

What Graduates of TPI's Post-Graduate Training Program Have Said . . .

You'd pretty much have to be made of stone not to be affected by TPI. Most people come to TPI because of the long-standing quality of the supervision and because of its reputation in helping its graduates build a solid foundation for their practice. But in a professional world in which the therapist's ability to be self-reflective is one of the central factors for what allows for therapeutic change, TPI provides a welcoming and challenging way of allowing this to develop. As I gradually felt that I was becoming a part of this very unique community, the training became as invaluable personally as it was professionally. And although TPI certainly provides a world of opportunity to learn, grow, change and develop, one comes to realize that it is not for the faint of heart. So although I recommend it, it comes with a word of caution: if you are not ready to become different, then you should really wait until you are. It is a strange and rare place that I hope will always continue on in its supportive and penetrating way, helping its trainees help others through exploring their strengths and limitations; gifts and blind spots; light and shadows.

- Garrick Duckler, MFTI (Class of 2010)

My graduate program gave me a taste of how complex and intricate a process psychodynamic psychotherapy is; after graduating I felt as though I was just ready to begin the real work of learning how to truly engage in depth work with my clients. The training program at TPI provided me not only with the foundational skills I needed to become a psychotherapist, but also with a professional identity. Since beginning TPI I have grown exponentially, not only with regards to my assessment and clinical skills, but also in my capacity to be self-reflective specifically around clinical, supervisory, and interpersonal dynamics - a skill that, though an integral part of a well-rounded clinician is often difficult to learn through agency and other professional mental-health settings. The superior clinical skills I learned and continue to learn from the TPI community coupled with the professional and personal relationships that were formed through my time in the training program make my decision to attend the training program one of the best I have made in my career.

- Jenessa Radocchio, MSW (Class of 2009)

The time I spent training at TPI was the most formative of my professional life. The earnestness, kindness and compassion which my supervisors and teachers brought to my education and professional development was not only beyond what I had experienced in other settings, but also beyond what I had even thought possible. I was constantly intellectually stimulated and emotionally challenged, while simultaneously I felt deeply held. Another aspect of the training which was quite powerful, was the experience of being part of such a variety of groups with my colleagues. Spending many hours per week together over the course of months and years was intense and stretched me to learn and grow in unanticipated ways. As a result of my experience at TPI, I have found my professional home, and also forged strong connections with colleagues from a wide variety of backgrounds, and stages of professional development. My experiences at TPI serve as a model for how to be with clients, how to trust the psyche, and how to trust in the process of psychotherapy.

- Eileen Cohune-Brown, MFTI (Class of 2009)

My experience in the post graduate training program at The Psychotherapy Institute was a many-faceted rich experience. TPI excels in its ability to create and facilitate the group setting in order to support beginning clinicians in their process of discovering and enabling individual identities as therapists. For me this facet was one of the most profound deintegration and reintegration processes in my life which continues to inform my awareness of my roles in both the therapeutic dyad and in larger groups. My participation in these various groups enabled professional ties to individuals who continue to enrich and strengthen my attachment to TPI as my professional family.

- Maria Bratko, MFT (Class of 2007)

I would like to emphasize that one of its strengths is TPI's openness to change, particularly with regard to multicultural dialogue. As a member of minority groups—in terms of ethnicity and socioeconomic class—I felt free to talk about my training experiences, both good and bad, to all of my supervisors, administrative staff, and leaders of various groups. TPI allowed me to do therapy in a different language; I felt competent doing therapy in my own language and received appropriate supervision even though supervisors did not speak that language. Talking about multicultural issues through out my training enriched both my professional and personal life. At the Institute level, minority voices were heard and changes were adopted. Supervisors and TPI members in leadership positions addressed multicultural views—and without power struggles between staff therapists and administration.

- Miwako Ishii, M.S. (Class of 2006)

The training at TPI was an initiation for me. I became a therapist there. All of the threads of my on-going development as a clinician have their roots in my experience at TPI. I found the program to have both breadth and depth. In the relationships with my many supervisors, my peers, in the exposure to so many different clinicians, in a curriculum well balanced between classical and contemporary theory and practical clinical training, I forged the foundations of my professional identity. In addition, I found myself welcomed and folded in as a permanent member of the rich and vital TPI community.

- Scott Carollo, M.A. (Class of 2006)

The years I spent training at TPI were among the richest and most stimulating of my life. The opportunity to be immersed in a world of conversation, collegiality, study and clinical practice was wonderful and TPI very quickly became the holding environment I needed to begin to formulate my identity as a psychotherapist. Among my favorite aspects of the program were the intensive supervision, the opportunity to work with a diverse client population, and the many opportunities to learn from fellow trainees in various small group settings. Two years post graduation, I still very much consider TPI to be my professional home. I feel very fortunate for the sense of community and membership in an organization which values psychotherapy with such purpose and integrity.

- Alexis Rubin, LCSW (Class of 2004)