Biographies of Keynote Speakers

**Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi** received a PhD in human development from the University of Chicago in 1965, and after teaching elsewhere returned to the University of Chicago, where he became chair of the Department of Psychology. In 1999 he joined the Department of Psychology of Claremont Graduate University to start the first doctoral program in positive psychology. He is the author of 14 books translated into 29 languages, and over 250 research articles. He is on the board of the International Positive Psychology Association, an organization he co-founded in 2001.

**Dr. Emmeline Edwards** is director of the Division of Extramural Research of the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH). In that capacity, she is responsible for development of scientific programs or areas of science that fulfill NCCIH’s mission as well as planning, implementation, and policy. NCCIH is one of 27 components of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), with a mission to define, through rigorous scientific investigation, the usefulness and safety of complementary and integrative health interventions and their roles in improving health and health care. Before coming to NIH, Dr. Edwards earned her Ph.D. in Neurochemistry from Fordham University, did postdoctoral research in behavioral pharmacology and neuroscience at the State University of New York, and was a tenured associate professor in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Maryland. Her research there focused on the neural mechanisms of complex behaviors and characterization of a genetic model of affective disorders. She also served as chair of the Graduate Studies and Research Committee and a member of the Dean’s Executive Council at the University of Maryland. Currently, Dr. Edwards is also chair of Women in World Neuroscience (WWN).

**Nina Kraus** is Hugh Knowles Professor of Communication Sciences, Neurobiology, and Otolaryngology at Northwestern University. She is a scientist, inventor, and amateur musician who uses hearing as a window into brain health. She began her career measuring responses from single auditory neurons and was one of the first to show that the adult nervous system has the potential for reorganization following learning; these insights in basic biology galvanized her to investigate auditory learning in humans. Through a series of innovative studies involving thousands of research participants from birth to age 90, her research has found that our lives in sound, for better (musicians, bilinguals) or worse (concussion, aging, hearing loss, language disorders), shape auditory processing. She continues to conduct parallel experiments in animal models to elucidate the mechanisms underlying these phenomena. Kraus has invented new ways to measure the biology of sound processing in humans that provide unprecedented precision and granularity in indexing brain function. With her technological innovations she is now pushing science beyond the traditional laboratory by conducting studies in schools, community centers, and clinics. Using the principles of neuroscience to improve human communication, she advocates for best practices in education, health, and social policy.

**Bessel A. van der Kolk, M.D.** is a Boston-based clinical psychiatrist and neuroscientist whose work at the Trauma Center at Justice Resource Institute incorporates such diverse modalities as yoga, theater, and neurofeedback. His work has been systematically studied, with the results published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. His research has ranged from neuroimaging and psychopharmacology to memory.
processes, yoga, theater, EMDR, and neurofeedback in PTSD. He is past president of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. He is a professor of Psychiatry at Boston University School of Medicine and medical director of the Trauma Center at Justice Resource Institute. He has taught at universities and hospitals around the world. He is author of well-over 150 scientific articles, and the author of the highly acclaimed New York Times Science bestseller *The Body Keeps the Score: Mind, Brain and Body in Healing From Trauma* (Viking Penguin, 2014).

### Biographies of Moderators and Panelists

**Dr. Joke Bradt,** PhD, MT-BC is associate professor in the Department of Creative Arts Therapies at Drexel University and a board-certified music therapist. Her federally-funded research has focused on the use of music therapy interventions for chronic illness, chronic pain, and symptom management. She is currently conducting a neuro-imaging study at the NICoE examining the impact of music listening on cortical activity in service members with PTSD. She is the lead author of several Cochrane Systematic Reviews on music interventions with medical patients. She serves on the co-direction team for *Music Therapy Research 2025*, the strategic research plan of the American Music Therapy Association, and is editor of the *Nordic Journal of Music Therapy*, a leading international music therapy journal. Dr. Bradt has methodological expertise in mixed methods research, randomized controlled trials, and systematic reviews and meta-analysis.

**Hannah Bronson,** MT-BC currently provides music therapy services at Intrepid Spirit Center, Fort Hood and previously at Intrepid Spirit Center, Fort Belvoir. She was brought on board in December 2015 as a Creative Forces music therapist. Prior to joining Creative Forces, Bronson was employed at Resounding Joy Inc., a nonprofit serving the San Diego community, as the director of the Semper Sound Military Music Therapy Program. Bronson received her bachelor of music degree in music therapy with a minor in psychology from Baldwin Wallace University in Berea, Ohio. She completed her clinical training internship at MusicWorx Inc. in San Diego, California, serving a wide variety of settings including active-duty military, substance abuse rehabilitation, acute surgical/medical, pediatric intensive care, at risk youth, and palliative care.

**Rita Charon** is a general internist and literary scholar who originated the field of narrative medicine. She is the founder and executive director of the Program in Narrative Medicine and professor of medicine at Columbia University. She completed the MD at Harvard in 1978 and the Ph.D. in English at Columbia in 1999, concentrating on the works of Henry James. Her research investigates narrative medicine training, reflective practice, health care justice, and health care team effectiveness and has been supported by the NIH, the NEH, the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation, and other private foundations. She has authored, co-authored, or co-edited four books on narrative medicine. She lectures and teaches internationally on narrative medicine and is widely published in leading medical and literary journals.

**Sarah Deaver,** PhD, ATR-BC has been an art therapy educator, researcher, and clinician for over 30 years. A professor in the Eastern Virginia Medical School Department of Psychiatry and School of Health Professions, her scholarly interests include art therapy educational theory and practice and art therapy assessment and efficacy research. She was president of the American Art Therapy Association from 2013-2015, and received AATA's Distinguished Educator award in 2014. She has presented nationally and internationally on art therapy education, practice, and research, and has published extensively on these topics.
Thomas J. DeGraba, M.D. is the acting national director for the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center and chief innovations officer at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE), Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. He is responsible for establishing the Pathway of Care for TBI in the Military Health System and nurturing a culture of innovation and rapid translation of medical advances into best practices. Dr. DeGraba is a nationally recognized clinical neuroscience subject matter expert in traumatic brain injury (TBI) and psychological health (PH) conditions, and has been a leader in the field of brain injury and stroke for over 25 years. His research is focused on identifying novel diagnostic biomarkers to measure the effects of treatment in TBI and PTSD. His portfolio includes the utilization of art therapies as an integral part of the behavioral health assessment at the NICoE and characterizing markers to measure the effects of the Creative Arts program.

Paula Howie, MA, ATR-BC, LPC, LCPAT, HLM worked in and directed the Art Therapy Service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center for 27 years. She currently lectures at the School of the Visual Arts in New York and at Florida State University. She is a past president of AATA (2005-2007). She has published numerous articles and co-edited a book on Art Therapy with Diverse Populations: Crossing Cultures and Abilities, published by Jessica Kingsley in 2013. Her most recent publication is Art Therapy with Military and Veteran Populations: History, Innovations, and Applications which was published in June 2017 by Routledge. In addition to her writing, private practice, and teaching, Howie is an avid watercolor painter.

Sunil Iyengar directs the Office of Research & Analysis (ORA) at the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). ORA regularly conducts and commissions studies about the value and impact of the arts in American life. In addition, the office leads all program evaluations and performance measurement at the NEA. Whether through its research reports or other publications, through its “Arts Data Profiles” (summary statistics and interactive data visualizations about the arts), through its National Archive of Data on Arts & Culture, or through its periodic conferences and webcasts, ORA builds and promotes empirical knowledge about the arts’ contributions to individuals, to communities, and to society at large.

Jacqueline Jones, MEd, MA, ATR, is a creative arts therapist at the Intrepid Spirit Center at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital. With support from the National Endowment for the Arts, she established the creative arts therapies program at the Intrepid Spirit Center at Fort Belvoir after interning at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence. Jones taught art education in Fairfax County Public Schools prior to pursuing a career in art therapy and has conducted research on increasing self-efficacy in middle school art students; using art therapy to increase self-esteem and decrease incidents of bullying in middle school-aged victims of bullying; and in identifying the unique value of art therapy in interdisciplinary rehabilitation settings for service members recovering from invisible wounds of war. She holds master’s degrees in art education from the University of Maryland and in art therapy from the George Washington University.

Dr. Girija Kaimal, is an assistant professor in the Department of Creative Arts Therapies at Drexel University. Her research examines physiological and psychological outcomes of creative visual self-expression. Dr. Kaimal currently leads two federally funded studies examining arts-based approaches to health among caregivers and military service members. She has led longitudinal evaluation research studies examining arts-based approaches to leadership development and teacher incentives and won national awards for her research. Dr. Kaimal is the chair of the Research Committee for the American Art Therapy Association, assessment fellow for Drexel University, and is a practicing visual artist. Dr. Kaimal
has a doctorate in education from Harvard University, a master’s in art therapy from Drexel University, and a bachelor’s in design from the National Institute of Design in India.

Sara Kass, MD, CAPT (ret), USN was born and raised in Ephrata, Washington, and received her bachelor’s degree in biology from Pacific Lutheran University and her medical degree from George Washington University. Dr. Kass is board certified in Family Medicine and is an assistant professor of Family Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. She served 23 years in the Navy, with the last decade dedicated to advancing Warrior Care, including a final tour as Deputy Commander, National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NCoE) in Bethesda, Maryland, August 2011 to February 2015. Since retirement, Dr. Kass has remained committed to improving the lives of wounded warriors and their families. She is currently serving as the Creative Forces senior military and medical advisor.

Dr. Wendy L. Magee is professor of music therapy at Temple University, Philadelphia. She has practiced in neurological rehabilitation since 1988 as a music therapy clinician, researcher, manager, and trainer (Australia, Ireland, UK, and USA) with adults and children, holding a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability in London 2004–2011. Her publications span neuroscience, medicine, rehabilitation, psychology, music therapy, music psychology, and health sociology. The topics of her research include evidence-based practice in neurorehabilitation including a Cochrane Review; measures for rehabilitation; music therapy and identity; and new and emerging music technologies in health and education. Her current research collaboration include partners in the USA, UK, Ireland, South America, Australia, and China with a focus on brain injury.

CAPT Moira G. McGuire is a nurse officer with the US Public Health Service currently serving as division chief of Ancillary Services in the Internal Medicine clinic at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. She is the daughter of an opera singer/voice teacher father and pianist/painter/playwright mother who studied Irish dance, ballet, piano, violin, flute, and harp. She established the Walter Reed Healing Arts Exhibit; is a founding member of the PHS Choral Ensemble; and plank owner of the National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military. The focus of her professional work lies in the belief that creativity and expression are not only essential elements in the treatment of illness and injury, but in the protection and prevention of them as well.

Bill O’Brien is the senior advisor for innovation at the National Endowment for the Arts and Creative Forces project director. O’Brien co-organized three summits to identify emerging art-sci practices among the nation’s leading artists, scientists, and technologists in partnership with the National Science Foundation and co-organized a complex-system working group investigation into the Nature of Creativity in the Brain in partnership with the Santa Fe Institute. Since 2011, he has served as the NEA’s project director for Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network. He previously served the NEA as deputy chairman and as the director of Theater and Musical Theater. Prior to joining the NEA, he produced numerous award-winning theatrical productions, including the Tony-honored Deaf West Theatre Production of Big River and was an ensemble player on all seven seasons as Kenny (Marlee Matlin’s sign language interpreter) on NBC’s The West Wing.

Patricia Moore Shaffer is deputy director, Research & Analysis, at the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, DC. In addition to leading or contributing to several NEA research projects, she has led research and evaluation studies for other federal agencies including the Library of Congress, the Office of Management & Budget, and NASA, state and local governments, and nonprofit organizations. She has long enjoyed working in the arts—in addition to her current job as a researcher, she has been an art
educator, a professor, a local arts agency board member, and an artist. She earned a Ph.D. in educational policy at the College of William & Mary and holds a bachelor’s degree in visual arts.

Jennifer Frank Tantia, PhD, MS, BC-DMT, LCAT is a somatic psychologist and dance/movement therapist in Manhattan, specializing in anxiety disorders and medically unexplained symptoms. She is on the research faculty at Lesley University and advises dance/movement therapy master’s and doctoral students in somatic research. Dr. Tantia currently serves on the board of the American Dance Therapy Association as chair of Research and Practice, and is an associate editor of the international journal Body, Movement and Dance in Psychotherapy. Dr. Tantia presents her work internationally and has authored several publications in both dance/movement therapy and somatic psychology. Her forthcoming book, Embodied Research Methods, will be published by Routledge in 2019. [www.soma-psyche.com](http://www.soma-psyche.com)

Rebecca Vaudreuil is a board-certified music therapist who earned her bachelor’s in music therapy at Berklee College of Music and her masters of education at Harvard University. In 2010, she founded a model for music therapy programming at military treatment facilities. Since 2014, Rebecca works as the National Endowment for the Arts Creative Forces music therapy lead to develop music therapy best practices, support increased access to creative arts therapies across military and veteran healthcare systems, promote arts-based partnerships in clinical and community settings, and provide rehabilitative music therapy services at the Concussion Care Clinic at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton. Vaudreuil’s work has been featured by CNN, ABC's World News Tonight with David Muir, and PBS as part of the 2017 Memorial Day Capitol Concerts.

Melissa Walker, ATR, moved to the National Capital Region to work for the Department of Defense after earning a master's in art therapy from NYU. Melissa developed and implemented the NICoE Healing Arts Program to explore the integration and research of the creative arts therapies for service members with traumatic brain injury and psychological health concerns, and currently serves as the program's coordinator. Melissa also acts as lead art therapist for Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network – a collaboration aimed to expand arts access for the military population. Since its inception, the NICoE's art therapy program has gained international recognition, including a National Geographic Magazine cover story and Melissa's TEDMED talk featured as TED's "talk of the day."

Allison F. Winters, MA, MS, BC-DMT, LCAT, E-RYT is a board certified dance/movement therapist, licensed creative arts therapist, and registered yoga instructor. She holds master's degrees in psychology and dance/movement therapy and is currently pursuing a doctorate in mind-body medicine at Saybrook University. As a clinician, Winters has worked with a wide range of clientele, including adults, adolescents, and children in inpatient psychiatry, and US military war veterans in both residential and outpatient settings. She can be seen discussing her work with military members in the American Dance Therapy Association's ADTA Talks series. Her research, Emotion, Embodiment, and Mirror Neurons in Dance/Movement Therapy: A Connection Across Disciplines, has received awards for both research and journalism. Currently, she coordinates the wellness program at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence in Bethesda, Maryland.