



JOAN DRESCHER has explored how art heals the body, mind and spirit for the past twenty years. Joan is the Artist in Residence at Massachusetts General Hospital for Children and at Claritas Institute in Boulder, CO. She is the author/illustrator of the Moon Balloon book and the Director of the non-profit Moon Balloon Project. She is on the Board of the Society for Arts in Healthcare, a fellow at the Institute for Body, Mind and Spirituality at Lesley University and the author/illustrator of twenty-five children's books.

LIZ ENNIS is the Co-Director of the Moon Balloon Project. Liz holds a Master's degree in Expressive Arts Therapy from Lesley University and leads groups using intermodal expressive arts. She values the process of creativity and finds that daily practice helps maintain perspective, balance and understanding. Liz offers Caring for the Caregiver arts experiences along with the Moon Balloon trainings. Liz is a member of the Society for Arts in Healthcare, the American Art Therapy Assoc., and the International Expressive Arts Association.

WHERE HAS THE MOON BALLOON BEEN?

This program has been used at MassGeneral Hospital for Children; Boston's Floating Hospital; Gaslini Hospital for Children in Genoa, Italy; Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Illinois; Dunblane, Scotland; Society for the Arts in Healthcare; Lesley University; Georgetown University Medical Center; Pittsburgh Children's Hospital.

The Moon Balloon has been present as a resource for working globally with families and children who have experienced disasters. No matter whom the audience, these symbolic balloons have helped children and adults to communicate, opening hearts to hope and healing.

CEU credit available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE MOON BALLOON PROJECT

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THE MOON BALLOON PROJECT



TRAINING

LEARN

how to build bridges and improve communication using drawing and images as tools for creating a safe environment.

DISCOVER

how images and symbols can represent feelings that may be too difficult for words.

EMPOWER

children and families to connect with their ability to heal, even when overwhelmed by circumstances.



Photo © Joan Drescher

THE MOON BALLOON PROJECT is a 501(c)3 non profit organization based in Massachusetts. Its **MISSION** is dedicated to helping children and families in the healing process, bringing the wholeness of life through images.

Our **VISION** is to:

- Present interactive workshops for children
- Provide Moon Balloon training for caregivers
- Offer Caring for the Caregiver workshops
- Distribute Moon Balloon books and training guides to those who work with families in crisis
- Educate the public with presentations in hospitals, universities and other non-profit organizations
- Evaluate the effectiveness of using images to help families communicate through research
- Build bridges to improve communication globally

“The Moon Balloon is a wonderful way of allowing children to access and give words to their emotions. I believe this book and workshop could be a tremendous help to parents and other professionals who are concerned with children’s healing and emotional lives.”

–Joan Borysenko, Ph.D., Boulder, Colorado

“Wonderful creative outlet for personal empowerment and communication. Thank you for sharing it. The participation of the children and parents flowed so easily.”

–Parent, Children’s Memorial Hospital, Chicago

WHO IS THE TRAINING FOR?

Our training is for parents, teachers, guidance counselors, child life workers, chaplains, doctors, nurses, social workers, therapists, psychologists, hospice workers and all those concerned with bringing emotional healing to children.

HOW CAN IT HELP?

Our program builds a safe and supportive outlet in helping children and families communicate and cope with the stresses of everyday living and life changing experiences. Playful hot air balloon images representing various emotions provide a framework and work as a catalyst engaging children to write and draw feelings that are often too painful to speak about. Research shows that colorful positive images can help in the healing process.

“The trainers had a wonderful rapport, all ideas and suggestions were honored and heard. The training flowed and was so powerful.”

–Richelle Flavin, Winthrop Country Day Learning Center

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Participants will learn to use visual symbols, simple drawing techniques and interactive methods of bringing out images relevant to other’s experiences.

Trainees will learn how to engage their clients to represent their feelings through images. They will learn what symbols are and how to represent and personalize them. Simple drawing techniques will be demonstrated and explored.

“I have been using the Moon Balloon in my practice of nursing for the past ten years. This training manual is invaluable to all people working with children in healthcare. The training manual gives you the beginning ideas of how to incorporate the pages of the Moon Balloon into the day-to-day challenges of children in a safe and fun way, the rest of the journey is unlimited to your imagination.”

–Mary Lou Kelleher RN, MS Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist, MGH/ Children

“Joan and Liz shared spirit in action with us and with their vision and guidance we can take this mission to the parts of the world that we all touch.”

–Martine Amundson, RN

“...the bookends of child care and self care.”

–Patricia Tacelli, Early Childhood Educator

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