



# The 2023 Annual GALAA Conference

March 9-10, 2023

## Featured Speakers

John Sobraske  
presenting  
*Adoption: Past, Present,  
and Future*  
Thursday, March 9,  
2023

Rebecca Autumn  
Sansom presenting her  
film  
*Reckoning With the  
Primal Wound*  
Featuring Q&A and  
panel discussion with  
cast members

This year's conference  
will take place virtually.  
Access instructions will  
be sent the week of the  
conference.

For questions about GALAA,  
its members, and how the  
association can support you,  
visit:  
[www.galaa.org](http://www.galaa.org)

## Beneath the Surface: Taking a deeper look at adoption



John Sobraske,  
MA Clinical  
Psychology,  
LMHC, LMFT  
(New York)

John is an  
adopted person,  
a step-parent of  
adopted  
children, and a  
psychotherapist

in private practice. As a graduate fellow  
at the University of Minnesota, he  
participated in research on open  
adoption and early stress. He has a  
private practice in Rochester, New York  
where he works extensively with foster  
and adopted individuals and families.  
He has expertise in executive function,  
autism, fetal alcohol, attachment,  
trauma, object relations, personality  
disorders and divorce.



## Rebecca Autumn Sansom

Filmmaker Rebecca Autumn Sansom (adoptee) and her biological mother Jill Hawkins (PhD) are the first adoptee x biological mother team to make a feature length documentary about Nancy Verrier's landmark book, *The Primal Wound* which is in it's 15th printing and has been translated into 7 languages.



## Conference Agenda

### THURSDAY, March 9

8:30am - Webinar opens

9:00am - Welcome and introductions

9:15am - Presentation begins

- History of Adoption
- Adoption & Media

10:30am - Break

10:45am - Presentation resumes

- Adoption & Media
- Epigenetics, In-Utero Experience, and Profound Early Loss

12:15pm - Lunch

12:45pm - Presentation resumes

- Core Issues in Adoption

2:15pm - Break

2:30pm - Presentation resumes

- "The Big Four"

3:30pm - Questions

4:00pm - Closing remarks

### FRIDAY, March 10

8:30am - Webinar opens

9:00am - Welcome and introductions

9:15am - Screening of "Reckoning with the Primal Wound" documentary film

11:15am - Break

11:30am - Q&A

12:00pm - Panel discussion with cast members

1:00pm - Break

1:15pm - Questions and closing discussion

1:45pm - Closing remarks

# Registration Fees

Two-day rates (Thursday & Friday - 10 CEUs)

GALAA members: \$175

Non-GALAA members: \$200

One Day Rate - Thursday Only:

GALAA members: \$100

Non-GALAA members: \$115

(6 CEU Hours)

One Day Rate - Friday Only:

GALAA members: \$75

Non-GALAA members: \$85

(4 CEU Hours)

Student Fee: \$75 for full conference or \$50 for Thursday only or \$25 for Friday only

Adoptive and Foster Parents – (No CEUs offered however certificates of attendance will be available): \$50 per person per day

**\*\*\*Early bird registration\*\*\***

Register for the full two-day conference by Wednesday, February 15, 2023 and receive an additional \$25 off (Online only!)

Cancellations: 75% refund if cancelled up to 2 weeks prior to the event. No refund issues after March 1, 2023.

# The Georgia Association of Licensed Adoption Agencies

GALAA promotes quality and ethical adoption practices among providers of adoption services.

We provide:

- A forum for training, innovation and the sharing of information on trends and important concerns to adoption practitioners.
- A resource in the community to advance awareness and understanding of adoption.
- Advocacy for quality services, policies and adoption laws and practices at the state, local and federal level.

## CEUs

Approval has been received from the University of Georgia for 10 Core hours of continuing education credit for licensed social workers, marriage and family therapists, and professional counselors. Please indicate on your registration (paper or online via Eventbrite) if you will be needing a CEU certificate following the conference.

# Eventbrite Registration

Online registration can be found at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beneath-the-surface-taking-a-deeper-look-at-adoption-tickets-531489929687>

**\*Please note that fees do apply with this option.\***

The refund policy is the same for both options. Refunds from online registrations will not be processed until after the conference. If a refund applies, only the conference registration fee will be refunded and not the administrative fee from Eventbrite.



## Registration Form

*Please submit a separate registration form per person, reproduce if necessary. Payment should be included with this registration form. No confirmation of registration will be sent out.*

Select one:

- Thursday and Friday
- Thursday only
- Friday only

Name

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Address

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Agency/Org.:

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Email:

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Phone number:

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Fee enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ attendees

For Information, call Stacy Meadows at (470) 834-0550 or Racquelle Grant at 770-452-9995.

\*Make Checks Payable to: "GALAA" and mail checks to: % Racquelle Grant  
Agape: 3094 Mercer University Dr. Ste. 200, Atlanta, GA 30341-4141