despite the sincere efforts of the professional team? Do you sometimes feel like your “case” is drowning and you are desperate for an oxygen tank? In this workshop, we will learn how asking about the parties’ hopes and diving deeply into their perceived threats can bring fresh air to a Collaborative case. Working with the “Insight Approach” to conflict, we will learn to notice and respond to conflict behaviors rather than what the conflict is about. We will learn how and when to ask questions to unearth the threats that escalate and sustain conflict, without provoking it. Finally, we’ll learn how to apply what is learned to promote an authentic shift from conflict to collaboration, without forcing or faking it.

In an interactive and reflective workshop, we will explore how specific universal values underpin our sense of self. Clashes in underlying values can increase our conflict, both as team members and as professionals working with clients. We will examine how to moderate value-based conflicts and identify where we fall on the self-monitoring continuum, and how to use this information to help us constructively work with our colleagues. Since identity lies at the base of most conflicts, this workshop will give participants an opportunity to examine components of their own core identity, and illustrate how in conflict, personal identity feels threatened, unacknowledged, or under attack. We will use this information to help us increase our effectiveness as Dispute Resolution Practitioners, and to help build healthy teams.

The heart of Collaborative Practice includes transparency, integrity, and principled cooperation to address concerns. While usually successful, on occasion the process disintegrates, negotiations becoming positional, and people resort to “win-lose” and hardball negotiation tactics. What do you do when you find you’re negotiating with someone who is seeking advantage only for themselves or their client? This interactive and experiential workshop is about keeping negotiations on track, so your clients can get better and more satisfying outcomes. We will explore: what the research shows about different negotiation styles; the goals and impact of hardball and positional negotiation tactics; tools to help you identify and intervene with common hardball tactics; and a framework to help you make choices to be more effective in negotiation. This workshop will help all members of the professional team respond more effectively in difficult negotiations.

Developmentally-appropriate residential schedules and skillful co-parenting directly impact the lifelong emotional and physical health of children. The post-decree family system will go through developmental transitions that when anticipated, can support the health of the expanding family. As new adults (and often children) join the family, a creative parenting plan speaks to this changing reality. Because these complexities are often the source of stress and conflict prescribing solutions before disaster strikes adds to the durability of the Collaborative Process. Helping parents find their way requires imagination and skill. Collaborative Law’s ground-breaking methodology for child- and family-centered parenting plans employs a team approach that weaves together what is central to family with a legal contract. Join us for a day of Collaborative coaching “how to’s” that results in parents co-creating research-supported, child-centered parenting plans with future-focused, family-centered considerations.

Modern families present with a range of diversity, from multi-ethnicity, sexual orientation, blood/legal relatedness, religious diversity, and much more. Such multicultural contexts can inform the divorce process, including how families interact with professionals and the professionals (as cultural beings themselves) with families. This workshop is intended to engage attendees in the application of the tenets of multiculturalism (self-awareness, increased knowledge, and skill acquisition) within the collaborative divorce model. In addition to didactic material from a strengths-based and interdisciplinary approach, this interactive workshop will employ demonstrations, videos, vignettes, group experientials, and critical discourse toward the identification of co-created best practices, as well as fostering cultural allies and cultural accountability. Ultimately, the purpose of this workshop is to contribute to the critical discourse of how the collaborative divorce model can be responsive to and inclusive of the unique needs of multicultural families and/or diverse populations served.
#7 CREATE AND MAINTAIN A SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE GROUP: LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR PRACTICE GROUP LEADERS
Presenters: Lori Gephart, Francesca King, Zanita Zacks-Gabriel and Ross Evans

The purpose of this workshop to help provide Practice Group Leaders with the knowledge, skills and resources to assist their successful leadership and facilitation of Practice Group growth. We know that Practice Groups all over the world deal with the same struggles related to successes and failures. They deal with organizational issues, membership issues, leadership issues and the dynamics of providing a service to their membership while at the same time offering the public a resource for Collaborative Practice Professionals. This PFI is limited to current or incoming Practice Group Leaders.

#8 HONEY WE SHRUNK THE CASE: COLLABORATIVE SUCCESS IN TWO MEETINGS - THE CRITICAL FIRST 20 HOURS
Presenters: Dr. Tina Sinclair, Marguerite Picard and Tricia Peters

This PFI presents a systematic process for finalizing Collaborative cases, including complex cases, in an average of two negotiation meetings. Over almost a decade, MELCA has developed a sophisticated 5 step-process based on: engaging both clients from the beginning; integrating an interdisciplinary team from the first moment of client engagement; a comprehensive interdisciplinary intake to assess the supports; personnel and resources needed for success; foundation work of goal-setting; communication coaching, processing end of relationship work and building the financial picture, all occurring before the first negotiation meeting. It involves carefully planned joint meetings and case management. In parallel with the UN 5 steps for disaster response, the MELCA steps start with the critical first 20 hours after the tsunami of a breakup is brought to a Collaborative professional, when we launch into preparation, identifying the team, understanding context, assessing response capacity and planning.

To register and receive more details about the 2018 IACP Forum please visit collaborativepractice.com
MORE THAN 80 of the most seasoned and highly-sought after Collaborative professionals will lead over 40 workshops including EIGHT intensive, full-day Pre-Forum Institutes.

NEW TOPICS! – At the 2018 Forum enjoy NEW speakers and experienced practitioners presenting a variety of topics to bring you a unique and dynamic Forum in the heart of Seattle.

SPECIAL GATHERINGS – Spend your Friday afternoon participating in a Special Gathering, where you will engage in meaningful conversations with fellow attendees around traditional topics with new areas of focus available as well.