



Conference Committee

AUTHOR: ALONDRA JIMENEZ AND SHYLA ERVIN

The Conference Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the NMOTA 2022 Conference this year. We appreciate all your support and feedback as this was a year of learning. NMOTA values your time and willingness to attend the conference and to share your knowledge.

The 2023 conference was an outstanding return to an in-person celebration of our distinct value. We offered 13.5 CEUs for OTs and OTAs in subjects including: Sleep and the Refugee Experience by Heidi Sanders, MA, OTR/L; Plenary Session: Occupational Performance: What Are We Really Doing by Joanna Cosbey, PhD, OTR/L; AOTF: Advancing the Science of Occupational Therapy, Building Evidence for Practice by Janet Poole, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; Sensory Interventions for Treating Children with PTSD by Crystal White, OTS; Understanding Service Delivery Decisions: The Switch to Telehealth Due to COVID-19 by Timothy Dionne, PhD, OTR/L; 2022 Updates to the Rules for Practice of Occupational Therapy in the State of New Mexico by Sarah Porte, MOT, OT/L and Life Balance by Shyla Ervin, COTA/L and Alondra Jimenez, COTA/L.

In addition to the informative plenary and session presenters at the conference, we are honored that Diane Parham, OTR/L, FAOTA, Professor at the UNM Occupational Therapy Graduate Program and specialist in Sensory Integration, Development of Clinical Assessments, and Infant and Child Development was the keynote speaker. Dr. Parham shared her knowledge about the sociocultural, neurobiological, and cognitive aspects of play across the lifespan as well as the occupational value of leisure for adults.



Image: Diane Parham, OTR/L, FAOTA

The NMOTA annual conference is always an incredible opportunity to connect with our community while refreshing our practice with new ideas. We are excited to have gained two new team members, Omar Aubert and Breanna Gass, to help us in planning NMOTA 2023. We look forward to using your feedback on possible venue locations and bringing back the silent auction. If you are interested in serving on the conference committee or chairing the silent auction, please contact us.

Thank you for your continued support, for attending the amazing conference in 2022 and for thinking of ways to share your knowledge and efforts at the 2023 NMOTA conference

-Conference Committee
conference@nmota.org



Image: Shyla Ervin (left) and Alondra Jimenez (right)

Nominating Chair

AUTHOR: SARAH SUTHERLIN

This year's NMOTA election closed August 19, 2022. Consistent with our bylaws, NMOTA members voted via e-mail and voting was conducted electronically. Open positions for this election were President and Treasurer, position term will be January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

Melissa Tencza was the only candidate for Treasurer at the time of the election. 21 eligible members voted for Melissa for treasurer, that's 11% of total NMOTA membership. No members voted against Melissa's candidacy. Welcome Melissa!

No candidate was nominated for the position of President at the time of the election. During the business meeting of the NMOTA Annual Conference, Dara Sanders-Aceves was nominated for President and accepted the nomination. All who were present at the business meeting indicated that they were in favor, no one opposed, no one abstained. Welcome Dara!

NMOTA's Continuing Education Committee Chair is vacant and we would love for you to join the board. Co-Chair positions for Membership and Social Media Committees are also vacant. If you have a few hours a month to support our state's professional organization, please contact nominating@nmota.org. In September of 2023, NMOTA will hold an election for Vice President and Secretary, please consider nominating yourself or a colleague.

Service on the NMOTA Board allows you to shape the activities of the Association and meet OTs and OTAs throughout our state. Please consider volunteering as a committee member, committee chair, or as an Executive Board Officer!



Image: Sarah Sutherlin

The Western Regional OT Spring Symposium (WROTSS) is a premier continuing education conference offering an opportunity for OT practitioners from 8 western states to learn, grow, network, and celebrate! Mark your calendars! If you are interested in volunteering at this conference, please contact nominating@nmota.org



Image: <https://www.facebook.com/WROTSS/>