

7th Annual School-Based OT Symposium – VIRTUAL

Adapting, Supporting, Thriving: Elevating Outcomes &

Promoting Excellence in School-Based Practice

Evidence | Meaningful Occupation | Links to Curriculum | Tools to Support Practice

VIRTUAL

Participate from anywhere you have a strong internet connection.

RECORDING WILL BE AVAILABLE BY SEPT. 27, 2025 FOR REGISTRANTS.

DATE AND TIME
September 13, 2025
7:30AM to 4:00PM
Pacific Standard Time

Register Online
<https://otac.site-ym.com/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1968093&group=>

Register by Fax
916/294-0415

QUESTIONS?
Contact OTAC staff:
Email staff@otaconline.org
Call toll-free (888) 686-3225



Cancellation/Refund Policy. \$45 is retained to cover processing costs.

Full policy is on page 5.

Disclaimer: Read the disclaimer on the last page

Saturday, September 13, 2025 – 7:30am to 4:00pm (earn 7 PDUs)

7:30am – 7:35am – Introduction

7:35am – 8:35am – KEYNOTE: Time/Space Synchronicity in the Development of Praxis and Goal-Oriented Behaviors

8:35am – 10:30am – Intervention Strategies for Students with Praxis Challenges

10:45am – 11:45am – Bridging Theory and Practice: Applying Concepts of Praxis in Time and Space in School-Based Interventions

11:45am – 12:15pm – Lunch Break

12:15pm – 1:15pm – Beyond the Label: Demystifying Disability, Adaptive Levels, and Diagnosis

1:15pm – 2:45pm – Understanding Parent Perspectives on Occupational Therapy Services in Schools: Insights, Expectations, and Engagement

2:55pm – 3:55pm – Thinking Outside the Lines: Occupation-Based Interventions and Strategies

3:55pm – 4:00pm – Wrap-Up

REGISTRATION FORM *One form per person. Please type or print clearly. Check appropriate boxes.*

	OT/OTA MEMBERS	OT/OTA NONMEMBERS	STUDENT MEMBERS	STUDENT NONMEMBERS
EARLY BIRD	☐ \$99	☐ \$139	☐ \$69	☐ \$99
REGISTER BY AUGUST 5				
REGULAR	☐ \$129	☐ \$169	☐ \$99	☐ \$129
REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 8				

EDUCATION SPECIAL 1: ARE YOU A NONMEMBER WHO WANTS TO JOIN OTAC AND ATTEND THE SYMPOSIUM?

THIS EDUCATION SPECIAL DISCOUNT INCLUDES THE SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP.

- ☐ OT: SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP - \$259
- ☐ OTA: SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP - \$219
- ☐ STUDENT: SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP - \$109

EDUCATION SPECIAL 2: 3 OR MORE (SAME PHYSICAL WORKPLACE) EARN A 10% DISCOUNT. **CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH SPECIAL 1 DISCOUNT PACKAGE.**

EMAIL SHANNON@OTAONLINE.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

Name _____

Employer or School _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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PAYMENT OPTIONS: CHECK ONE

☐ Check (make payable to OTAC) ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ AMEX

Credit Card Number _____

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SUBMIT PAYMENT: ☐ Fax to: 916/294-0415, or

☐ Mail: OTAC, 3620 American River Dr., Ste. 230, Sacramento, CA 95864, or

REGISTER ONLINE - <https://otac.site-ym.com/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1968093&group=>

Schedule, Topic Descriptions, Learning Objectives, and About Our Presenters

Adapting, Supporting, Thriving: Elevating Outcomes & Promoting Excellence in School-Based Practice

We invite you to:

- Apply *Time and Space Synchronicity in the Development of Praxis and Goal-Oriented Behaviors* concepts to their intervention.
- Expand your knowledge of foundations to support interventions and best practices with all students at all levels of abilities.
- Apply concepts and adapt them to meet students' needs to help them achieve their educational outcomes.

SCHEDULE

7:30am – 7:35am

Introduction/Overview

Jo-Ann Vargas, OTD, OTR/L

This introduction will set the stage for the day.

7:35am – 8:35am

KEYNOTE: Time/Space Synchronicity in the Development of Praxis and Goal-Oriented Behaviors

Erna Imperatore Blanche, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Our perceptions of time and space interrelate in daily life. Developmentally, we learn to organize both over time. Challenges in sensory processing impact our perception of time and our abilities to motor plan, socially interact, organize ourselves, and participate in daily occupations. Hence, organizational skills and a sense of well-being can be affected when the synchrony between space and time is altered by the diminished perception of one or the other. At the end of the presentation, attendees will be able to understand how navigating space and time complexities require organizing sensory information that impacts organized goal-directed behaviors in increasingly more complex spatio-temporal horizons. They will also be able to apply this information to daily treatment strategies.

8:35am – 10:30am

Intervention Strategies for Students with Praxis Challenges

Jean Pacifico-Banta, OTD, OTR/L

School-based occupational therapy practitioners provide intervention to students with diverse sensory motor and learning abilities. This presentation will examine performance challenges presented as praxis problems in the educational setting and will apply the conceptional Model of Praxis and organization of behavior in school-based occupational practice. A range of evidence-based intervention strategies will be considered to support individualized education program (IEP) goal progress. Participants will design comprehensive and targeted intervention plans to support meaningful participation across all contexts.

10:30am – 10:45am – BREAK

10:45am – 11:45am

Bridging Theory and Practice: Applying Concepts of Praxis in Time and Space in School-Based Interventions

Jessica Dorre, MA, OTR/L

This presentation will explore the role of integrating temporal and spatial horizons into treatment when addressing praxis skills in the school setting. It supports practitioners in developing a thorough understanding of time and space horizons that can deepen clinical reasoning to identify where breakdown of skills occurs and subsequently promoting praxis development through focused interventions. It will highlight how strategic examples, case studies, and hands-on strategies will be shared to demonstrate how optimizing temporal and

spatial horizons can lead to meaningful educational outcomes for all students.

11:45am – 12:15pm – LUNCH BREAK

12:15pm – 1:15pm

Beyond the Label: Demystifying Disability, Adaptive Levels, and Diagnosis

Jessica M. Lascano, PsyD, BCBA, NCSP, APCC

In this session, participants will explore what the term disability means and examine the difference between a medical diagnosis and an educational disability. They will learn the importance of understanding adaptive functioning, implementing individualized interventions, and recognizing the relationship between overall functioning, needs, and skills to IEP goals and services. The session will highlight the importance of accurately identifying disabilities and working collaboratively to address student needs while building on strengths to create meaningful, individualized programming that promotes success for all students.

1:15pm – 2:45pm

Understanding Parent Perspectives on Occupational Therapy Services in Schools: Insights, Expectations, and Engagement

Olivia Martinez-Hauge, MA, OTR/L, LMFT

This presentation will explore parent perspectives on school-based occupational therapy, focusing on how parental stress, mental health, and neurodiversity influence collaboration and communication with practitioners. It also examines parents' involvement in IEP goal development, the need for trauma-informed and neurodiversity-affirming practices, and occupational therapy practitioners' advocacy role in promoting inclusive education.

2:45pm – 2:55pm - BREAK

2:55pm – 3:55pm

Thinking Outside the Lines: Occupation-Based Interventions and Strategies

Kevin Gray, MS, OTR/L

This dynamic presentation will use video, pictures, and real-life examination to infuse culturally relevant occupation-based interventions into practice. Participants will learn a variety of strategies and tools and opportunities for brainstorming new intervention ideas.

3:55pm – 4:00pm Wrap-Up

About Our Presenters



Erna Imperatore Blanche, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, is a clinical professor of occupational therapy at the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, University of Southern California. She is an

internationally known expert in the areas of evaluation and intervention of sensory processing disorders in children with developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders. Blanche has authored and co-authored multiple publications on these topics and has lectured extensively around the globe. She is also co-owner and a co-founder of Therapy West, Inc., a clinical facility that serves up to 1,000 children per year in multiple locations in California. In her multiple roles as professor, international lecturer, and clinician, Blanche crosses the borders between clinical practice and academic research.



Jessica Dorre, MA, OTR/L, is an occupational therapy practitioner who graduated from the University of Southern California, with a focus on sensory integration. With over 10 years of experience in both pediatric school-based and clinic-based practice through the

private sector and Los Angeles School District, Dorre has expertise in assessing and supporting children with diverse motor and sensory needs. In addition to clinical practice, she serves as a co-facilitator for a sensory integration course that trains fellow occupational therapists within the school district. Driven by a deep passion for pediatric occupational therapy, she is committed to empowering students and practitioners alike through evidenced-based and child-centered interventions.



Kevin Gray, MS, OTR/L, is an occupational therapy practitioner with 16 years of experience. He is a 2009 graduate from Tuskegee University with a Master of Science in occupational therapy. He developed COOLathletics™, an occupational therapy brand focusing on promoting sensory health and the overall scope of occupational therapy.

Currently, Gray works at an occupational therapy clinic in southern California providing early intervention services, school-based services, and pediatric in-home services.



Jessica M. Lascano, LEP, NCSP, BCBA, is the owner of Strive ABC which provides assessment, behavior support, training, and consultation to school districts, families, and community organizations. She is a Licensed Educational Psychologist, Nationally Certified School Psychologist,

Board Certified Behavior Analyst, and associate professional clinical counselor. She has worked as a special education teacher, school counselor, school psychologist, adjunct professor, parent trainer, therapist, social skills trainer, and university level mentor for teachers and school psychologists. Lascano is interested in helping others grow and strongly believes that by working together we can impact the lives of many more children than we could alone.



Olivia Martinez-Hauge, MA, OTR/L, LMFT, has been a licensed occupational therapy practitioner for over 25 years. She has worked primarily in schools and in private practice. Martinez-Hauge is currently the co-director of the occupational therapy department at The Center for Connection and Neurodiversity. She is also

the co-owner of Sensory Space Design, which focuses on promoting sensory spaces in the home and community. In 2021, Martinez-Hauge earned her license in marriage and family therapy. She is the mother of three; two of her children are multiple neurodivergent. She brings her unique experience and perspective to her practice.



Jean Pacifico-Banta, OTD, OTR/L, has been an occupational therapy practitioner since 2000 and has practiced in the areas of early intervention and school-based practice. Presently, Pacifico-Banta works for the Los Angeles Unified School District as a senior school therapist. In

addition to her supervisory role, she supports program development for students with moderate to severe disabilities, fieldwork education, and professional development for therapists, teachers and parents. Pacifico-Banta received an undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and her master's and clinical doctorate degrees in occupational therapy from the University of Southern California.

Symposium Committee

Amanda Cassetta, OTR/L, ATAC
Beth Dillin, MOT, OTR/L
Erin Dolin, EdD, OTR/L
Lisa A. Test, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Jo-Ann Vargas, MA, OTR/L

About This Virtual Symposium

This Symposium Will Be Recorded

Participate virtually on September 13, 2025, and then re-watch at your convenience for the life of the recording on OTAC's platform. Recordings are generally available 14 days following the conclusion of the event.



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System Requirements. OTAC webinars are broadcast through Zoom. A broadband internet connection is required. For minimum system requirements, visit the following page:

Zoom - <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>

Professional Development Units (PDUs) Tracking

PDUs will be entered into your OTAC account.

To earn PDUs, registrants must complete the post event survey that is emailed out within one week following the event.

Symposium Disclaimer

This Symposium is sponsored by OTAC for the purpose of professional development. The material presented is not intended to represent the only or the best methods appropriate for the occupational therapy and/or medical condition or professional development issues being discussed but rather is intended to present the opinions of the presenters, which may be helpful to other health care professionals at arriving at their own conclusions and consequent application. Attendees participating in this professional development education program do so with the full knowledge that they waive any claim they may have against OTAC and its representatives for reliance on any information presented during this educational event.

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Cancellation/Refund Policy

\$45 retained to cover cancellation/refund processing costs. Written notice must be received in OTAC office by **September 4, 2025** to be eligible for refunds. No refunds after this date. *Disclaimer: OTAC reserves the right to make changes to the program. No refunds will be made based on these changes.*

Why OTAC Symposia? To support OTAC Core Value 7 – Professional Development: To provide quality education and resources to advance the knowledge, skills, and continued competence of occupational therapy practitioners.

About OTAC. OTAC is a nonprofit, 501c6. This means that end-of-year net revenue is retained for operations and for the benefit of the members and is not distributed to private owners. It is governed by an elected, noncompensated Board of Directors and hires a professional association management team.

OTAC Mission Statement. OTAC is the collective voice that serves, promotes, and supports the profession of occupational therapy.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

