

Special Topic Forum – VIRTUAL

VIRTUAL

DATE AND TIME

Wednesday, April 23, 2025
5:30pm – 7:00pm

REGISTER BY
Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Register Online

<https://otac.site-ym.com/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1954596&group=>

Register by Fax

916/294-0415

Register by Mail

Send form with payment to:
OTAC,
3620 American River Dr.,
Suite 230
Sacramento, CA 95864
Registration must be received
by April 22, 2025

QUESTIONS?

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



Neurodiversity at Work: A Guided Article Discussion on Inclusion and Perspectives (1 PDU)

Wednesday, April 23, 2025 | 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Presenters: Michelle Arakaki, OTD, OTR/L; Kathryn LP Biesanz, OTD, OTR/L, ECHM; Nora Dixon, OTD, OTR/L, LRC

Join OTAC's DEIOJ Committee for an engaging small group discussion on neurodivergence in the workplace. This session will explore the concept of neurodiversity, feature a shared reading of a relevant article*, and provide space for thoughtful discussion with peers. Participants will gain new insights and perspectives on fostering inclusive work environments for neurodivergent individuals.

Attendees will be able to:

1. Understand the impacts of neurodiversity on occupational performance in the work context.
2. Describe adaptations to leadership styles and work environments to best support neuroatypical employees/students/etc.
3. Generalize learned support strategies to various areas of OT practice.

*The article will be shared during the Forum and time given to read.

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

MEMBERS \$19

NONMEMBERS \$39

Name _____

Title _____

Employer _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Fax to: 916/294-0415, or

Mail to: OTAC, 3620 American River Dr., #230, Sacramento, CA 95864, or

REGISTER ONLINE [HERE](#)

Cancellation/Refund Policy. \$15 is retained to cover cancellation/refund processing costs. Written notice must be received in the OTAC office by April 22, 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.

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ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS



Michelle Arakaki, OTD, OTR/L, (she/her) is the current chair of OTAC's DEIOJ Committee and an occupational therapy practitioner at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, specializing in stroke

rehabilitation. A dedicated advocate for diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice, she developed and led occupation rights-based workshops as part of her capstone project at the University of St. Augustine, San Marcos.



Kathryn LP Biesanz, OTD, OTR/L, ECHM, (she/her) is a doctor of occupational therapy working in an outpatient clinic she developed for United Indian Health Services in Humboldt County, CA. She is also the communications

subcommittee lead for OTAC's DEIOJ Committee. Biesanz is passionate about bringing occupational therapy to rural areas and ensuring access to habilitation and rehabilitation services. Outside of her clinical work, Biesanz enjoys providing accessible interior design services and she lives on Wiyot land.



Nora Dixon, OTD, OTR/L, LRC, (she/her) is an assistant professor of clinical occupational therapy at the University of Southern California. She is passionate about making allyship a daily practice through her clinical work in

gender affirming care and neurodiverse-affirming care. During her clinical residency at the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice, Dixon facilitated the research, development, and launch of the clinic's first gender-affirming care program.

ABOUT SPECIAL TOPIC FORUMS

Why OTAC Special Topic Forums? 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.

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

Event Disclaimer.

This event 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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About OTAC. OTAC is a nonprofit, 501c6. This means that end-of-year net revenue is retained for operations and 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 and its practitioners.

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OUR ONLINE
MASTER CALENDAR**

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