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AATA NEWS

My Journey in Art Therapy Artwork and Reflections by Charles Anderson



AATA National Office

"My art has been used as a first step to process the emotional issues of my life. Through art I could clearly understand my struggle and articulate how I felt about the struggles impact."

- Charles Anderson, ATR-BC



This week, the AATA is proud to offer a presentation by art therapy pioneer Charles Anderson, ATR-BC, whose legacy and impact on the profession can be hard to quantify in words. Reflecting upon themes of struggle and survival, moments of dismissal, and windows of opportunity, Mr. Anderson guides us through his life. He illustrates moments recalling his identity as an artist, an art therapist, and African American man and, in turn, lends insight into the ways he navigated the perceptions and expectations that society often placed upon him. Anderson presented this exhibition of his work at the Brown v. Board of Education Historical Sites (2012) and at Emporia State University (2017) and has now generously given the AATA permission to share his work on our website. We extend our gratitude to Mr. Anderson for this opportunity and for his significant contribution to the field throughout his life. Click [here](#) to view the presentation.

Featured Member



AATA National Office



Charles Anderson, ATR-BC, with forty-four years of experience as an art therapist, is one of the pioneers who witnessed the profession grow and was recipient of the AATA's Distinguished Clinician Award (2000) and the Multicultural Leadership Award (2008). Anderson made significant contributions to the field and held numerous leadership positions, including: founding Chair of the Mosaic Committee (1990-94), selected committee member on the first AATA Ethics Review Board, and served two terms on the committee to review questions for the ATCB Certification Exam. He worked over forty years at the Menninger Clinic with colleagues Bob Ault, HLM, ATR-BC and Don Jones, HLM, ATR. Today, he works part-time at Stormont Vail West Hospital in Topeka, Kansas, serving clients in crisis and supervising students in the Emporia State University art therapy program. A full article featuring Mr. Anderson will be available in next week's issue (Feb. 15) of *Art Therapy Today* with details of his early career, his clinical work today, and how he has seen the profession develop over the years.



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AATA National Office

Whether you're a student looking to connect with a practicing art therapist for career guidance or an experienced professional looking to support the next generation of art therapists, the AATA's online Mentor Match service offers a new way to jumpstart careers, build professional networks, and achieve professional and personal goals. The AATA Mentor program is an exclusive service available to members, and is now open to both Mentors and Mentees for enrollment! Members can [participate today](#) by completing their online mentoring profile. Once completed, Mentors and Mentees are invited to connect with each other and determine if they may be a good match.

Join us for Arts Advocacy Day 2018, March 12-13!



AATA National Office

Arts advocates from around the nation will be gathering from March 12-13, 2018 in Washington, DC to participate in [Arts Advocacy Day: The National Arts Action Summit!](#) The event will include advocacy training and networking, followed by the Congressional Arts Kickoff, during which participants can meet with Members of Congress and Senators to discuss the impact of the arts on their communities.

The AATA encourages members and art therapists to attend. Advanced [registration](#) is open through February 21, 2018. The AATA has been collaborating as a National Partner in the subcommittees on Arts & Health and Arts in the Military of the 2018 Arts Advocacy Day Legislative Planning Committee, which works to draft and update the Issue Briefs for the Congressional Arts Handbook 2018. [Read about](#) our involvement last year.



This year, the AATA will be hosting a reception for attending members to continue networking and sharing their experiences as advocates following meetings on the Hill on Tuesday, March 13.

ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

Tyler Fine Art presents online exhibiton by Cliff Joseph



Tyler Fine Art

Tyler Fine Art in association with Aaron Galleries presents an online exhibition of works by African American artist Cliff Joseph, whose work Blackboard, may now be seen in Soul of a Nation currently showing at the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas through April 23, 2018. **READ MORE**

Texas Creative Forces Arts and Military Conference wrapup



Office of the Texas Governor

Gov. Greg Abbot writes: "Recently I had the pleasure of joining Second Lady of the United States, Karen Pence, in Killeen, Texas, for the Texas Creative Forces Arts and Military Conference, hosted by the Texas Commission on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the U.S. Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. Following the conference, we visited Fort Hood to learn more about their Art Therapy program." **READ MORE**

Investing in Portland's future through art: 5 organizations using art therapy to support local youth



Portland Monthly

At a time when consequences of violence and uncivilized social unrest seem inevitable — many Portland-based organizations are demonstrating an investment in the city's future. Tragically, nearly 33 million children nationwide have experienced some type of trauma according to the 2016 National Survey of Children's Health. Research led by the Center for Disease Control and Prevision also reports that Adverse Childhood Experiences, which include physical, emotional or sexual abuse, neglect, mental illness, violence and more; perpetuate violence, victimization and leave a lasting impression on the health and advancement of society. **READ MORE**

The AATA's Art Therapy Today includes a digest of the most important news selected for the AATA from thousands of sources. Guest articles may be submitted to Clara Keane at ckeane@arttherapy.org. Publication of any guest article is at the sole discretion of the AATA. The opinions expressed and/or contents of guest articles, advertisements, and external links included in any AATA publication do not represent the positions or policies of the AATA. The AATA makes no warranty or representation concerning the accuracy of such content.

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