



Creative Therapies Conference: A World of Wonder Program*

DAY ONE Friday 17th July 2026

Room/ Location	Darling Harbour	Tumbalong	Cockle Bay	Pumphouse Mezzanine	Pier St Grill
8.00 – 9.00am	Registration Open - Level One Foyer				
9.00 - 9.20am	Welcome to Country - Graham Toomey Conference opening- Jacki Short				
9.20 – 10.30am	Keynote Address First Nations Stream Working in the Playroom: Aboriginal and Western Ways - Janine Cattanach			Vendor Tables	
10.30 – 11.00am	Networking event			Vendor Tables	
11.00 – 11.30am				Morning Tea/ Vendor Tables	
11.30am – 1.00pm	Workshop First Nations Stream Weaving the Cultural Therapeutic Web: A Practical Session- Janine Cattanach	Workshop Trauma & Healing Stream Movement, Metaphor and Meaning: Drama Therapy for Trauma-Responsive Practice - Natalie Mackenzie	Wellbeing and Creative Space: Through the Looking Glass	Vendor Tables	
1.00 – 2.00pm				Vendor Tables	Lunch
2.00 - 3.30pm	Workshop Neurodiversity Stream Playful ways to develop neurodivergent identity and increase family communication and connection – Dr Fiona Zandt	Workshop Trauma & Healing Stream Finding Vision Beyond Sight: Accessible Creative Rituals for Transition and Loss - Sara Waitzer	Wellbeing and Creative Space: Through the Looking Glass	Vendor Tables	



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3.30 - 4.00pm

Afternoon Tea / Vendor Tables

4.00 – 5.30pm

Workshop

Neurodiversity Stream

[Play in Motion: Embodied Pathways for Neurodivergent Expression and Regulation - Cathy Williams](#)

Papers

Trauma & Healing Stream

Paper One 4.00 – 4.30pm

[“Steve is everywhere”:
Supporting children’s grief
journeys through sandtray
therapy - Emma Sandford](#)

Paper Two 4.30 – 5.00pm

[From Chaos to Containment:
Messy Art Interventions for
Children Grieving Murder and
Community Violence — A
School-Based Case Study - Hilda
Hallinan](#)

Paper Three 5.00 – 5.30pm

[Recovery from Childhood Trauma
Through Creative Therapies:
Neurosequential Play Therapy
Case Study - Bianca Bird](#)

[Wellbeing and Creative](#)

[Space: Through the Looking
Glass](#)

Vendor Tables



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DAY TWO Saturday 18th July 2026

Room/ Location	Darling Harbour	Tumbalong	Cockle Bay	Pumphouse Mezzanine	Pier St Grill
8.00 – 9.00am	Registration Open Level One Foyer Wellbeing - Movement and Art Making - Judy King	Wellbeing Art Making Tash Ianni			
9.00 - 10.30am	Keynote Address Through the Looking Glass: Seeing Difference, Growing Together - Jacki Short			Vendor Tables	
10.30 - 11.00am				Morning Tea /Vendor Tables	
11.00am – 12.30pm	Workshop Neurodiversity Stream Creative Therapies with Children: Neurodiversity and Trauma through the lens of Polyvagal Theory - Anna Crooks and Amanda Flynn	Workshop Trauma & Healing Stream Unleashing potential: Bobby's journey of healing and discovery of Self in sandplay- Katherine Olejniczak	Wellbeing and Creative Space: Through the Looking Glass	Vendor Tables	
12.30 – 1.30pm				Vendor Tables	Lunch
1.30 - 3.00pm	Workshop Neurodiversity Stream Creative Therapies with Children: Neurodiversity and Trauma through the lens of	Workshop Trauma & Healing Stream Therapeutic Life Story Work (TLSW): meaning making through	Wellbeing and Creative Space: Through the Looking Glass	Vendor Tables	



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[Polyvagal Theory - Anna Crooks and Amanda Flynn](#) [play, storytelling and therapeutic safety - Elise Saunders](#)

3.00 - 3:30pm

Afternoon Tea/ Vendor Tables

3:30 – 5.00pm

Workshop
Neurodiversity Stream

Papers
Neurodiversity/ Trauma & Healing Stream

[Wellbeing and Creative Space: Through the Looking Glass](#) Vendor Tables

[Curiouser and Curiouser: Reflective, Regulated Practice in the Wonderland of Play - Kelly Walker](#)

Paper One 3.30 – 4.00pm
[Engagement First: Play and Creative Counselling in Positive Behaviour Support](#)
[Josie van der Wal](#)

Paper Two 4.00 – 4.30pm
[Beyond the Therapy Room: Empowering Parents Through Expressive Therapy Dyads](#)
[Dr Tanya Marie Silveira](#)

Paper Three 4.30 – 5.00pm
[Strengthening Outcomes Through Therapeutic Life Story Work in Out-of-Home Care](#)
[Jodie Mollison](#)

5:00 – 5:30pm

Networking event

6.00 – 10.00pm

[Mad Hatter's Party](#)



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DAY THREE Sunday 19th July 2026

Room/ Location	Darling Harbour	Tumbalong	Cockle Bay	Pumphouse Mezzanine	Pier St Grill
8.00 – 9.00am	Registration Open Level One Foyer	Wellbeing Art Making Tash Ianni		Vendor Tables	
	Wellbeing - Movement and Art Making				
9.00 – 10.30am	Keynote Address			Vendor Tables	
	All Those Who Wander Are Not Lost: Finding Yourself in Your Play Therapy Journey Dr Robert Jason Grant				
10.30 - 11.00am	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Vendor Tables	
12.30 – 1.30pm				Vendor Tables	Lunch
1.30 - 3.00pm	Lived Experience Panel Discussion Janine Cattanach Nicky Trussler Simran Singh Symphony Chakma		Wellbeing and Creative Space: Through the Looking Glass	Vendor Tables	
3.00 - 3.30pm	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea	Vendor Tables	
3.30 – 5.00pm	Playback Theatre Sydney Performance				
5.00 – 5.15pm	Conference Close				