

2026 Annual Colloquium

(This is a WBCP Members Only Event)

Please join us for 3 sessions:

Kevin Popp, PsyD and a selection of PSP Students

presents

"Is Psychoanalysis a Science? A Roundtable on Their Relationship"

Sandra Hershberg, MD

presents

"Personal and Psychoanalytic Influences on my Development as a Writer and the Otherness of Aging: Why I Decline to Decline"

Tarpley Long, LCSW-C

presents

"No One Saved Me From the Monster Under the Bed"

Saturday, February 28, 2026
9:00 am – 1:00 pm (3.5 CME/CE)

In-Person Only

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville (UUCR)
100 Welsh Park Dr., Rockville, MD 20850**

(3.5 CME/CE)

Presentation Descriptions:

Is Psychoanalysis a Science? A Roundtable on Their Relationship: Freud believed all along that psychoanalysis, like physics and biology, etc., was one of the natural sciences, a view that has been the subject of controversy for as long as psychoanalysis has been around. This presentation brings to the question (of whether psychoanalysis is a science) two overlapping perspectives – the first from psychoanalysis itself (a revised version of the Oedipus Complex) and the second from brain science (how our brain hemispheres bring the world to us in distinct ways) – to offer a model of the psychoanalysis-science relation that has surprising implications for psychoanalytic theory and practice. In the process, we consider the often overlooked, but crucial, role played by the concept of the “category error” in discussions about the relation between psychoanalysis and science, especially as carried out by neuropsychanalysts such as Mark Solms.

Personal and Psychoanalytic Influences on my Development as a Writer and the Otherness of Aging: Why I Decline to Decline: In this paper the writer explores her development as a psychoanalytic writer, why she writes, as she moves into a later developmental phase and tackle the ubiquitous issue of structural agism, particularly heightened for women. She will reference aspects of her personal history and professional development as she links her creativity, a source of vitalization, to the conceptual ideas of Kohut, Winnicott, Daniel Stern, Dianne Elise and illuminated in the work of painter and feminist Joan Semmel. Further, the growth promoting, transformative aspect of writing, (a creative endeavor) counters negative societal and internalized stereotypes of older women as invisible and fortifies the empowerment of aging women as generative, enlivened and vital.

No One Saved Me from the Monster Under the Bed: This paper will discuss the aftermath of the Black Death plague in 1346, the Spanish Flu in 1918 and, more recently, the Covid-19 pandemic and proposes that the extreme societal shifts following each of these catastrophic events were the result of a regression in ego function to more primitive mental states during the active contagion phase.

Presenters:

Kevin Popp, PsyD, Kevin was born and raised in the Pacific Northwest and has been in the DC area since 1994. A clinical psychologist since 1997, he trained at the old Washington School of Psychiatry before doing analytic training at the WBCP. His interests vary widely, including a panel discussion at the Krishnamurti Center in Ojai, California in 2024.

Sandra Hershberg, MD, Dr. Sandra Hershberg is a Training and Supervising Analyst at the Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis. She is an Associate Clinical Professor at Georgetown University Medical Center. Dr. Hershberg is an Associate Editor of *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* and serves as Culture Editor of *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*. Dr. Hershberg has published and presented papers on subjects including biography and psychoanalysis, art, pregnancy and creativity, therapeutic action, ethics, the mother/daughter relationship, and edited a recent volume of *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* entitled HOME. She is currently working on a book about women aging, a later developmental stage.

Tarpley Long, LCSW-C, received her MSW from Catholic University in 1977 and graduated from the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute in 1995. She was certified by the American Psychoanalytic Association in Adult Psychoanalysis in 1996 and maintained a practice of psychotherapy and psychoanalysis until 2015, when she retired from full time practice to spend extended periods of time living in other cultures. She continues to teach and supervise in the PSP program. As well, she has served as Editor of Psychbytes and on the Recruitment and Membership committees. She has presented 50 conference papers, published 10 articles in journals and has had numerous Letters to the Editor published in the Washington Post and The New Yorker magazine. She is also a 2005 graduate of Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory, Washington, DC, and continues to be involved in the theater community.

Objectives:

Describe what the lessons from a revised Oedipus Complex, in combination with the study of our brain hemispheres, tell us about science and psychoanalysis as distinct ways of knowing.

From a study of the Oedipus Complex and Iain McGilchrist's work on brain hemispheres, participants will be able to explain the implications for psychoanalytic theory and practice.

Explain what category error is.

Explain how the experience of writing provides a vitalizing selfobject experience.

Describe how Daniel Stern's concepts of affect attunement and the dynamic experience of vitality is related to the experience of writing.

Describe 2 ways in which aging is a women's issue.

Name at least three of the societal changes that occurred after each pandemic.

List four differences in ego functioning in Bion's work groups vs. basic assumption groups.

References:

Elise, D. (2025) The sounds of silence: Embodied register, erotic reverie. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* 73(5), 537-567.

Elise, D. (2025) The eroticism of everyday living: Women and aging, *Psychoanalytic Inquiry (online)* 1-10.

Levy, B. (2023) *Breaking the Code*, William Morrow Paperbacks.

Altman, N. (2016) Wilfred Bion: from World War I to Contemporary Psychoanalysis. *International Journal Applied Psychoanalytic Studies*, 13 (2):163-178.

Malberg, N. (2023), The Monster Outside the Door: a Developmental Psychoanalytic Exploration of the Impact of Covid-19 on the Lives of Children and Adolescents. *Psychoanalytic Psychology* (40):172-181.

McGilchrist, I. (2019), *Ways of Attending: How Our Divided Brain Constructs the World*. Routledge, New York.

Registration Link: https://wbcg.memberclicks.net/reg_colloquium_2026

Registration Deadline: TUESDAY February 24, 2026, at 4:30 pm ET

Registration Fees:

WBCP members

\$100 (3.5 CME/CE)

WBCP Students and
Candidates

No fee (3.5 CME/CE)

ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Sarah Hedlund, PhD, Program Coordinator

Continuing Education Units are not issued for partial attendance.

CVs Available Upon Request

There is no known commercial support for this program.

Like Us on Facebook!  facebook.com/washbaltocenterforpsychoanalysis

Continuing Education Information

Continuing Medical Education – 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 Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis. The American Psychoanalytic Association is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The American Psychoanalytic Association designates this live activity for a maximum of 3.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT: 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.

Continuing Education – Social Workers – The programs of The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. meet the criteria for continuing education as defined by the District of Columbia and Virginia Boards of Social Work, and the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work. The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. designates this program as a continuing education activity for social work for 1 credit hour per hour for this activity.

The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. is authorized by the Board of Social Work Examiners in Maryland to sponsor social work continuing education programs and maintains full responsibility for this program. This training qualifies for Category 1 continuing education units.

Continuing Education – Psychologists – The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Continuing Education – Licensed Professional Counselors – The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. continuing education credits meet the criteria and may be submitted for re-licensure of LPCs in Maryland, DC, and Virginia. This program/activity has been approved by the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists to satisfy Category A continuing education requirements.