

Dr Istvan Csata is a multidisciplinary educator and registered arts therapist whose career bridges the fields of education, psychology, and the creative arts. He earned his Doctorate in Political Science and Jurisprudence from the University of Miskolc in 1987, followed by further studies in philosophy at Kossuth Lajos University and art education at the University of Kaposvár. His academic journey later led him to Aotearoa New Zealand, where he completed a Master of Arts in Arts Therapy (Clinical) at Whitecliffe College of Arts and Design in 2019.

Istvan began his professional career teaching English and philosophy in Budapest. He went on to work at the Carl Rogers Person Centered School, a progressive educational environment where he developed alternative curricula and taught a wide range of subjects including visual arts, philosophy, and social studies. His work was grounded in a humanistic and relational approach to education, informed by the principles of person-centred learning.

Since relocating to Aotearoa New Zealand in 2006, Istvan has continued to integrate his passions for therapeutic practice and education. He has worked extensively with neurodivergent children and young adults across Auckland, combining creative modalities with trauma-informed, student-centred approaches. His practice reflects a commitment to inclusivity, emotional attunement, and the transformative potential of the arts.

