



MAPS

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ASSOCIATION FOR PSYCHEDELIC STUDIES

VOLUME XXI • NUMBER 2

FOR 25 YEARS, MAPS has worked to study the healing potentials of psychedelics and marijuana. People suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxious about approaching the end of their life, or struggling with addiction often experience psychological pain that remains even after traditional psychotherapeutic and pharmacological treatment. My experience—as well as that of many doctors, psychotherapists, and hospice workers I’ve come to know over the years—tells me that lasting healing (or comfort with death) doesn’t come just in a pill. Neither does it come in wishful thinking.

From the desk of Rick Doblin, Ph.D.

That’s why the methodology that MAPS is developing for psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy addresses both the body and the mind—through the careful application of psychedelic medicines and the compassionate care of a trained team of psychotherapists. With that combination, we are succeeding in showing the world that psychedelic psychotherapy can be a powerful tool for healing and personal growth.

Just as personal healing involves the whole person, social healing involves our whole society. While our immediate goal is to heal individual patients, our research has implications far beyond the small (but no less significant) space of the psychotherapist’s office.

The scientific knowledge that MAPS has collected—both from government-funded risk studies and from our own research—has persuaded the FDA and other regulatory agencies around the world that MDMA has an acceptable risk profile that justifies administering it to human subjects in clinical research settings.

MAPS’ MDMA research was also a major factor in changing how judges enforce laws surrounding Ecstasy-related crimes. On July 15, 2011, U.S. District Judge William Pauley III sentenced a defendant charged with selling illegal Ecstasy tablets to 26 months in prison, less than half the time

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mdma research news

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First Five Veterans Treated in US Study of MDMA-Assisted Psychotherapy for PTSD

Five subjects (out of 16) have now received at least one experimental treatment session in our ongoing U.S. Phase 2 Study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for veterans with chronic, treatment-resistant PTSD. Of these subjects, three have completed all three experimental treatment sessions in Stage 1 and one has completed the entire study. The long line of veterans now awaiting in-person screening for this study is both encouraging and saddening—encouraging because it means we will certainly have enough subjects for the study, saddening because there are so many people for whom conventional PTSD treatments have failed to provide sufficient relief. Female combat veterans and veterans living near Charleston, SC, are especially encouraged to apply for study participation (see www.maps.org/vets). Clinical Investigators and co-therapists Michael Mithoefer, M.D., and Annie Mithoefer, B.S.N., will be hosting a workshop at Cartographie Psychedelica, our 25th Anniversary conference and celebration in Oakland from December 8-12. More information about these workshops will be available at www.maps.org/25.

MDMA-Assisted Psychotherapist Training Study Treats First Subject

On April 22, 2011, the first subject completed our therapist training protocol for MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. Two additional subjects have been scheduled for later this year. This protocol is designed as a Phase 1 study of the psychological effects of MDMA in healthy volunteers, with subjects limited to people in MAPS' therapist training program. In addition to providing new information about the effects of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy in healthy volunteers, the study will enable us to train therapists to conduct future MDMA/PTSD studies. Clinical Investigators Michael Mithoefer, M.D., and Annie Mithoefer, B.S.N., are leading the study, and Julie Holland, M.D., is the medical monitor.

FDA and Ethics Committee Approve US MDMA/PTSD Relapse Study Protocol

On June 9, 2011, our Institutional Review Board (IRB), or ethics committee, approved the protocol for our new "relapse study" of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. This study, which will take place in Charleston, SC, is limited to up to three subjects whose PTSD symptoms returned after participating in our flagship Phase 2 clinical trial of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. Over 80% of the subjects in our previous study no longer met criteria for PTSD two months after treatment. These benefits tended to persist over time until our long-term follow-up, conducted an average of 41 months after treatment. However, for several subjects symptoms did eventually return. This relapse study will attempt to determine whether a single additional open-label MDMA-assisted psychotherapy session along with several non-drug psychotherapy sessions can enable these subjects to once again be free of a PTSD diagnosis.

On June 14, Clinical Investigator and co-therapist Michael Mithoefer, M.D., submitted the protocol for the relapse study to the DEA, which must now conduct its own review before granting us the license to store and administer the MDMA. We anticipate that the DEA will approve the study soon, allowing us to schedule the study initiation and begin enrolling subjects.

Israeli MDMA/PTSD Study Initiated

On July 24, 2011, our new Israeli study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD was officially initiated. Representatives from Antaea Medical Services, Ltd., the clinical research organization that will be assisting MAPS with managing our Middle East studies, visited the site to finalize documents and provide training to the study staff. The study has all necessary clearances from Israeli regulatory bodies, including the Israeli Ministry of Health and an independent Ethics Committee. We have also submitted the protocol to the U.S. FDA, which is required because we are conducting the study under a U.S. Investigational New Drug application. We expect to begin enrolling Israeli subjects with chronic, treatment-resistant PTSD this fall.

Jordanian MDMA/PTSD Study Awaits Clearance from Jordanian FDA

On July 19, 2011, clinical research organization Antaea Medical Services, Ltd., made a presentation to the Jordanian Food and Drug Administration (JFDA) regarding safety procedures in our Jordanian protocol investigating MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. JFDA officials had some questions about subject demographics, safety requirements, and our experience with previous studies, to which we responded in writing.

On July 30, we learned that the JFDA decided not to approve the study at this time, based in part on comments from an expert reviewer chosen by the JFDA. We anticipate receiving a further set of questions from JFDA soon, and we are hopeful this study will eventually be approved. Our supplier in Switzerland is ready to ship the MDMA to Jordan, so all we need is the final word from the JFDA and the permits for bringing the MDMA into Jordan. We will then be ready to initiate the study and begin recruiting and enrolling subjects.

Health Canada Reports on Inspection of MDMA/PTSD Study Pharmacy

On May 10, 2011, Health Canada inspected the Vancouver pharmacy that will be used to store and label the MDMA capsules for our upcoming Canadian study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for subjects with chronic, treatment-resistant PTSD. On July 6, 2011, we received a letter from Health Canada (dated June 17, 2011) requesting additional information about the site and about how we proposed to transfer the MDMA from the pharmacy to the treatment facility.

Canadian regulations require that the study pharmacy be adequately secure, and that the proper accountability procedures be in place. The information requested by Health Canada included clarifications about the address of the pharmacy, the security measures available at the site, the method of transportation of the MDMA between the pharmacy and the research site, and the format of the labels to be used on the capsules. Health Canada also requires that we include an alarm system at the site. We are currently preparing our reply, and anticipate these issues will be relatively easy to address. The final step before initiating the study will be to obtain the license to import the MDMA for the study into Canada from Switzerland (where another MAPS MDMA/PTSD study was recently completed).

Swiss MDMA/PTSD Study Completed, Data Prepared for Publication

On June 1, 2011, our clinical research team closed and locked the database for our Swiss study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD, officially concluding the data collection portion of the study. The team is now assisting Clinical Investigator Peter Oehen, M.D., and co-author Ulrich Schneider, M.D. (former president of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies) in preparing a manuscript to be published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. The quality inspection of the final data set from our Swiss study revealed remarkably clean results, with a 0.04% error rate (far below the 0.5% required to pass). The locked database will also be used for our final report to the U.S. FDA.

MAPS Creates New Tools and Translations for International MDMA/PTSD Research

The international expansion of MAPS' MDMA-assisted psychotherapy studies makes it essential to keep our therapeutic approach consistent across study sites. In light of this challenge, MAPS has created a training manual to instruct the blinded independent raters involved in our studies of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD in the reliable administration of the Clinician Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS). This manual and its accompanying video tutorials were adapted for MAPS' experimental methodology from training materials provided by the U.S. Veterans Administration, which created the CAPS.

The CAPS was one of the first diagnostic interviews developed specifically for PTSD. Because of the flexibility of the CAPS interview format, there can be differences between how interviewers use it to evaluate PTSD symptoms. By standardizing how these interviews are conducted and scored, we will obtain more consistent data and in doing so enable our research staff to conduct meta-analyses and compare data across sites—of major importance when conducting international clinical trials.

With our Israeli study being initiated and our Jordanian study seeking final government approval, MAPS has been working especially hard to make our research tools accessible to clinical researchers in the Middle East. We have now completed translations of the CAPS into Hebrew and Arabic, and we are working on back-translations to verify their accuracy and consistency. By sharing these translations freely with the Veteran Administration's National Center for PTSD, and with researchers throughout Israel and the Arab world, MAPS is promoting the development of effective PTSD treatments by fostering collaborations and comparisons between international research teams and across different cultures.



MDMA-assisted psychotherapy treatment room, Charleston, SC

MARIJUANA RESEARCH NEWS

Study of Marijuana for Veterans with PTSD Gets FDA Go-Ahead; Awaits Response from NIDA/PHS

On April 28, 2011, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration accepted MAPS' protocol design for our study of marijuana for veterans with PTSD. Once again, the FDA has demonstrated its willingness to evaluate studies on the basis of scientific merit rather than political partisanship. Many U.S. veterans already use medical marijuana to deal with their symptoms of PTSD. The study would be the first clinical trial of smoked or vaporized marijuana for PTSD patients, comparing the safety and effectiveness of five strains for symptoms of PTSD in 50 U.S. veterans with chronic, treatment-resistant PTSD.

Although MAPS, the FDA, and an independent Institutional Review Board (IRB) are all satisfied with the protocol design, we cannot begin the study until it passes yet another review process with the National Institute on Drug Abuse and Public Health Service (NIDA/PHS). This redundant review has been required solely because NIDA has a monopoly on the supply of marijuana for research, and the agency must review the protocol before allowing us to purchase marijuana. Unfortunately for patients, NIDA's mission does not include exploring the potential beneficial uses of marijuana. Now NIDA and the PHS will decide if MAPS can obtain marijuana for 50 suffering veterans.

We submitted the protocol to be reviewed by NIDA/PHS on April 28, the same day we learned that the FDA had accepted it. On July 15,

the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) informed us that the review had been completed and that we should receive the report soon. At the time of this publication, we still had not received their response. The HHS notice came only days before an article about the study in *The New York Times* ("Marijuana May Be Studied for Combat Disorder," July 18, 2011) made MAPS' marijuana research national news. We're hopeful that the combination of the need for this research into marijuana for PTSD in veterans and the high media profile of our study will prompt HHS to issue a reasonable set of comments regarding our protocol.

In order to facilitate MAPS' privately-funded medical marijuana research, MAPS has been pressuring the federal government through hearings, lawsuits, and appeals for over a decade to allow us to grow our own marijuana exclusively for use in federally-reviewed research. Producing our own medical marijuana would mean not having to go through the redundant NIDA/PHS review. The DEA has thus far refused to accept its own Administrative Law Judge's recommendation that it would be in the public interest for Professor Lyle Craker of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, to receive a license to grow marijuana for research regulated by the FDA.

MORE RESEARCH NEWS

Swiss LSD/End-of-Life Anxiety Study Treats Last Subject

On May 26, 2011, in a major milestone for psychedelic research, the 12th and last subject was treated in MAPS' Swiss study of LSD-assisted psychotherapy for anxiety associated with advanced-stage illness. We collected two-month follow-up data from this subject in July, bringing to an end the first clinical LSD study in a patient population in over 35 years. In 30 treatment sessions, not a single subject experienced a Serious Adverse Event (SAE), such as psychotic experiences, suicidal crises, flashbacks, or severe anxieties ("bad trips"). These safety results indicate that the risk of administering LSD in carefully controlled clinical settings is acceptably low, and that there is a promising future for LSD research.

According to Clinical Investigator Peter Gasser, M.D., all 12 patients reported benefits from the treatment, although the trend toward reductions in anxiety did not reach statistical significance. You can read more about the historical significance of this study in a recent article by award-winning writer and *MAPS Bulletin* guest editor David Jay Brown in the *Santa Cruz Patch* ("Landmark Clinical LSD Study Nears Completion," May 27, 2011).

New Study of Ibogaine Treatment for Addiction Planned for New Zealand

On August 30, 2011, Geoff Noller, Ph.D., Research Fellow in Psychological Medicine at the University of Otago, New Zealand, will submit the protocol for his new study of ibogaine treatment for addiction in New Zealand to an independent Institutional Review Board (IRB). MAPS has agreed to provide \$15,000 for this study (out of a generous \$25,000 grant from Matt and Kristi Bowden of Stargate International). Like our other observational ibogaine studies, this research will investigate the long-term effects of ibogaine therapy at up to three different independent clinics. This data may be used to make a

case for a future clinical study and to evaluate differences in treatment approach and effectiveness between clinics. Since this is a non-clinical study, we will be able to begin enrolling subjects as soon as we have clearance from the IRB.

The remaining \$10,000 of the Bowdens' contribution will be allocated to our ongoing ibogaine research program in Mexico. This study has now enrolled 28 out of 30 subjects. All subjects will be monitored for one year after ibogaine treatment, after which we will analyze the data and prepare it for publication.

MAPS Helps ACLU Successfully Challenge Harsh Ecstasy Sentencing Guidelines

On July 15, 2011, the American Civil Liberties Union, with scientific assistance from MAPS, won a major victory in a legal case challenging the federal sentencing guidelines for Ecstasy-related crimes. The defendant charged with distributing Ecstasy was sentenced to 26 months in prison, less than half the time recommended by current sentencing guidelines. The federal judge's willingness to downwardly depart from the sentencing guidelines was due to evidence presented by the ACLU demonstrating that the guidelines had been made in a time of irrational panic over the dangers of the drug—and highlighting the current scientific consensus that the risks of Ecstasy are substantially lower than presented a decade ago. Several expert witnesses testified when the guidelines were created (including MAPS Executive Director Rick Doblin, Ph.D., Richard Glen Boire, Julie Holland, M.D., Charles Grob, M.D., and David Nichols, Ph.D.), but their comments were ignored. MAPS contributed to the victory by educating ACLU lawyers about current evidence about the risks of recreational Ecstasy use and suggesting expert witnesses. The outcome of the trial indicates that the science of psychedelics can have real, positive implications for health, policy, and human rights. Learn more about this case at www.maps.org/aclucestasy.

MAPS INTERNATIONAL

In order to further expand and consolidate our growing international presence, MAPS is now working with affiliates in Hungary and Canada.

What is MAPS International?

In order to further expand and consolidate our growing international presence, MAPS is now working with affiliates in Hungary and Canada. Our goal is to provide guidance and expertise to these promising groups by helping set organizational goals, participating on their administrative boards, reviewing research protocols, assisting with regulatory permission, and ensuring that their work meets our high research standard.

Why MAPS International?

The purpose of collaborating with our international affiliates is (1) to stimulate psychedelic research in new countries, enabling further mainstreaming of psychedelic medicine and allowing cross-cultural comparisons of our research data; (2) to provide tax deductions for international donors; (3) to build our community of researchers and mobilize our fast-growing network of volunteers; and (4) to educate scientists, therapists, teachers, students, and policymakers worldwide.

MAPS Canada

MAPS is working with MAPS Canada to conduct a study of ayahuasca-assisted therapy for addiction and dependence in British Columbia, and to raise funds for our upcoming Vancouver study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. MAPS Canada's Board of Directors includes Mark Haden (chair), Donna Dryer, Jacob Hunter, Kirk Tousaw, Philippe Lucas, Rick Doblin, Valerie Mojeiko, and Robert Barnhart.

MAPS has established the MDMA-PTSD Fund at Tides Canada for the purpose of supporting charitable activities identified by MAPS. Donors to the Tides Canada Foundation may request that their donation be added to the MDMA-PTSD Fund and will receive a charitable tax receipt, subject to the requirements of the Income Tax Act. To learn how to make a contribution to the MDMA-PTSD Fund at Tides Canada, please visit <http://tides-canada.org/support/mdmaptsd-fund/> or call 1.866.843.3722 ext. 1.

MAPS Hungary

MAPS Hungary's mission is (1) to educate Hungarian therapists, psychologists, and scientists about the recent upsurge in international psychedelic research; (2) to initiate psychedelic research in Hungary; (3) to apply lessons from psychedelic research to therapy and hospice in Hungary; and (4) to encourage ethnopharmacology and ethnobotany in Hungary. The Research Advisory Board includes Rick Doblin, Ph.D., Luis Luna, Ph.D., and Thomas B. Roberts, Ph.D., and Rick Strassman, M.D. On June 17, MAPS sponsored Edward Frecska and Petra Bokor of MAPS Hungary to attend the European Ayahuasca Research Symposium in Amsterdam, connecting them with other scientists to refine the design of a planned ayahuasca study in Hungary. According to a conference report by author Simon Powell, the symposium showed "a definite way ahead for science to explore ayahuasca's widely attested healing potential." For more information about MAPS Hungary, visit www.pszichedelikumok.hu (site is in Hungarian).



Multidiszciplináris Társaság a
Pszichedelikumok Kutatásáért



MAPS Celebrates 25 Years of Research and Education

Celebrating the past

Learning about the present

Building a foundation for the future of psychedelic medicine

This year, join thousands of MAPS supporters worldwide to help raise \$250,000 for the next phase of research into psychedelics and marijuana as treatments for pain, anxiety, and trauma.

With your help, the 25 years/\$250,000 campaign could bring us one giant step closer to making MDMA-assisted therapy legally available for those who need it most. MAPS staff and researchers around the world are working tirelessly to launch yet another study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD in hopes of duplicating the results

of our 2010 pilot study, and pushing forward with getting clearance for our pilot study of marijuana for veterans with PTSD.

Whether its a \$25 ticket for THE MEDICINE BALL, a \$250 donation to renew your membership, or a \$25,000 sponsorship pledge, there are many opportunities to help us meet our \$250,000 goal. Thank you for helping us get this far. Here's to another 25 years of success!

Explore the possibilities at www.maps.org/events and www.maps.org/donate

The MAPS 25th Anniversary Cartographie Psychedelica Tour Headline Event



car-to-graphy noun: the science or art of making maps

FEATURING:

Lectures from leaders in the field of psychedelic research.

Full and half-day workshops on therapy, neuroscience, art, culture, and politics.

Panels of scientists, luminaries, activists, and entrepreneurs.

THE KALEIDOSCOPE VAULT psychedelic adventure auction.

THE MEDICINE BALL multi-sensory celebration.

THE FLOATING WORLD brunch cruise on the San Francisco Bay.

THE LUMENARIUM tribute dinner for transpersonal pioneers Stanislav and Christina Grof.

Psychedelic and cannabusiness expo.

Cutting-edge visual and performance art.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW: www.maps.org/cartographie



All proceeds from this event will support the next stage of research into psychedelics and marijuana as medicines.

25TH ANNIVERSARY CARTOGRAPHIE PSYCHEDELICA TOUR

Portland, September 20

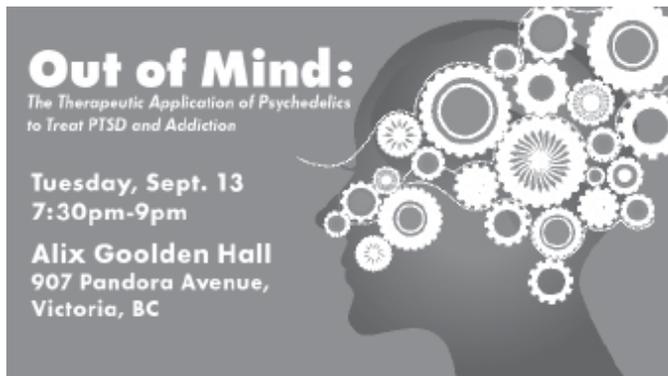
How can you help lay the foundation for the future of psychedelic medicine in the United States and around the world? Join MAPS for this lecture series and networking event to celebrate our 25th Anniversary and raise funds for our next study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. Featuring talks from MAPS Founder Rick Doblin, Ph.D., distinguished MAPS supporters Tim Butcher and Ian Brown, and first MAPS employee Sylvia Thyssen, this event is a great chance to connect with other MAPS supporters in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. Tickets are available now at www.maps.org/portland.

Seattle, September 21

Seattle is the next stop on our 25th Anniversary Tour, and we hope you'll join us for this benefit auction and lecture series to support the next phase of research into MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. Show your bid card at the evening auction (featuring the work of Seattle artist George "Geo" Atherton) for a chance to take home unique artwork and psychedelic memorabilia while supporting MAPS. Relax in the VIP balcony section. Meet MAPS Executive Director Rick Doblin, Ph.D., as well as distinguished MAPS supporters and a local artist, and discover how many ways there are for you to get involved. Connect with other connoisseurs of psychedelic science over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. This will be an exciting and educational evening of science, art, and community connections. We can't wait to see you!
www.maps.org/seattle

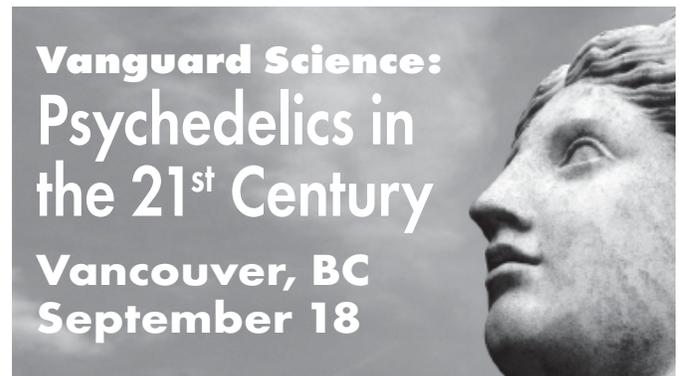
New York, October 15

We continue our 25th Anniversary tour with a benefit dinner for our friends, allies, and local supporters in the heart of New York City. The event coincides with the annual Horizons: Perspectives on Psychedelics conference (see next page) for a full weekend of entertainment, community, and psychedelic education. It will be an intimate evening of discussions and research updates with MAPS Founder Rick Doblin, Ph.D., Director of Field Development Brian Wallace, and Lead Clinical Research Associate Berra Yazar-Klosinski, Ph.D.
www.maps.org/nyc25



Out of Mind: Psychedelics to Treat PTSD & Addiction Victoria, September 13

Explore the therapeutic applications of psychedelics for PTSD and addiction at this benefit lecture series in Victoria, BC. Presented by MAPS Canada and hosted by Philippe Lucas, M.A. (Victoria City Councillor and Research Affiliate with the Centre for Addictions Research of BC), Out of Mind will shed light on the past, present, and future of psychedelic research in Canada and around the world. Meet Rick Doblin, Ph.D. (MAPS executive director) and Gabor Maté, M.D. (physician and author of *In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts: Close Encounters with Addiction*) and learn how you can get involved. All proceeds from Out of Mind will support psychedelic research in Canada, including MAPS Canada's ongoing study of ayahuasca-assisted therapy for addiction and dependence and MAPS' upcoming Vancouver study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD.
www.maps.org/outofmind



Vanguard Science: Psychedelics in the 21st Century Vancouver, September 18

Researchers in Canada and around the world are exploring the potential value of psychedelics as treatments for addiction, trauma, pain, and anxiety. Join MAPS Canada at the magnificent Arts Club Theatre in Vancouver for an evening auction and benefit gala for psychedelic research in Canada, co-sponsored by the Centre for Addictions Research of BC. Vanguard Science will feature a cocktail hour, presentations, and a live auction offering fine art, unique psychedelic collectibles, travel packages, and much more. The impressive program includes Rick Doblin, Ph.D. (MAPS founder and executive director), Philip Owen (former mayor of Vancouver), Kenneth Tupper, Ph.D. (psychedelic researcher), and will be hosted by journalist Kathryn Gretsinger. Several British Columbia artists will be in attendance, with Autumn Sky Morrison creating a live painting during the event which one lucky bidder will take home at the end of the evening. All proceeds from the event will support MAPS and MAPS Canada's research on ayahuasca-assisted therapy for addiction and MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. Tickets are still available.
www.maps.org/vanguard

events

more **events**



Horizons: Perspectives on Psychedelics NYC, October 14-16

MAPS is an official partner of this interdisciplinary conference, now in its fifth year. Its goal is to open a fresh dialogue on the role of psychedelics in medicine, culture, history, spirituality, and creativity. Speakers include ethnopharmacologist Dennis McKenna, Ph.D., MAPS Lead Clinical Research Associate Berra Yazar-Klosinski, Ph.D., Institute of Transpersonal Psychology co-founder James Fadiman, Ph.D., and more. Also join MAPS Founder Rick Doblin, Ph.D., after programming ends on October 15 for a 25th Anniversary benefit dinner for psychedelic therapy research (more information coming soon).

www.horizonsnyc.org



Science & Nonduality Conference San Rafael, October 19-23

SAND 2011 will gather over 60 of the world's leading scientists, spiritual leaders, authors, and teachers in San Rafael, CA, to explore the concept of "time" through the integrated perspectives of modern science, ancient tradition, art, philosophy, and experience. MAPS will sponsor a panel at the conference where scientists and other members of the MAPS community will discuss the conference theme from the perspective of psychedelic research. Speakers will include Stanislav Grof, M.D., Ph.D. (who will also be honored at THE LUMENARIUM tribute dinner at Cartographie Psychedelica this December). Special offer for MAPS supporters: Receive \$45 off registration simply by entering the coupon code MAPS when ordering your tickets.

www.scienceandnonduality.com



International Drug Policy Reform Conference Los Angeles, November 2-5

MAPS is proud to co-host this biennial event presented by the Drug Policy Alliance. The three-day conference will bring together over 1,000 attendees representing 30 different countries committed to developing rational, responsible, and healthy approaches to drugs and drug policy. Other event sponsors and co-hosts include The Libra Foundation, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Harm Reduction Coalition, the International Drug Policy Consortium, Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, the Marijuana Policy Project, the Open Society Foundations, Students for a Sensible Drug Policy, and the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

www.reformconference.org

education

PSYCHEDELIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

With MAPS expanding its research program to move even closer towards regulatory approval of MDMA as a prescription medicine, there will be more need for therapists trained in MAPS' approach to MDMA-assisted psychotherapy than ever before. Phase 3 of our research program—involving scores of therapists and over a dozen studies in multiple countries—will begin in earnest in 2015.

The MAPS Psychedelic Education Program (PEP) will provide access to knowledge about the history, methodology, and potential applications of psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy not available through other educational channels. Professional credit (CE/CME) will be available for qualifying medical practitioners. Those interested in receiving information about the PEP as it becomes available may fill out and return a PEP Profile, available on the MAPS website at www.maps.org/pepprofile.

Some (but not all) of those participating in the PEP may be invited to participate in a more intensive training program to prepare them to become therapists and researchers in one of our future studies. We are not actively recruiting subjects for our therapist training study, as it is limited to individuals already involved already chosen to be therapists in our MDMA-assisted psychotherapy research projects.

Keep watching for announcements about workshops at Cartographie Psychedelica, taking place December 8-12 at the Oakland Marriott City Center. These workshops will be a great opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about psychedelic therapy and harm reduction, including those who want to enroll in the Psychedelic Education Program.

Connect

Connect with MAPS

Stay up-to-date with the latest media, events, and research news, and be a part of the growing psychedelic and medical marijuana research community.

MAPS Website: www.maps.org



Monthly E-mail Newsletter: www.maps.org/newsletter

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mapsmdma



Twitter: @MAPSNews



media

Never before has psychedelic and medical marijuana research received such positive, prominent attention in the mainstream media. From *O* and *ELLE* to *National Geographic* and *Stars and Stripes*, MAPS is gaining some unprecedented—but not unexpected—allies. In January, the new documentary “Drugged: High on Ecstasy” premiered on the National Geographic Channel. Through computer-generated imagery, interviews with Ecstasy users, and conversations with scientific and medical experts, it uncovers how the drug works and what it does to the mind and body. The film explores the potential benefits of MDMA as a therapeutic tool through fascinating interviews with MAPS Executive Director Rick Doblin, Ph.D., and Sue Stevens, who found that MDMA helped her partner cope with the psychological and physical pain of terminal cancer. The film concludes with a call for a sober and rational approach through more research into MDMA’s risks and benefits.

The March 2011 edition of *O, The Oprah Magazine* included a magnificent cover article on MDMA-assisted psychotherapy. In a thoroughly researched and well-balanced portrait, Sarah, who suffered from PTSD for 20 years as the result of childhood trauma, gives us an honest look at her experience as a patient in MAPS’ flagship study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. Article author Jessica Winter even gives us a first-hand account of her own experience of MDMA therapy. In a complementary interview, she discusses how an article in *The Boston Globe* (“A Good Death,” May 15, 2006) about Marilyn Howell’s experience with MDMA-assisted therapy for her dying daughter inspired her own research. Howell’s gripping new memoir *Honor Thy Daughter* is now available at www.maps.org/honorthydaughter.

In April, *ELLE* magazine reviewed the origins of MDMA’s therapeutic uses in marriage and family therapy, and specifically discussed MAPS’ role in helping psychedelic therapy return to mainstream medicine, in a cover article entitled “That Lovin’ Feeling.” The article includes an earnest interview with Rick Doblin, Ph.D., and discusses why—despite the possibility that MDMA-assisted therapy could also help couples reestablish lost connections—MAPS has chosen to focus on helping individuals overcome their traumatic pasts.

On July 18, MAPS’ proposed study of marijuana for veterans with PTSD made the headlines when *The New York Times* announced, “Marijuana May Be Studied for Combat Disorder.” With so many veterans returning from abroad suffering from anxiety, nightmares, and sleepless nights—and with few effective therapies available—the need for research into alternative treatments is pressing. The study was also featured on *USNavySeals.com*, *Stars and Stripes*, and the Partnership for a Drug-Free America. These are not unlikely allies; they simply highlight the rapidly expanding community of patients, veterans, and public health organizations committed to developing effective treatments through science. For even more psychedelic and medical marijuana research headlines, visit MAPS in the Media at www.maps.org/media.



The New York Times



From the Desk of Rick Doblin, Ph.D. (continued from page 1)

recommended by current sentencing guidelines. In doing so, the judge acknowledged that the U.S. Sentencing Commission had ignored my 2001 testimony (and that of other experts) that MDMA was not as dangerous as government-funded researchers had claimed.

When the original guidelines were announced in 2001, Acting Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Edward R. Jurith revealed how policymakers' fear of crack cocaine influenced their attitudes toward Ecstasy. "We never again want another 'crack epidemic' to blindsides this nation," Jurith said. Now, thanks to the combination of MAPS' research and the determination of the American Civil Liberties Union, the courts are taking psychedelic science seriously.

The wider social implications of our research are undeniable. MAPS' new efforts to start research into medical marijuana for veterans with chronic, treatment-resistant PTSD have received remarkably positive coverage in *The New York Times* and major military media such as *Stars and Stripes* and *USNavySeals.com*. You could say we've gained some unlikely allies in our mission to develop effective treatments for veterans suffering from PTSD—but then again, perhaps these aren't unlikely allies at all. Trauma, like healing, transcends mental, geographic, political, religious, and scientific boundaries.

It's time for us to take advantage of (and not take for granted) the wide-open field of psychedelic research we have before us. With the enduring and generous support of our friends, MAPS has been charting new terrain for 25 years. As long as we can maintain our momentum and continue to generate promising data, MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD will be legally available within 10 years. The path is clear, though long and challenging.

To help support our research and further build our community, I'm inviting you to join me for Cartographie Psychedelica, our five-day 25th Anniversary event from December 8-12 at the Oakland Marriott City Center in the San Francisco Bay Area, and for our other events this fall in Victoria, Vancouver, Portland, Seattle, and New York City.

With all the profits from our 25th Anniversary events going to fund our next U.S. study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD patients, we're laying the foundation for the future of psychedelic medicine. Our dedicated team of event planners, designers, artists, and volunteers, is working diligently and imaginatively to make Cartographie Psychedelica a memorable and momentous event at the intersection of science, medicine, art, and community.

During the last 25 years, we've been slowly gathering momentum as a result of the generous financial support of MAPS members. If everyone who cares about this issue gives what they can, whether a large or small amount, we can develop the first psychedelic into an FDA-approved prescription medicine within this decade. Donate now at www.maps.org/donate and join together to heal and inspire our world!

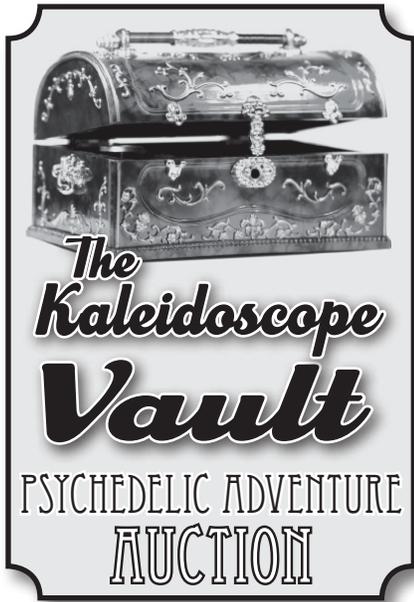


Rick Doblin, Ph.D., MAPS Executive Director,
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What Kind of Treasures Lie in Your Own Secret Vault?



MAPS is busy getting ready for THE KALEIDOSCOPE VAULT, MAPS' first psychedelic adventure auction happening in Oakland on December 9 at Cartographie Psychedelica. In the meantime, join us on September 18 in Vancouver and September 21 in Seattle for special previews of THE KALEIDOSCOPE VAULT.

We are making an official call for in-kind auction item donations of vacation and timeshare rentals, rare psychedelic memorabilia and collector's items, gift certificates for local services, and anything else you can offer in support.

Visit www.maps.org/auction and tell us how you can help!

All proceeds from the auctions will support MAPS' psychedelic and medical marijuana research and educational projects.



MAPS
MULTIDISCIPLINARY ASSOCIATION FOR PSYCHEDELIC STUDIES

MAPS: Who We Are

MAPS' mission is (1) to treat conditions for which conventional medicines provide limited relief—such as posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), pain, drug dependence, anxiety and depression associated with end-of-life issues—by developing psychedelics and marijuana into prescription medicines; (2) to treat many thousands of people by building a network of clinics where treatments can be provided; and (3) to educate the public honestly about the risks and benefits of psychedelics and marijuana.

"Most of the things worth doing in the world have been declared impossible before they were done."

— Louis D. Brandeis

If you can even faintly imagine a cultural reintegration of the use of psychedelics and the states of mind they engender, please join MAPS in supporting the expansion of scientific knowledge in this area. Progress is possible with the support of those who care enough to take individual and collective action.

The MAPS Bulletin

This MAPS Bulletin has been reduced in size in order to reallocate funds to our expanding number of research projects. The Winter Bulletin will be a magazine-size publication and the Spring 2011 issue will be another special theme issue.

The Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) is an IRS-approved 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation funded by tax deductible donations. Your participation, financial or otherwise, is welcome. Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies, Inc. (MAPS)
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MAPS Supporter Spotlight: Karl Richard



MAPS Supporter Karl Richard

"I originally found out about MAPS 12 years ago.

Several years earlier, I had chosen to study pharmacology at university...Still, I couldn't help but notice and feel somewhat uneasy about the way in which clinical psychiatry tended to view these hallowed alchemical tools...In fact I was completely discouraged by my tutors to pursue any career relating to the study of psychedelics, as this would be tantamount to committing professional suicide. But the more I studied, the more I saw how modern psychiatry dealt with the human condition: if there's a problem, then it's best swept under a pharmacological carpet of dulling therapy rather than daring to deal with the causes.

So I looked for others in a similar position and found MAPS... All this hard work that they do is bringing some much-needed evidence into the realm of scientific understanding—evidence that will ultimately allow psychiatry revise the way in which it sees the human condition, allowing them to better help those suffering from conditions like PTSD, drug dependency, and anxiety due to life-threatening illnesses.

I see this as a once in a lifetime opportunity to help out with something that could potentially make such a difference to so many people's lives here on earth. And if, while doing this, there is also a chance to help society overcome any fear or negative preconceptions that it might harbor about psychedelic research...well, you can count me in."

May we count you in too? www.maps.org/donate