



EMERGENT LEADERSHIP

SUPPORTING RELATIONAL LEADERSHIP
A GRADUATE PROGRAM FOR RELATIONAL
PSYCHOTHERAPISTS & OTHER PRACTITIONERS

FEBRUARY – NOVEMBER 2020 (30 HOURS)

LEADERSHIP IS EVERYWHERE,
IN UNEXPECTED PEOPLE AND PLACES.
IT IS OFTEN HIDDEN.
OUR INTEREST IS TO REVEAL,
SUPPORT AND CELEBRATE IT.

OVERVIEW

A key objective of the Emergent Leadership program is to encourage ways of thinking about leadership that subvert the hierarchical forms so dominant in our culture. This 'relational' approach to leadership challenges our assumptions about power, recognizing that leadership capacity is less about the individual (an egoic model) and more a function of the dynamic interaction of broader contextual factors. This perspective supports a leadership model that is emergent, responsive and shared, and which seeks to support and foster and develop the leadership capacities of the whole community.

Leadership is not merely a set of skills or characteristics 'owned' by an individual and then applied in a variety of settings. We want to explore the leadership that comes from responsiveness to a given situation. Emergent leadership becomes the responsibility of us all. It is not the action (or entitlement) of the few. Therefore, any discussion about emergent leadership will always be about a community.

Gestalt has a long history of training that emerges in a group setting, where participants engage robustly and rigorously around matters intellectual, emotional and practical. Such emergent groups have always reflected the best of gestalt, and when well held create a fertile ground for the kind of learning and growth that supports the development of communities that are characterised by the type of distributed leadership we want to explore.

Our program will be a dynamic learning process designed to uncover your leadership capacity and to connect you into rich networks of support. The program has been designed for relationally oriented psychotherapists and practitioners to explore their existing leadership. We will not merely focus on established and recognised leadership roles. It will offer you awareness as to how you take up leadership (and perhaps how you don't) in the many contexts of your life.

This program is an opportunity to step into the next phase of your career and to develop your leadership capacities within the communities you are already a part, or to seek new communities that align with your values and passion.

Participants will meet across the year (30 hours). The program will focus on these elements:

(1) Theory: We will use relational gestalt theory as the ground for our group's life and conversations. We will also share relevant resources to further our understanding of leadership.

(2) Group Process: In the group process, you will grapple with your current experience of leadership and followship. You will explore your relationship to power and authority - yours and others.

(3) Action: It is a clear intention of this program that it supports action. This action might be a group project(s) or be empowerment to return to your existing communities to promote change.

(4) Community Experience You are invited to attend the GTA student residential program. In 2020 Sally Denham Vaughn will be presenting on the crucial gestalt notion of Contact. Your attendance is an opportunity to join the community and explore your leadership in this context. Your presence will shape this event and will be a gift to the broader group.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Saturday February 8th, 2020

Session 1: Gestalt Theory / Anarchist Beginnings & The Relational Turn
Introduction to Relational Leadership

Saturday March 21st, 2020

Session 2: Field Theory
Experimentation and Contextualizing

Friday May 22nd – Sunday May 24th, 2020

Optional student residential with Sally Denham-Vaughan
Yarra Valley

Saturday July 18th, 2020

Session 3: Dialogue
Responding to and Interrelating with Others

Saturday September 5th, 2020

Session 4: The Phenomenological Method
Awareness and Embodiment

Friday November 6th – Sunday November 8th, 2020

Final Residential Weekend: Integration

FACILITATORS

Dr Leanne O'Shea / DPsych, BTheol., MSc, FellowMGANZ

Leanne is the Director of Training and a psychotherapist and supervisor in private practice in Melbourne. She studied the Gestalt approach in Melbourne and London, and more recently the relational approach to Gestalt Therapy at the Pacific Gestalt Institute (USA). She is a faculty member of the Relational Center, a Los Angeles based organization whose mission is to promote greater diversity within the helping professions, as well as an International Faculty Associate with Pacific Gestalt Institute.

Leanne is interested in creating greater awareness of and sensitivity to our relational responsibility and is particularly passionate about is the place of sexuality and the erotic within the therapeutic relationship. She is well published and is an inaugural co-editor of the new Gestalt Journal of Australia and New Zealand. Leanne has served as a member of the GANZ Council, including the Presidency and chairing the GANZ Ethics Committee.

Tony Jackson / BTheol, BA (Psych), GradDipCouns, AdvDipGestaltTherapy,

Tony is the Managing Director of Gestalt Therapy Australia and a psychotherapist in private practice. He works with individuals, couples, groups and offers supervision. As a trainer of undergraduate counsellors and gestalt psychotherapists for over ten years, Tony has spent most of this part of his career focused on creating learning environments that support the early stages of the journey to become a therapist. He has a passion for gestalt theory, and its ongoing development, as source of inspiration for responsive, ethical, heartfelt and holistic psychotherapy.

As a psychotherapist Tony works with individuals who come from diverse backgrounds and needs. He is interested in exploring with them the ways that they understand themselves as always contextual, and how attending to the client's interactions and relational patterns can support them in developing a greater sense of vitality and choice in life.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This program has been designed to support psychotherapists to explore and deepen their leadership capacities as an ongoing support to their: clinical practice; mentoring of peers; supervision of newer practitioners; facilitation of groups; teaching; and taking up of other leadership roles (formal and informal) in their own settings and beyond.

Graduates of Gestalt Therapy Australia's **Advanced Clinical Training in Relational Gestalt Psychotherapy** (or equivalent) are eligible to apply to do this course. Practitioners who are graduates of other programs with a demonstrable commitment to personal and professional development are also be eligible to apply. Please speak with us if you have any questions about this.

Numbers will be limited.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All applicants will need to submit in writing a response to 3 questions and a current CV.

1. Describe the settings that you currently work (including volunteer positions) and your roles.
2. Describe your leadership qualities (strengths and constraints) and the ways that you would like to extend your self in this area.
3. What are your career aspirations? How do you imagine a program like this might support these?

FEES

\$2,100 (+ optional \$750 for the optional residential weekend).