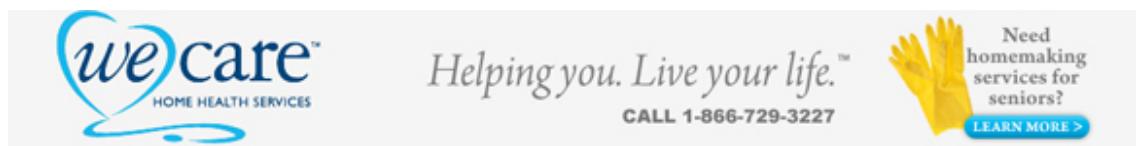


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June 29, 2016


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AATA NEWS

AATA Featured Member: A Pre-Conference Greeting from Charlotte Boston

AATA



As a member of the AATA Local Arrangements Committee, let me be the first to extend a warm welcome to Baltimore! I am excited that the AATA is one week away from arriving for the annual conference in my hometown! The last time the AATA conference was held in Baltimore was in 1976. This is significant because the plenary session, "Passing the Torch," will include discussion of several pioneers of color who, as art therapists, used alternative approaches in working with diverse populations. I was drawn to art therapy in part because I felt it could make a positive difference with diverse groups. Baltimore's neighborhoods have changed greatly since 1976, and yet, given the violence that followed Freddie Gray's death last year, the need to address issues with diversity and multicultural competence continues. Art therapy as a profession can and has been instrumental with this process. The 2016 AATA conference includes a number of sessions related to this topic. [READ MORE](#)

Membership Events for Conference Attendees

Sangeeta Prasad, ATR-BC

The Membership Committee has had a very productive year to this point! We have worked closely with the AATA office, reaching out to our members and responding to many of the needs they have expressed. As part of this



effort, the Committee has developed three special presentations for this year's conference.



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- [This year's SVA MPS Art Therapy conference features Pablo Helguera. Click here to join us on September 23, 2016!](#)



Art Therapists Empower College Students through Craftivism



Lauren Leone, ATR-BC, LMHC; Michaela Kirby, PsyD, ATR-BC, LMHC; Nancy Lautenbach, MA



What does it look like to use art therapy for social action on a college campus? How would you encourage college students to use art to address complex issues of feminism and women's sexuality? Recently, we conducted a series of "Craft & Chat" workshops at Lesley University to provide a safe place for students to gather, engage with fiber arts, and find empowerment through craftivism and discussion of critical women's issues. The term "craftivism" was coined about a decade ago to represent the practice of using craft for activism, primarily for social and political change. The roots of the craftivism movement came from the proliferation of DIY (do-it-yourself) culture and online crafting communities in the early 21st century and was based on adopting mediums traditionally associated with "women's work" – e.g. knitting, embroidery, quilting, crocheting – and re-appropriating them to communicate a social or political message. [READ MORE](#)

The AATA Scholarship Committee Welcomes Artists for Unique Opportunity to Assist Graduate Art Therapy Students



Michele Rattigan, ATR-BC, NCC, LPC

Art to the Rescue! With the costs of education rising, it is increasingly difficult for would-be future art therapy professionals, researchers, and community program directors to afford the tuition needed for graduate art therapy education. This year, the AATA Scholarship Committee will be hosting a special fundraiser at our Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD. All proceeds from the sale of donated items will be given to the AATA student scholarship funds. [READ MORE](#)

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Seeking Nominations: Accreditation Council for Art Therapy Education (ACATE)

Dana Elmendorf, ATR-BC, LPC, Chair of ACATE

The Accreditation Council for Art Therapy Education (ACATE) is currently seeking nominations for positions beginning November 2016. Expected vacancies will require art therapy educators, art therapy practitioners and a public member. Please consider nominating someone that you believe will work tirelessly to promote best practices for art therapy educational programs. Members of ACATE will be on the forefront of the implementation of the new accreditation standards and will help to educate all art therapy education stakeholders. For more information, including position descriptions, roles and time commitments, visit the ACATE webpage. [READ MORE](#)



Registration Opens for the 2016 Combined Conference of the Ontario and Canadian Art Therapy Associations

AATA

On Canada Day, July 1, 2016, Early Bird registration begins for the Ontario and Canadian Art Therapy Associations (OATA/CATA) combined conference. The conference will be held from October 14 - October 16, 2016 in Toronto, Ontario. This year's theme is "Art Therapy & Anti-Oppressive Practice" and AATA member David Gussak, PhD, ATR-BC, will be giving the keynote presentation, *Drawing Out the Oppressed: Promoting Identity and Empowering the Vulnerable through Art Therapy*. [READ MORE](#)



ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

Science suggests an artful way to reduce stress

Forbes

Over the years a wealth of research has piled up showing that exposure to art (in almost any form) is good mind medicine. Strolling through an art gallery isn't just something to do when you're in one of those cities with great galleries and museums, it's worth doing anywhere you are, as often as you can. So it stands to reason that creating art might also yield a few benefits, right? A new study not only confirms the assumption, it offers compelling evidence that adults seeking stress relief, no matter how artistically gifted or experienced, should stop making excuses and start making art. [READ MORE](#)



How incarcerated youth are making their voices heard through art

The Huffington Post

In 2001, artist Lauren Adelman and juvenile defender Francine Sherman began offering art workshops to girls incarcerated at the Spectrum Detainment Center in Dorchester, Massachusetts. The goal was to empower these young women, so often unseen and unheard, through creative expression. Fifteen years later, this workshop has



blossomed into what's now known as Artistic Noise, a program designed to bring visual arts practice and entrepreneurial skills to young people who are incarcerated, on probation, or somehow involved in the justice system. An exhibition entitled "Infinite Revolution," on view this summer, will celebrate the immense artistic talent of the individuals involved in the Artistic Noise community, and their bold spirits that refuse to be muffled. [READ MORE](#)

In a world of fear and loathing, we need art more than ever



The Guardian

This has been a grisly week, and the future looks rather a mess, so as light relief we'd like to report on something uplifting and beautiful in London last week – an exhibition by artists working with the charity Intoart of ceramics, prints and paintings. It included a stunning 48-piece tiled frieze by Mawuena Kattah, full of energy, colour, wit, and all about who and what she loves. I stood gazing at it and listening to how she had done it – a very complex procedure using photos, stencils, transfers, tracings, ceramic tiles, firings, paintings and slips, and all the more adventurous because she'd never done ceramics before, and has a learning disability, like all of Intoart's artists. [READ MORE](#)

Art Therapy Today

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