

Deputy Editor
Aline LaPierre

Collaboration and Functional Unity



It is with great pleasure that I join the new *IBPJ* team as Deputy Editor and as representative of the American branch of the somatic psychology and body psychotherapy family.

Some years ago, when the *Journal's* founder Jacqueline Carleton was editor, I contributed a number of articles. It was my small way of serving the field of somatic psychology that has been my professional home for many decades. Now, I am delighted to accept the invitation to join the *IBPJ* editorial team to work with Madlen Algafari and Antigone Oreopoulou toward growing the *Journal* into a venue that brings together body psychotherapists from around the world. My USABP colleagues Chris Walling and Karen Roller join me as Associate Deputy Editors.

Although Los Angeles is now my home, my roots are well established on both sides of the Atlantic. Originally French Canadian, I spent my teen years in England, and studied art in France, where I lived for several years. Until I began working with Madlen and Antigone, I did not realize how I had missed being part of an international community. This realization has enlivened my commitment to our team, and energizes my motivation and inspiration for growing the journal.

This is a propitious time for our profession. As neuroscience consistently confirms the vision of our pioneering founders, it is particularly gratifying to see that there is more receptivity than ever for our somatic knowledge, and hopeful to witness the maturing process within our profession.

The body is a model of collaborative evolution in which its many systems, and every cell within these systems, are devoted to the good of the whole. Wherever collaboration breaks down, disease sets in. Taking our inspiration from the functional unity of the very organism we honor and serve, our editorial team hopes to collaboratively grow a professional journal that fully expresses the wisdom of body psychotherapy, builds strong community, and is increasingly ready to reach out to take its rightful place on the psychological world stage.

I hope you will all be part of the adventure with us.

Aline LaPierre

Dr. Aline LaPierre is the co-author of *Healing Developmental Trauma: How Trauma Affects Self-Regulation, Self-Image, and the Capacity for Relationship*, a best-selling book in developmental psychology now available in twelve languages. She is the creator of *NeuroAffective Touch*[®] and director of *The NeuroAffective Touch Institute*, Los Angeles, California. Dr. LaPierre is past faculty in the somatic doctoral program at *Santa Barbara Graduate Institute* (2000-2010). In the field of somatics, she has studied *Reichian Therapies*, *Bodydynamics Analysis*, *Somatic Experiencing*, *Postural Integration*, *Cranio-Sacral Therapy*, *Continuum*, *Body-Mind Centering*, and *EMDR*. In the field of psychotherapy, she is a graduate of *Pacifica Graduate Institute*, Santa Barbara, which intimately connected her with *Jungian and Archetypal* psychologies, and *The New Center for Psychoanalysis* in Los Angeles. She was a member of the *Allan Schore Affective Neuroscience study group* for several years. She maintains a private practice in Los Angeles, California.

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