



NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

# WESTERN PSYCHOLOGIST

CONVENTION  
ISSUE!

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# IN THIS ISSUE

WPA 2014: Convention Information . . . . .	4
WPA 2014: Continuing Education at WPA . . . . .	5
WPA Convention Highlights . . . . .	6
THURSDAY. . . . .	6
FRIDAY. . . . .	7
SATURDAY. . . . .	9
Fun Run and Walk On Saturday Morning . . . . .	9
Terman Teaching Conference . . . . .	11
Statistics Workshop Schedule . . . . .	12
WPA News Updates . . . . .	13
WPA Convetion Web Links . . . . .	14
Enjoying Your Visit to Portland. . . . .	15
WPA Thanks the American Psychological Association . . . . .	16



*Join Us*

CONVENTION  
ISSUE!

# Western Psychological Association

NINETY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

APRIL 24-27, 2014 ~ PORTLAND, OREGON

Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront

**[westernpsych.org](http://westernpsych.org)**

Hosted by Western Oregon University



### REGISTRATION FOR THE 2014 CONVENTION

It is time to complete your convention registration. Early registration is open until March 31. If you have registered but still have an open invoice, please go to the website to login. The convention dates are April 24 -27 with the Terman Teaching Conference on April 23. Links for registration are on the WPA website. We urge you to pre-register to reduce waiting time at the registration counters and receive early-registration rates.

Register Now



### HOTEL INFORMATION

All WPA events will be held at the Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront on SW Naito Parkway. Our hotel rate includes Internet access from your room and a discount on valet parking. Information on reservations is on the [westernpsych.org](http://westernpsych.org) website. We anticipate that the hotel will sell all its rooms. Information on alternate hotels will be available on the website.



The WPA website also has information on travel from the airport (taxi, the Downtown Express shuttle, and the Portland light rail). The website includes links to information on downtown sightseeing and things to do in Portland..

You can use twitter to provide or find information on the convention and make contact with others attending the convention. Just use #wpapdx.

### CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations to programs chairs Ethan McMahan and Eric Cooley from Western Oregon University, along with WPA President Victoria Follette, for inviting an outstanding group of distinguished psychologists who will be presenting talks on a variety of topics. The WPA student council, headed by graduate student representative Amanda Chiapa, is arranging for student conversation hours to follow several speakers. There will also be symposia, paper and poster sessions, the WPA Film Festival, Statistics Workshops, and special workshops and panels for students and teachers.

**The complete program should be on the website by March 15.**





## WPA 2014: Continuing Education at WPA

**W**e will have APA approved Continuing Education Credit available for the WPA convention and the Terman Teaching Conference. Information and registration forms will be available by March 1 on the WPA website. If you wish to obtain CE credit for eligible sessions, you must sign in/out and complete an evaluation form after the session. You must also register by May 1 using our online registration system. There is a \$50 fee for a certificate for the WPA convention; a separate fee is required for a certificate for the Terman Conference. This is in addition to the conference fees.

**AVAILABLE  
MARCH 1!**



# WPA Convention Highlights



Jessica Henderson Daniel

## THURSDAY

Thursday begins with a presentation by **Jessica Henderson Daniel**, PhD, ABPP, a clinical psychologist and training director at Boston Children's Hospital and Boston University: **LEARNING ABOUT INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES: INFORMATION ACROSS GENERATIONS.**

**Leslie B. Hammer** (Portland State University) is a Industrial/Organizational psychologist speaking on **UNPACKING THE MYSTERY: HOW TO IMPROVE WORKER HEALTH AND WELL-BEING THROUGH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY APPROACHES.**



Leslie B. Hammer

**Robert Biswas-Diener** (Portland State University and Noba) will speak on **COURAGE: UNDERSTANDING FEAR AND THE WILLINGNESS TO ACT.** Dr. Biswas-Diener is author of important books in positive psychology including *The Courage Quotient: How Science Can Make You Braver and Happier* and *Unlocking the Mysteries of Psychological Wealth*.

**Philip G. Zimbardo** will make a special presentation on Thursday evening at 7:30. He will be discussing his research while showing scenes from a new video, **EXPLORING HUMAN NATURE**. As usual, there will also be time for questions and answers with Dr. Zimbardo.



The Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP) is again sponsoring the very popular **LAST LECTURE**, this year featuring **Stewart Donaldson** from Claremont Graduate University, **Delia S. Saenz** from Arizona State University, and **Ray Hyman** from University of Oregon.



Philip G. Zimbardo

In addition to talks by featured speakers, there will be numerous poster and paper sessions, symposia, and workshops each day of the convention.





Morton Ann Gernsbacher

## FRIDAY

**Morton Ann Gernsbacher** (University of Wisconsin-Madison) will speak on DIVERSE BRAINS. Humans are diverse and so are our brains. What are the implications for neuroscience and for society? Dr. Gernsbacher is an award-winning teacher and researcher, and is past president of the Association for Psychological Science. Sponsored by Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology.

**Diane Halpern** (Claremont McKenna College) will speak on THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE BEHIND PARTISANSHIP VERSUS COOPERATION. HOW YOU AND I CAN FIX OUR BROKEN GOVERNMENT. Dr. Halpern is past president of the American Psychological Association and Western Psychological Association, and is author of many articles and books including Thought and Knowledge: An Introduction to Critical Thinking (5th Ed., 2014) and Sex Differences in Cognitive Abilities (4th ed.).



Diane Halpern

**Stanley Sue** (Palo Alto University) is the recipient of the 2014 WPA Lifetime Achievement Award. His address topic is ETHNIC AND RACIAL ISSUES: WHY CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG?

**Melinda Blackman** (California State University, Fullerton) will deliver the WPA Teaching Award Address, CREATING A DYNAMIC, DIVERSE AND DILIGENT CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT.

The WPA Social Responsibility Award address will be given by **Anthony Biglan** (Oregon Research Institute): CREATING A COALITION FOR NURTURING ENVIRONMENTS. The talk will focus on experimental evidence that has identified family, school, and community interventions that are capable of nurturing development from the prenatal period through adolescence.



Melinda Blackman



Stan Sue

**John Boyd** is a social psychologist at Google who will speak on PSYCHOLOGY 2.0: MOVING BEYOND HUMAN-COMPUTER INTERACTION.





Sue Frantz

**Sue Frantz** (Highline Community College) is well-known for her technology website that is an amazing resource for teachers – [suefrantz.com](http://suefrantz.com). Her talk is titled THE ACADEMIC'S TOOLBOX: ESSENTIAL TECHNOLOGY.

**Kurt A. Freeman** with Danny C. Duke & Michael A. Harris (Oregon Health & Science University) will present CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?: INNOVATIVE USE OF TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE HEALTH AMONG YOUTH WITH DIABETES.

**R. Eric Landrum** from Boise State University is President of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP). He will be discussing APA UNDERGRADUATE GUIDELINES 2.0: ASSESSMENT, SKILLS, AND THE SCIENTIST-EDUCATOR MODEL (OH MY!).

**Jennifer J. Freyd** (University of Oregon) is speaking on INTERPERSONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL BETRAYAL -- traumas perpetrated by a trusted other (such as child abuse committed by a parent on his or her own child) or even by a trusted institution.

**William D. Crano** (Claremont Graduate University), PREVENTION OF DRUG MISUSE BY ADOLESCENTS: EXPORTING THE LABORATORY TO THE FIELD.

ADAPTATION AND THE PHENOMENOLOGY OF PERCEPTION is the title of a talk by **Michael Webster** (University of Nevada, Reno).

**Scott C. Bates** (Utah State University) will be discussing teaching research methods.

Two presentations focusing on positive psychology are also scheduled for Thursday.

**Phil Watkins** (Eastern Washington University) will speak on RECENT PROGRESS IN THE SCIENCE OF GRATITUDE and **Stewart I. Donaldson** (Claremont Graduate University) will discuss EMERGING SCIENTIFIC FINDINGS AND CONTROVERSIES IN POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY.

The WPA Presidential Address by **Victoria M. Follette** (University of Nevada, Reno) will be at 4:30 PM on Friday, LIFE AFTER TRAUMA: LESSONS FROM MY CLIENTS AND LIFE. A social hour and reception will follow. The reception is sponsored by TherapyNotes.



Kurt A. Freeman



Jennifer J. Freyd



R. Eric Landrum



Phil Watkins



Stewart I. Donaldson







Bettina J. Casad

## SATURDAY

**FUN RUN AND WALK.** Out hosts at Western Oregon University will be organizing a fun run/walk on Saturday morning. Details will be announced as we get closer to the convention.

**Bettina J. Casad** will deliver the WPA Early Career Research Award Address: **WHERE ARE THE WOMEN SCIENTISTS? THE ROLE OF THREATENING INTELLECTUAL ENVIRONMENTS IN WOMEN'S UNDERREPRESENTATION IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM).** Dr. Casad recently moved from Cal Poly Pomona to the University of Missouri-St. Louis.



Lisa Diamond

**Lisa Diamond** (University of Utah) will deliver the APA G. Stanley Hall Lecture: **TEACHING ABOUT SEXUALITY AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION.** Her research focuses on intimate relationships and their influence on emotional experience and functioning over the life course. Her presentation is sponsored by the American Psychological Association and the Society for the Teaching of Psychology.

**Ira E. Hyman, Jr.** (Western Washington University) will present **GOING GAGA: INVESTIGATING, CREATING, AND MANIPULATING THE SONG STUCK IN MY HEAD.**

**DETECTING LIES AND PROFILING SERIAL KILLERS: RESEARCH FINDINGS, THE MEDIA, AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM** is the intriguing title of a talk by **Mark Costanzo** (Claremont McKenna College).

**Sonja Lyubomirsky** and **Kristin Layous** (University of California, Riverside) will chair the President's WPA Symposium on **GRATITUDE AND PROSOCIAL BEHAVIOR: OTHER-ORIENTED PATHS TO GREATER HAPPINESS.**



Ira E. Hyman, Jr.



***Fun Run and Walk On Saturday Morning***





Gordon C. Nagayama Hall

**Gordon C. Nagayama Hall** (University of Oregon) will focus on the topic of ASIAN AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGY: MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH.

**Shelly Gable** (University of California, Santa Barbara) will present BUILDING FUTURE RESOURCES BY SHARING PAST SUCCESSES, a discussion of research on building personal resources to facilitate resilience in the face of challenges.

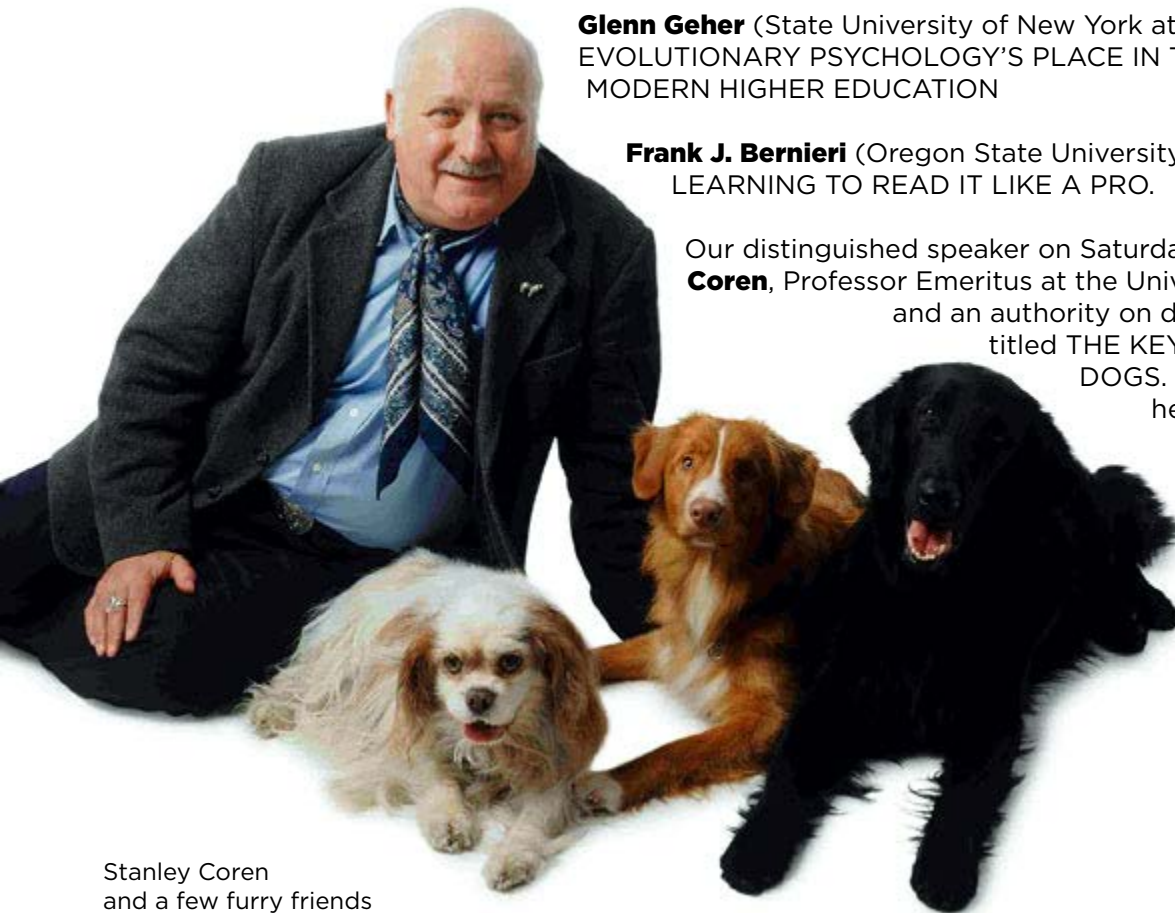
Health Psychology will be the focus of two other presentations on Saturday: **Michael F. Steger** (Colorado State University), MEANING IN LIFE IS DESIRABLE, BUT NOW WHAT? EMERGING RESEARCH ON THE RELEVANCE OF MEANING TO HEALTH and **Eric Stice** (Oregon Research Institute), EATING DISORDER PREVENTION: INDUCING COGNITIVE DISSONANCE FOR HEALTH PROMOTION.

**Azim Shariff** (University of Oregon) will present research on the connection between religion and prosocial behavior: EVOLUTION OF RELIGIOUS PROSOCIALITY: HOW GODS MAKE US GOOD AND HOW THEY DON'T.

**Glenn Geher** (State University of New York at New Paltz), EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY'S PLACE IN THE LANDSCAPE OF MODERN HIGHER EDUCATION

**Frank J. Bernieri** (Oregon State University), BODY LANGUAGE: LEARNING TO READ IT LIKE A PRO.

Our distinguished speaker on Saturday afternoon is **Stanley Coren**, Professor Emeritus at the University of British Columbia and an authority on dog intelligence. His talk is titled THE KEY TO UNDERSTANDING DOGS. WPA members who have heard Dr. Coren at previous conventions know that his presentations are highly informative and entertaining. Bring everyone to hear Dr. Coren!



Stanley Coren  
and a few furry friends



# TERMAN TEACHING CONFERENCE

**T**he Terman Teaching Conference will again be held on the Wednesday prior to the WPA convention. This is an excellent value with a registration fee of only \$25 if you register online by March 31. The theme this year is BEST (and NEW) PRACTICES IN TEACHING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS; and BEST (and OLD) PRACTICES IN TEACHING GRADUATE STUDENTS. Heidi R. Riggio from CSU Los Angeles is Conference Coordinator. Coffee, a continental breakfast, and conversation begin at 8:30 AM. The sessions begin at 9:00 AM. Highlights include:

**Integrating Media into Introductory Psychology**

Deborah Licht & Misty Hull, Pikes Peak Community College

**A Theme-Based Approach to Teaching**

Vivian McCann, Portland Community College

**Evidence-Based Teaching and Learning: From Theory to Practice**

Sarah Grison, Parkland College

**Accessibility of Master's Programs in the CSU: Challenges for the Future**

Ted Bell, Kimberly King, Brigitte K. Matthies, & Heidi R. Riggio, California State University, Los Angeles

**Planning Ahead: Leading Departments through Chairpersonship**

Robert Levine & Connie Jones, California State University, Fresno

**Mentoring Students and Colleagues: An Integrative Approach**

Adele Eskeles Gottfried, California State University, Northridge & Allen W. Gottfried, California State University, Fullerton

Thanks to Worth Publishers for their support of the Terman Teaching Conference.





# Statistics Workshop Schedule

A statistics workshop will be held each day of the convention. Thanks to the support of the Science Directorate of the American Psychological Association, there is no charge for workshop registration. In order to plan for attendance and prepare handouts, we do ask you to register in advance if you are considering attending. The registration form for the workshops is on the WPA website. Thanks to Chris Aberson from Humboldt State University for organizing the workshops this year:

## **Introduction to Item Response Theory OR Don't be afraid of IRT!**

Andrew Ainsworth, California State University Northridge  
Thursday, April 24, 1:30-3:30 PM

The focus of this workshop will be on applications of Item Response Theory (IRT) models to measuring psychological phenomenon. The workshop will begin with a brief discussion/review of related topics (e.g., classical test theory, logistic regression, latent variable models) will then focus on introducing basic Item Response Theory (IRT) models, assumptions and procedures. After establishing IRT fundamentals the modeling techniques will be illustrated conceptually using IRT software (e.g., FlexMIRT and EQSIRT) and data sets will be utilized throughout the workshop as examples. Workshop attendees will learn 1) basic IRT concepts, assumptions and procedures, 2) how IRT models can be applied to answer questions concerning psychological data, and 3) why psychologists should be using IRT models more frequently. This workshop is an excellent primer/refresher for Dr. Kathleen Preston's Advanced Topics in IRT workshop (Friday).

## **Advanced Topics in IRT: Evaluating the effectiveness of each response option with the nominal response model**

Kathleen Preston, California State University, Fullerton  
Friday, April 25, 8:30-10:30 AM

An essential aspect of psychological research is the measurement of individuals on a construct of interest. Furthermore, accurate measurement

of individuals is imperative when high-stakes decisions are being made. Therefore, much of psychological research involves the development, revision, and application of measurement instruments. While most of the focus is on the item content, there is little focus on the appropriateness of the response options with a 5-, 7-, or even 9-point Likert-type response format being arbitrarily chosen. Fortunately, the nominal response model (NRM), a much underutilized polytomous item response theory (IRT) model, has the unique ability to estimate within-item category functioning, allowing researchers the opportunity to empirically evaluate the appropriateness of each response option. This more thorough and interesting way to analyze the effectiveness of each response option is especially important during scale development, or when concerned about the psychometric properties of an established measure.

This session will focus on scale development and revision under an IRT framework. We will begin with a conceptual overview of polytomous IRT models focusing on the NRM. We will then cover how to specify the NRM for analysis using modern IRT software, discuss some technical decisions, and interpret and plot the resulting category parameters. Finally, we will examine the within-item category functioning through the application of the Wald test, make empirically based modifications to the response options, and evaluate the psychometric properties of the resulting scale. A solid understanding of measurement theory and introductory knowledge of IRT such as that provided in Andrew Ainsworth's Introduction to IRT workshop (Thursday) would be beneficial.

## **Growth Curve Modeling with Latent Variables**

Sanjay Srivastava, University of Oregon  
Saturday, April 26, 8:45-10:45 AM

If you want to study change, you need to study people changing – and that means collecting longitudinal data. But how do you analyze it? One powerful approach is growth curve modeling, which lets

you go beyond describing how the average person changes and lets you model how different people change in different ways. Growth curves can be fit in either multilevel modeling software or structural equation modeling software; these two approaches overlap a great deal, but in practice lend themselves to somewhat different extensions. This session will focus on growth curve modeling within an SEM framework. We will begin with a conceptual overview of what a growth curve model is and what kind of data you need to do it (e.g., data from at least 3 and preferably 4+ timepoints). We will then cover how to specify a basic growth curve model in SEM, discuss important modeling decisions, and talk about how to interpret results. We will conclude with a preview of some of the ways to extend the basic model, including models with covariates, growth in multiple variables, etc. A solid understanding of regression is a must; some knowledge of SEM would be helpful.

## **Multiple Regression: Assumptions, Analyses, and Presentation**

Christopher L. Aberson, Humboldt State University  
Sunday, April 27, 8:30-10:30 AM

This workshop provides an overview of the application of multiple regression analysis from start to finish. I begin with a discussion of basic statistical values for OLS regression and provide a brief overview of their calculation and interpretation. Next, I cover evaluating regression assumptions and techniques for addressing violations. I then provide sample analyses and interpretations along with APA style presentation examples. After covering these topics, I discuss advanced graphing techniques for detecting violations of assumptions, approaches for detecting and dealing with extreme scores, and application of approaches such as Hierarchical Multiple Regression. Attendees will receive a packet demonstrating use of SPSS and R for conducting analyses. A basic background in correlation and linear regression, consistent with the coverage in most introductory statistics textbooks, will be helpful.





### 2014 WPA ELECTION

Professional WPA members will soon receive a ballot for the 2014 election. The election will be conducted online -- a link will be sent via e-mail that will take you to a secure ballot. The only open office this year is President-Elect. One of the two candidates withdrew so the ballot will show one candidate: Howard S. Friedman (University of California, Riverside) plus a write-in option



## ***Renew or Join WPA Now***

Membership



JOBS, GRANTS  
AWARDS, INTERNSHIPS  
CHECK IT OUT!

Check the Classified and Announcements Sections on the WPA website for jobs, grants, awards, conferences, and internships.  
[westernpsych.org](http://westernpsych.org).



## WPA Convnetion Web Links



## NEW WPA Web Site

### **WPA Home Page**

<http://www.westernpsych.org>

### **WPA Convention Page**

<http://westernpsych.org/convention/>

### **Membership Information and Member Log-In**

<http://westernpsych.org/members-login-or-join/>

### **Hotel Reservations and Travel Information**

<http://westernpsych.org/wpa-convention-hotel-travel-information/>

### **Advice on Preparing a Poster for WPA**

<http://westernpsych.org/poster-design/>

### **Student Convention Guide**

<http://westernpsych.org/wpa-convention-student-guide/>

### **WPA Registration**

This is a portal to registration for all WPA events – convention, Terman Conference, statistics workshops, and CE registration.  
<http://westernpsych.org/registration/>

### **Terman Teaching Conference Registration**

<http://westernpsych.org/registration/>

### **Statistics Workshop Registration**

<http://westernpsych.org/registration/>



## Enjoying Your Visit to Portland



### National Living Laboratory Western Regional Symposium: Museum- Research Partnerships April 23-24 at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) in Portland, OR

We hope you will find time to enjoy some of the great things Portland has to offer. Downtown has art museums (Portland Art Museum free on Friday), Powell's books, live theater, live music, food carts, restaurants, shopping. Check out what's happening at the Crystal Ballroom or the Doug Fir Lounge or Dante's or Roseland or the Ash Street Saloon. Find the Stumptown Coffee Roasters or Voodoo Doughnuts. Have a beer at Bailey's Taproom downtown or Henry's Tavern in the Pearl District. There's a Full Sail pub across the street in the Riverplace shopping area. Check out the menu at Mother's Bistro & Bar or right next to our hotel at Veritable Quandary Restaurant, or up the street at Nel Centro. Departure is a rooftop lounge and restaurant. Check out the aerial tram, a short ride away from the hotel by streetcar. Have fun finding things with Google, Yelp, and Trip Advisor. Also see the handy links below.

And finally, just across the river is the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry that is sponsoring a symposium on cognitive research that takes place in the museum: click on the green box to the left or <http://westernpsych.org/national-living-laboratory-western-regional-symposium-museum-research-partnerships-april-23-24-at-the-oregon-museum-of-science-and-industry-omsi-in-portland-oregon/>

- [Portland Activities \(Trip Advisor\)](#) - Includes descriptions of many walking and bike tours including brewery tours. Also, a Portlandia tour or a Grimm tour (Wesen!!!).
- [10 Things to Do \(Time Online\)](#)
- [Things to Do \(Lonely Planet\)](#)
- [5 Free Things to Do \(Seattle Times\)](#)
- [Things to Do \(ABC News\)](#)
- [Guide to locations shown in Portlandia](#)
- [Guide to locations shown in Grimm](#)
- [Some cheap good places to eat](#)
- [Live music events calendar](#)





WPA thanks the  
American Psychological Association,  
Worth Publishers, Therapy Notes, and  
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of our 2014 Convention and  
Terman Teaching Conference.

