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November 17, 2016



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## AATA NEWS

### NYATA Chalks It Up for Art Therapy and Children's Mental Health



Susan Boxer Kappel , MA, ATR - BC, LCAT, CGP

On August 29, 2016, the New York Art Therapy Association (NYATA) hosted “Chalk It Up for Children’s Mental Health,” its first community-based art event in Kennedy Plaza located by city hall in Long Beach, New York. In May, the American Art Therapy Association (AATA) collaborated with local chapters to promote the importance of incorporating art therapy into children’s mental health services. Using Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day as the launch on May 5, 2016, the AATA began a new fundraising initiative for the development of arts-based community events on the local level. **READ MORE**

### Demanding Mental Health Reform: How You Can Help



AATA  
The AATA has joined with other national organizations and members of the Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) to sign a letter to Congress in support of comprehensive mental health reform legislation this year. The bills S. 2680 (the Mental Health Reform Act) and H. R. 2646 (the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act) will improve the coordination of federal mental health resources, combat suicide, increase early access to mental health services, address a growing workforce shortage, advance integrated health care delivery, and strengthen mental health parity. **READ MORE**

## Professional Doctorate of Art Therapy

This Mount Mary University program advances working professionals' careers through an annual, summer 12-day residency, online coursework and practitioner-generated research to transform the profession.

## The Accreditation Council for Art Therapy Education (ACATE) Seeks Nominations for Art Therapy Educator



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

The Accreditation Council for Art Therapy Education (ACATE) is currently seeking additional nominations to fill the role of art therapy educator. In an effort to provide a diverse council, special consideration will be given to applicants from the Midwest, Southwest, and Gulf Coast. Members will begin serving immediately following their election (expected to be Jan. 15, 2017). [READ MORE](#)

## AATA Featured Member



AATA Art Shared Interest Group (SIG)



Becky Olivera, ATR-BC, LPC-S, is an active member of the AATA and its Art Shared Interest Group (SIG). She knows that many forces compete for the attentions of an art therapist, to the de-emphasis of art in therapy and the art therapist's personal art making. That is why she supports the Art SIG's focus to "clarify, support and develop the role of art in art therapy." In 2012, Becky organized an AATA conference presentation entitled How the Art of Art Therapists Informs Their Practice. To this end, the functions of art making by art therapists were explored and summarized with the acronym "GREAT."

[READ MORE](#)

### SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

## New Webinar Offering: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs – Accreditation from Beginning to End



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

Join us for the latest Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) Webinar, CAAHEP Accreditation - From Beginning to End, on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2016, at 2:00pm EST. This session has been created for programs just beginning the CAAHEP accreditation process, those new to accreditation, and/or those wishing to know more about CAAHEP and how the accreditation process works. The hour-long webinar is

being presented by Kathryn Kuntz, a member of the CAAHEP Board, and Kathleen Megivern, CAAHEP's Executive Director, free of charge. [READ MORE](#)

## Seeking Registered Arts Therapists for Missions to Uganda and India



The Red Pencil (International)



The Red Pencil (International) is seeking experienced art therapists for two upcoming missions in Uganda and India. They are seeking four arts therapists to volunteer for a humanitarian arts therapy mission to engage the community to make a difference and empower women and girls in Uganda. For the mission in India, they are in need of two arts therapists to volunteer for a humanitarian arts therapy mission to engage the community to make a difference and enable women survivors and victims of domestic

violence in Chennai, India. [READ MORE](#)

## 2016 Post- Election Impact on the Arts Webinar



Americans for the Arts, Action Fund

Join the political experts at Americans for the Arts and the Arts Action Fund for timely post-election analysis of how the federal, state and local elections, including ballot initiatives, impact the arts and arts education in America. The webinar will be taking place on Nov. 21, 2016 at 3:00pm EST. Click [here](#) to register.

### PRODUCT SHOWCASE



#### Blick Art Materials

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#### Windsor & Newton

William and Henry's commitment to quality and innovation are part of a rich heritage which informs Winsor & Newton to this day. We're dedicated to the craft of the fine artist and to providing them with new ways to explore their creativity, allowing them to share their work with a worldwide community. [Read more](#)

### IN THE NEWS

## Art therapy helping veterans navigate emotional experiences after war



WFYI-FM

A few years after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Andrew Schnieders, a high school music teacher in Avon, decided to join the Indiana National Guard. "Here I was, 34 years old, semi accomplished, family in the making, you know, had a 5 year-old and a 3 year-old and things are going well, but we're in this war," Schnieders said. In 2009, Schneiders, with the Army branch of the Guard, was sent on a 13-month deployment to Balad, Iraq, with the 38th Combat Aviation Brigade. The stress of combat and the constant grind of 12 and 14 hour days – including a 10-month stretch without a single day off – took a toll. [READ MORE](#)

## Supporting the health of our veterans with the arts



Americans for the Arts

Recently, some media, politicians, and organizations have scrutinized the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

about access to quality care for veterans. As part of this review, VA funds are being analyzed to understand why the construction of hospital funds are growing yet wait times for veterans' access to VA medical services is a problem not yet solved. This is a serious question for sure, but the argument in these debates that the arts are part of the "wasteful" spending falls short when you examine the facts. **READ MORE**

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