



RUTI WAGAKI RCST®

2026 Candidate for the BCTA/NA Board of Directors



BIOGRAPHY

Ruti Wagaki, is an experienced bodyworker in private practice since 1996. She has an extensive teaching background, commencing in 1985, including in the healing arts since 1997. Currently teaching a Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy Foundation Training online and in Santa Fe, NM, she is also a Teaching Assistant at the Barral Institute for Visceral Manipulation and has been practicing various iterations of Craniosacral Therapy since 1999. In 2014 she received her certification as a Qigong Instructor.

Ruti is a former Board Member with the Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy Association of North America (2020/2021), and in August of 2020 she helped establish the Racial Equity and Inclusion Initiative for the association, serving as chair of that committee while also serving on the Ethics and Publications committees. Two of her articles were published in 2022 and 2023 in the Cranial Wave, titled “Truth and Reconciliation: Searching for the Health”, and “Decolonizing our Origin Story: A Pathway toward Communal Healing”. She received the BCTA’s Award for Excellence in Community Service in 2023, in recognition of valuable contributions in the field.

Her lifelong passion and commitment to social justice are ongoing. A love for mother earth and of the outdoors, which culminated in serving as a wildlands firefighter and working as a river guide in her twenties, have had a profound impact on her subsequent career in the bodywork field and various teaching and leadership opportunities since that time.

Living in Santa Fe, heart of the high desert Southwest, Ruti’s private practice is currently centered in Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy and remote healing work, tending to clients all over the globe.

STATEMENT / LETTER OF INTENT

Thank you for this opportunity to run as a candidate for Board Membership. I had the honor of serving on the BCTA/NA’s board in 2020 and 2021, helping to establish the Racial Equity and Inclusion Initiative, serving as chair of that committee, as well as serving on the Ethics and Publications committees, working tirelessly at making numerous contributions in all 3 arenas. In the wake of George Floyd’s loss and the protests that followed, many organizations across the country were invested in addressing racialized inequities, including ours. At that time, in the 20 years since the association’s establishment, no person of color had ever served on the board. I was the first, and since then, only one other has had that opportunity.

The collective tides have since turned. My recent decision to run for the board is in part due to these sea shifts. It is heartbreaking to see all the progress that was made turn back in every aspect of our society. Twenty-six years have passed since the BCTA/NA was founded and at this moment in time, it seems there are some important questions we must ask ourselves as we move toward our shared future.

As we evaluate our association, here are some questions we may want to ask: How many members of color does the BCTA/NA have? How many members of color have served on the board since its establishment (2) and are there any currently serving (0)? How many Approved Teachers of color are there (6 or 7)? If we calculated the total number of Approved Teachers the association has certified in 26 years (close to 100 maybe?), what is the percentage of those who are teachers of color (6%)? There was only 1 in 2020, and I am the first Black woman to be certified as Approved Teacher. Are we proud of the current statistics or do we have a desire to make positive changes to improve these percentages?

As a healing organization, it is imperative that we address issues of inequality, for all marginalized communities. After leaving the board, I have continued to volunteer time and effort to supporting the BCTA/NA in making progress. My article titled “Truth and Reconciliation: Searching for the Health”, published in the Cranial Wave in 2022, discusses some of my thoughts on this topic. If we look at the reality of the cost of inequity to our entire society and to our association, we can see that in truth we all lose if we continue to perpetuate it.

What is your vision for our association and the direction you’d like to see it take? These are the questions I ask myself every day, as I continue to volunteer my time and energy to making this organization the best that it can be, on every level, in every way. As I prepare to embark on the next part of my journey as a candidate for the Board, these inquiries have become even more important.

I love my profession, Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy, and wish to see it flourish and prosper, and become accessible to anyone who wishes to experience it. I hope we share these values. Let us work together to achieve this dream.

Thanks again for this opportunity.