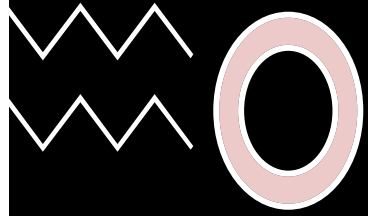




# Making History

*Innovative Strategies  
for Purposeful Curation*

Allison Sullivan, DOT, MSOT, OTR/L  
Irene Ilott, PhD, FCOT



***Why This Matters:  
Professional Risk and Opportunity***

危机

- Loss of history weakens professional identity, scope, and leadership
- Heritage informs values, evidence, and advocacy across systems
- Stewardship is a global responsibility, not a local luxury



***From  
History-Lite  
to  
History-Proud***



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- Occupational therapy history is fragile, unevenly preserved, and increasingly at risk

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- Pandemic-era decisions revealed global vulnerabilities in stewardship

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- This moment calls for intentional, ethical, and sustainable curation



**A**  
**Conceptual  
Tool for  
Purposeful  
Curation**

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1. Apply the precautionary principle: safeguard in the face of uncertainty

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2. Assess significance: provenance, value, rarity, resonance

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3. Action planning: preserve, digitize, or thoughtfully deaccession

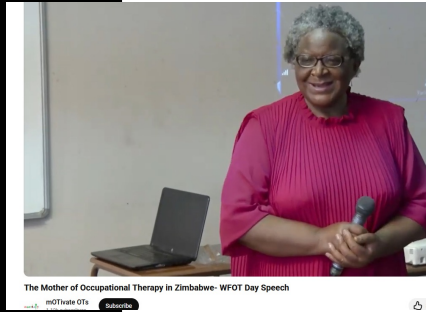
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A practical, scalable framework aligned with occupational therapy process

is licensed

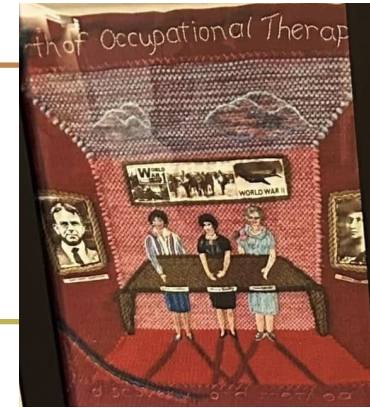


# Creative, Scalable Examples from Around the World



Storytelling & testimony  
preserving intangible  
heritage

Community exhibits  
anchoring local  
professional identity



Oral History Project

Digital repositories &  
volunteer-led initiatives

Click here to access project completion resources (i.e., release forms, project guidelines, suggested questions, and interviewing, recording, and transcribing guidelines), and oral histories, interviews, collective recollections, transcriptions, and synopses completed by the OT L&LS, universities, state OT associations, and others.

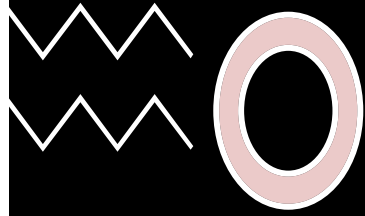
Scholarship strengthening  
historical literacy



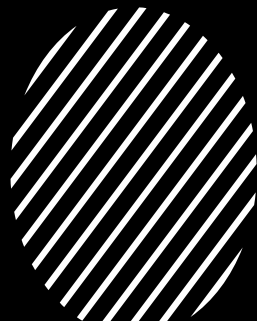
Pedro Morano Miralles • Miguel Ángel Talavera Valverde  
Complex

Occupational Therapy  
An historical perspectives  
90 years after its establishment





## ***A Call to Action***



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- Become history-proud: value stewardship as professional responsibility

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- Take action at individual, institutional, and global levels

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- Preserve the past to inform, protect, and inspire the future of occupational therapy

# Key References

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