



43rd Awards Luncheon & Symposium

November 8, 2024

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MISSION STATEMENT

The California Foundation for Occupational Therapy is a non-profit (501c3) public benefit foundation whose mission is to advance the science and practice of occupational therapy to enhance health, well-being, and participation in life activities for all individuals, communities, and populations through supporting and promoting occupational therapy research, education and public awareness.

CFOT Donors

October, 2023 - September, 2024

CFOT MAJOR DONORS

DIAMOND (\$25,000)	GOLD (\$20,000 - \$24,999)	SILVER (\$10,000 - \$19,999)	BRONZE (\$5,000 - \$9,999)
Perry Herwood Trust			Bonita Kraft Julie Shaperman

CFOT DONORS

LEGACY (\$2,500 - \$4,999)		BENEFACTOR (\$250 - \$2,499)	
Ascend Rehab Services, Inc. Linda Florey Evelyn Jaffe	Susan Knox Heidi McHugh Pendleton Pat Nagaishi	Michele Berra Erna Blanche Deborah Bolding Richard Bookwalter Lisa Deshaies Bryant Edwards Mary Evert Susan Fisher Mary Kay Gallagher Lela Llorens	Stephen Lofy Matra Majmundar Rajesh Mashruwala Norma McCormack Terry Peralta-Catipon Samia Rafeedie Winifred Schultz-Krohn Susan Schwartz Jerilyn Smith Yuriko L.Yasuda Trust
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Sharon Cermak Cheryl Ecker Alison George Kathleen Gross Paul & Shelly Iwamasa Christine Jackson Heather J. Kitching Jean Koketsu Diane Laszlo	Jacalyn Mardirossian Arline Mayeda Chinn Bonnie Nakasuji Kerry Onishi Jill Peck-Murray Elizabeth Russel Alexis Sobel Laura Weiss	Kenzie Butts Bianca Callier Gordon Giles Kelly Gorton Kathryn Gundersen Xin Guo Allison Hershberg Tammy Hitchcock Heather Javaherian Grace Jeng Ashly King	Janis Kitsuw-Lowe Ethel Lai Hailee Litchfield Madysen Magbanua Sheryl Ryan Amber Schwartz Swati Shah Vivian Siu Susan Spitzer Lillian Sun Kathryn Wise

CFOT Legacy Circle

The Legacy Circle is an endowment fund that was established in 2016 to ensure that CFOT can continue to provide scholarships and support OT researchers in California and enhance its growth to advance and promote the profession of occupational therapy into the future.

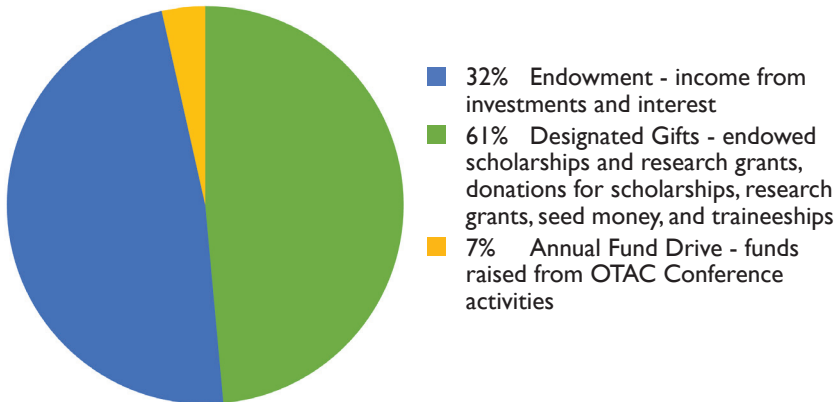
To be a member of the CFOT Legacy Circle, you make a contribution of \$2,500. This contribution can be made in installments over five years or as a lump sum. Once you have reached your lump sum, you will be recognized as a Member of the CFOT Legacy Circle.

LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS

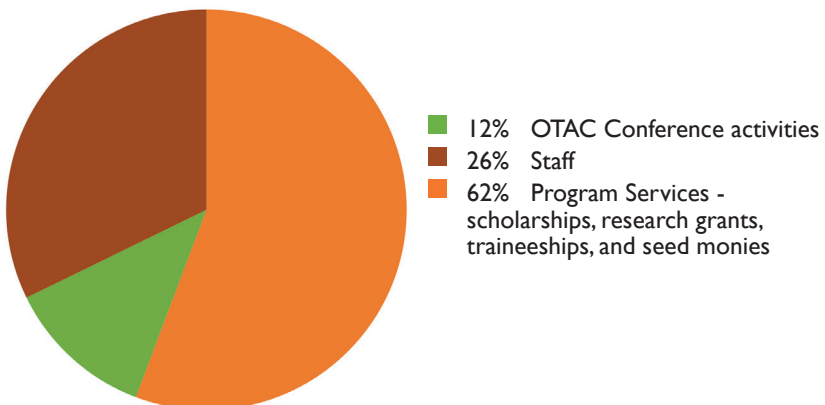
*Michele Berro
Linda Florey
Joyce Fries
Evelyn Jaffe
Susan Knox
Bonita Kraft
Bonnie Nakasuji
Judi Palladino
Heidi McHugh Pendleton
Shawn Phipps
Winifred Schultz-Krohn
Julie Shaperman*

Where Do Your CFOT Contributions Go?

REVENUE



EXPENSES



These two charts show our revenue and expenses for 2024. Our Board of Directors and members are all volunteers. They give generously of their time, money, and effort to support the development of the profession, the education of students, and cutting-edge research.

We appreciate your support through your time, contributions, and gifts. THANK YOU!

2024 CFOT Humanitarian Award

Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop



The California Foundation for Occupational Therapy (CFOT) honors individuals/groups who, through their humanitarian activities, have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the philosophical principles of occupational therapy and to the mission and vision of CFOT.

CFOT is pleased to present our 2024 Humanitarian Award to the Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop for their significant humanitarian activities: helping people with severe physical disabilities make a successful transition to becoming productive and contributing members of the community.

Following a devastating life change, adjustment to disability and community reintegration are serious challenges that patients face. The Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop is an innovative initiative within the Occupational Therapy Work Rehabilitation Continuum at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center in Downey, California. As a non-profit business selling freshly prepared food, beverages, and handcrafted novelty items, it provides a vital platform for former patients to build essential job skills and habits in a real-life supportive work environment that prepares them for community employment. Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop Workers learn a variety of transferable work skills such as food preparation, stocking shelves, monitoring inventory, cashiering, and customer service. Graduate workers have found long term employment with businesses including Sodexo, Servicon, and Home Depot. Of note is that the origin of Rancho Works dates back to 2012 with partial start-up funding from a CFOT Seed Money award.

CFOT Salutes you and is pleased to present you with our 2024 Humanitarian Award!

CFOT Humanitarian Award

Purpose: To honor individuals or groups who, through their humanitarian activities, have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the philosophical principles of occupational therapy and to the mission and goals of CFOT.

HUMANITARIAN AWARDEES

Frank and Lori Biehl	1993
Fred Sammons	1994
Aerial Gilbert and her guide dog, DeeAnn	1997
Patsy and Hal Hollister	2000
Barbara Phillips	2001
Dr. Ernie Bodai	2002
Tom Hale.....	2003
Nancy Somerville	2004
Foster N. Anderson	2005
Debra Uhles Tanaka	2006
Judith Gail Rodgers	2008
Bonnie Nakasuji.....	2009
Fr. Gregory J. Boyle	2010
Joan Surfus	2011
Diane Mayfield	2013
Heather Javaherian-Dysinger	2014
Michelle Craft	2015
John Hwang	2016
Winifred Schultz-Krohn.....	2017
Vijay Gupta	2018
Elyse Gordon	2019
Steven Rubin.....	2020
Laguna Beach Assistance League.....	2023
Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop.....	2024

CFOT Award of Appreciation



Awarded to an individual, agency, business, or other institution in recognition of consistent significant service or other contributions to CFOT.

Shannon Rutledge, CMP

CFOT is pleased to present Shannon with our Award of Appreciation for her unwavering support and invaluable guidance that has continually ensured the success of our Awards Luncheon & Symposium at the OTAC Annual Conference.

Shannon is a Certified Meeting Planner (CMP) who has served the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC) for 16 years. She is the Senior Membership and Events Director at OTAC and works closely with their executive director and board of directors to service its members, plan and organize its annual conference, and support its strategic plan. In this role at OTAC, Shannon has been a tremendous help and resource to CFOT over the years, mitigating both foreseen and unanticipated issues, allowing our signature annual event to thrive.

OTAC Executive Director Karen C. Polastri shared that“From her first day with OTAC, Shannon has been an invaluable asset utilizing her people and technology skills, resourcefulness, and can-do spirit. We are all fortunate to have her on the OTAC team.”

We couldn't agree more, and for that, CFOT is deeply grateful.

2024 CFOT Scholarships

SCHOLARSHIPS

Michele Berro Scholarship

(in memory of Mary Ann Epstein)

Darcy McPherson – West Coast University

Frank J. Biehl Scholarship

*Catheline Phan – California State University
at Dominguez Hills*

Ardith Breton Scholarship

*Brigid Connelly – University of Southern
California*

Linda Florey Scholarship

Monica Ribeiro – West Coast University

Maureen Cunningham Herwood Scholarship

Nathan Burke-Tan – San Jose State University

Evelyn Jaffe Scholarship

Nicole Conyers – Dominican University

Susan Knox-Hirsch Scholarship

*Stacy Sanchez – University of Southern
California*

Bonita Kraft Scholarship

Tess Zapalac – San Jose State University

Janice Matsutsuyu Scholarship

*Kathleen Jayne – University of Southern
California*

*Taylor Kamemoto – University of Southern
California*

Jaynee Taguchi Meyer Scholarship

*Vanessa Wilder – California State University
at Dominguez Hills*

Margaret (Meg) Mitani & Gaylord E. Moss Scholarship

*Maria Nicole Sombillo – University of
Southern California*

Karen C. Polastri Scholarship

Emily Canigiula – San Jose State University

Fred Sammons Scholarship

*Samantha Leggis – California State
University at Dominguez Hills*

Chuck Strauch Scholarship

*Alessandra Velasquez – Samuel Merritt
University*

Lisa Test Scholarship

Haley Michaels – Stanbridge University

Wilma West Scholarship

Alex Lee – University of St. Augustine

Dorothy (Dottie) Wilson Scholarship

Amanda Vasquez – Loma Linda University

Ascend's Future OT Leaders Scholarship

Ariel Appel – San Jose State University

Ascend's OT Excellence Scholarship

*Kimberly Ancheta – San Jose State
University*

CFOT In Memoriam Scholarship

Hannah Schmid – Boston University

2024 REVIEWERS

Deborah Bolding

Sue Bowles

Sarah Bream

Cindy Burt

Megan Chang

Lisa Deshaies

Marianne Estournes

Stephanie Foster

Heather Javaherian-Dysinger

Katrina Long

Grace Lopez

Bonnie Nakasuji

Harold Neuendorf

Wendy Nitsche

Kay Simmons

Andy Whalley

Kathryn Wise

2024 CFOT Traineeships

TRAINEESHIPS

Maureen Cunningham Herwood Traineeship

Gisele Pereira – Santa Ana College

Janice Matsutsuyu Traineeship

Jenna Marshall – CBD College

Jayne Taguchi Meyer Traineeship

Brooke White – Sacramento City College

CFOT Traineeship

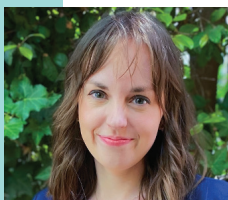
Beatrice Gonzales – Clovis Community College

Wen Min (Mina) Ho – Grossmont College

2024 CFOT Research Awards

We are very grateful to all those individuals who have established grants to support the research of practicing occupational therapists, academicians, and post-entry level students engaged in independent advanced practice, doctoral level, or post-doctoral level research.

RESEARCH AWARDS



**KAITLIN LILLYWHITE,
OTD, OTR/L, CSRS**

OT Unlocked: Cognitive Rehabilitation

Funding for this grant comes from the Luis Arabit Research Grant in Memory of Consuelo & Marialuz Arabit, the Julie Shaperman Research Grant in Memory of Dr. Martin Shaperman, the Dorothy (Dottie) Wilson Research Grant, and the CFOT General Research Fund



**KAREN M. KEPTNER,
PHD, OTR/L**

The Development of an Assessment Tool: Occupations in Higher Education Transitions Inventory (OHETI)

Funding for this grant comes from the Bonita Kraft Research Grant, the Margaret (Meg) Mitani & Gaylord E. Moss Research Grant, and the CFOT Legacy Research Grant



**SIDNEY JOHNSON,
OTD, OTR/L**

Identifying How Diverse Abilities Are Depicted in Children's Literature

Funding for this grant comes from the Lisa Test Endowed Research Award

2024 CFOT Seed Money Awards

Seed monies of up to \$250 are awarded to occupational therapy practitioners, faculty, and entry-level occupational therapy students (individually or in groups) for pilot studies, needs assessments, or developing new interventions, client education programs, or projects.

SEED MONEY AWARDS

San Jose State University

- *The Impact of Simulation-Based Education for Interprofessional Collaboration to Improve Student Self-Efficacy*
- Student Researchers: Anne Decker, OTS; Clarisse Fulgado, OTS; Kate O'Neill, OTS; Jonathan Wong, OTS
- Faculty Advisor: Jerilyn Smith, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

San Jose State University

- *The Experience of Parents Learning Sensory Processing Strategies in a University-Based Pediatric Occupational Therapy Clinic*
- Student Researchers: Paula Gomez, OTS; Yovanna Gonzalez, OTS; Michelle Macias, OTS; Sondra Stilwell, OTS; Ashley Thigpen, OTS
- Faculty Advisor: Courtney Boitano, OTD, OTR/L

San Jose State University

- *Exploring the Relationship Between Access to OT Services with Physical Activity and Quality of Sleep in Adults with Parkinson's Disease*
- Student Researchers: Jennifer Howard, OTS; Gloria Hsu, OTS; Samantha Krestchmer, OTS; Dayana Rangel, OTS
- Faculty Advisor: Katrina M. Long, EdD, MS, OTR/L

2024 CFOT Seed Money Awards

CFOT RESEARCH GRANT REVIEWERS

CFOT has a large community of volunteers who wholeheartedly support OT research and are willing to lend their expertise to the Foundation to assure that worthy studies are supported. Our list of reviewers includes a wide variety of outstanding academicians and clinicians across California. The Research Advisory Board depends upon their willingness to contribute in such a meaningful way to assure that CFOT's precious resources are distributed fairly and ethically.

We would like to thank these occupational therapists who enthusiastically gave of their time, energy and expertise to review the 2024 research grant applications and assist in selecting deserving research for funding: Courtney Boitano, Michelle Tipton Burton, Megan Chang, Chiao-Ju Fang, Kitsum Li, Bonnie Nakasuji, Terry Peralta, Sheryl Ryan, Winifred Schultz-Krohn, with additional support from Linda Florey and Dominique Embrey.

If you are interested in contributing as a reviewer, please email the CFOT Research Advisory Chairs and indicate your area of expertise. We will be delighted to call on you when an appropriate research grant application is submitted.

RESEARCH CHAIRS

Judith Palladino
Heidi McHugh Pendleton
Research@cfot.org

San Jose State University

- *Political Astuteness Among SJSU Occupational Therapy Students*
- *Student Researchers: Cara Mamola, OTS; David Ranit-Mauro, OTS; Inessa Owen, OTS*
- *Faculty Advisors: Winifred Schultz-Krohn, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; Luis L. Arabit, OTD, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA*

Dominican University of California

- *The Synergy of Executive Functions and Sensory Processing in Shaping Occupational Participation*
- *Student Researchers: Sophia Zertuche, OTS; Kaitlin Mulvaney, OTS; Isabella Aguirre, OTS*
- *Faculty Advisor: Julia Wilbarger, PhD, OTR/L*

San Jose State University

- *Getting Into Your Zone*
- *Student Researchers: Tal Shay, OTD (Cand); Linda Crabtree, OTD (Cand)*
- *Faculty Advisor: Courtney Boitano, OTD, OTR/L*

California State University Dominguez Hills

- *Giving Voice to POTS Patients: A Qualitative Investigation into Perspectives on Exercise Protocols and Aquatic Therapy*
- *Student Researcher: Eva Rose Celeste, OTS*
- *Faculty Advisor: Sheryl Ryan, PhD, OTR/L*

California State University Dominguez Hills

- *Experiences of Sexual Health, Sexuality, and Intimacy Among Individuals with Acquired Physical Disability*
- *Student Researchers: Elizabeth Kearney, OTS; Samantha Nugroho, OTS; Stephanie Flores, OTS; Hanna Lagman, OTS*
- *Faculty Advisor: Sheryl Ryan, PhD, OTR/L*

2024 CFOT Seed Money Awards

California State University Dominguez Hills

- *Suenos Amenazados: An Investigation of Doing, Being, Belonging, and Becoming in DACA Recipients in Higher Education*
- *Student Researchers: Lyneia Neri, OTS; Nancy Ascencio, OTS; Samantha Leggis, OTS*
- *Faculty Advisor: Sheryl Ryan, PhD, OTR/L*

California State University Dominguez Hills

- *The Essence of Naginata: A Case Study of Practitioners in Southern California*
- *Student Researchers: Tamaki Hozumi Trexler, OTS; Ingo Gabriel Ocampo, OTS*
- *Faculty Advisor: Sheryl Ryan, PhD, OTR/L*

2024 CFOT Honored Lecturer

Friday, November 8, 2024

HONORED LECTURER



Heather J. Kitching, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Loyalty in the Face of Adversity: Sustaining Ourselves, Each Other, and the Profession

Providing services to those in need and doing so competently and enthusiastically challenges us to our very core. The provision of healthcare and wellness interventions can be so rewarding yet so exhausting. We can choose to take the lead in facing the multitude of challenges before all of us by focusing on ourselves and each other. Loyalty as leadership allows us to acknowledge one another honestly, to accept and forgive when necessary, and to take the necessary risks to promote change, growth, and sustainability. Let us change some pervasive dynamics around us by intentionally daring to stand by each other with transparency, courage, and compassion. Sustaining ourselves and each other will create a sustainable and vibrant future for the profession.

BIOGRAPHY

Heather Kitching is the Program Coordinator of the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program at California State University Dominguez Hills (CSUDH). She holds a doctorate in occupational therapy from the University of Southern California where her doctoral capstone focused on the manualization of a collaborative project design and implementation of a postcolonial practice in occupational therapy. Dr. Kitching's clinical background is in acute care, rehabilitation, and home health. Her academic experience spans teaching courses in physical disabilities, neuroscience, and qualitative research, along with fieldwork and program coordination. Her professionalism has extended from volunteer to elected positions with the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC) and the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). Dr. Kitching is a mentor, advocate, and leader for students, colleagues, practitioners, and those who are recipients of occupational therapy services.

CFOT Honored Lecturers

HONORED LECTURERS

Elizabeth Yerxa, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA ...	1983	Mary Lawlor, ScD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2010
Lois Barber, OTR/L, FAOTA	1984	Pam Richardson, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2011
Lela Llorens, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	1985	Winifred Schultz-Krohn, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA	2012
Florence Cromwell, MA, OTR/L, FAOTA	1986	Erna Imperatore Blanche, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2013
Florence Clark, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA ...	1987	Heather Javaherian-Dysinger, OTD, OTR/L	2014
Mary Reilly, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA	1988	Deborah Bolding, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2015
Claudia Allen, MA, OTR/L, FAOTA	1989	Lela Llorens, PhD, OTR/Ret., FAOTA ...	2016
Elizabeth Yerxa, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA ...	1990	Ada Boone Hoerl, MA, COTA/L	2017
Evelyn Jaffe, MPH, OTR/L, FAOTA	1991	Jerilyn (Gigi) Smith, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2018
Linda Florey, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	1992	Shawn Phipps, PhD, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA	2019
Carlotta Welles, MA, OTR/L, FAOTA ...	1993	Luis Arabit, OTD, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA	2020
Mary Foto, OT/L, FAOTA	1994	John Goodfellow, OTD, OTR/L	2021
Diane Parham, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	1995	Christy Billock, PhD, OTR/L, DipACLM	2022
Ruth Zemke, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	1996	Lisa Deshaies, OTR/L, CHT	2023
Susan Knox, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	1997	Heather J. Kitching, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2024
Sandra Greene, MA, OTR/L	1998		
Heidi Pendleton, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA .	1999		
Dorothy Wilson, OTR/L, FAOTA	2000		
Guy McCormack, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2001		
Gordon Giles, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2001		
Evelyn Jaffe, MPH, OTR/L, FAOTA	2001		
Gordon Giles, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2002		
Diane Hendricks, MA, OTR/L, FAOTA	2003		
Mary Margaret Evert, MBA, OTR/L, FAOTA	2004		
Marcia Goodman-Lavey, Esq, OTR/L	2005		
Marti Southam, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA ...	2006		
Y. Lynn Yasuda, MSED, OTR/L, FAOTA ..	2007		
Kathleen Barker Schwartz, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA	2008		
Bonnie Nakasuji, OTD, OTR/L	2009		



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