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## AATA NEWS AND EVENTS

### The AATA Annual Election Begins April 1, 2016, Ends April 30, 2016



AATA

On Friday, April 1st, our annual election begins. The Nominating Committee has developed a strong slate of candidates based on input from members. The complete 2016 Election Slate including the candidates' bios, photographs and answers to questions posed is posted on the [Members-Only website](#). A candidate for Honorary Life Membership is also being presented by the Honors Committee, as well as a proposed bylaws change that requires your vote. **The voting period will begin April 1st. The link to the election, along with your login credentials, will be emailed to all voting members of the American Art Therapy Association through our on-line voting system, Association Voting.** The Association works hard to meet members' needs, but we can only be effective with active participation of its voting members – so take the time to make your voice heard and vote! Voting is a privilege of membership and we look forward to your participation.

### Art Therapy Association, North Carolina Chapter (ATANC) Celebrates Creative Arts Therapies Week



Evans Baker, ATR, ATANC President-Elect

To celebrate Creative Arts Therapies Week (March 13- March 19), the Art Therapy Association, North Carolina Chapter (ATANC) dedicated the art making time after our March monthly meeting to create these beautiful pins. Each pin showed the member's visual representation of art therapy. We had a great time and it was an opportunity for us to rethink, to reconnect, and to once again reflect on the work we do for our clients/patients

and why we fell in love with art therapy! Ms. Suzanne Carmel, the chapter acting President, presented this idea to the officers during our February meeting in order to celebrate the week. Additionally, she was eager to bring the awareness of Creative Expressive Arts and Art Therapy to the public. This idea was one that that our chapter has been focusing on because education of art therapy is a continuous process. **READ MORE**



## Reminder — Pearlie Roberson Scholarship Award Applications Due March 31, 2016



AATA

**The Multicultural Committee's Pearlie Roberson Scholarship Award applications are due March 31.** Pearlie Roberson was an African American artist and art therapy client. This award is specifically designed to provide financial support for an art therapy project or research project that addresses multicultural aspects and capacities of art therapy and is undertaken by a Student or Professional member of the American Art Therapy Association. Volunteer work is not applicable. The award is based on the merit of the project proposal, not financial need. Recipients of the award are encouraged to present the winning project at the American Art Therapy Association's Annual Conference. Additionally, Pearlie Roberson Scholarship Award Projects will be under consideration for placement in the American Art Therapy Association Archives. **READ MORE**

### PRODUCT SHOWCASE



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## Scholarship Award and Research Award Applications Due April 1, 2016



AATA

**Applications for awards given by the Scholarship Committee and the Research Committee are due April 1.** AATA members are encouraged to submit all awards applications before the deadline. Any questions about the Scholarship Awards or the Research Awards should be directed to our National Office at [info@arttherapy.org](mailto:info@arttherapy.org). The American Art Therapy Association and its generous donors provide a number of scholarships annually to encourage the growth of profession, to reward excellence, and to enable access to information and resources. The scholarships are then presented at the Annual Conference to those selected by the Scholarship Committee. Incomplete application packets and those postmarked after April 1 will not be considered. **READ MORE**

## AATA Featured Member

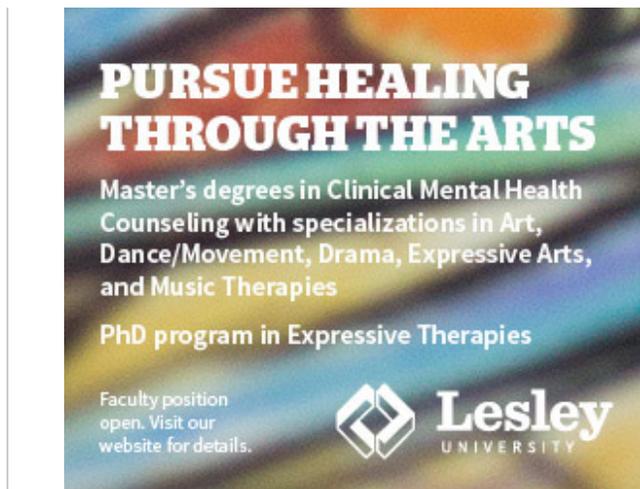


AATA



Recognizing the power of art therapy as a distinct agent for change is an integral part of how Donnetta Watson, ATR-BC, LPC, approaches her work. "I value having a unique set of skills that allows me to stand out among other professionals in the mental health realm," she states, "It is a holistic approach to treatment and it fits with my approach to life." While she views the professional art therapy network as small when compared to other fields, Donnetta identifies the AATA as a one-of-a-kind resource and support system that helps keep her abreast of new trends and perspectives in art therapy research and practice. Now working in an elementary school with children (grades K-8), she often addresses multiple and complex issues that can impact the students' functioning such as trauma, experiences in foster care, and single-parent households. **READ MORE**

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## Angel C. Duncan Presents at LEADER Aging Conference



Angel C. Duncan, MA-MFT, ATR

Angel C. Duncan, MA-MFT, ATR, recently presented at the LEADER Aging Conference in Louisiana to a large audience consisting of diverse healthcare professionals in senior care. Her topic, Making an Impact in Neurological Disorders: Engagement through Expressive Art Therapy and the MIND App, centered on the effects of art therapy for persons with Alzheimer's and related dementias, specialized dementia museum tours, evidence based research, and the introduction of the GE Healthcare, MIND technology application, designed for persons with Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, MS, TBI and stroke. For the past four years, Angel has been the art therapy consultant for GE Healthcare's global initiative in neurological disorders for better brain health. **READ MORE**

## Research Grant Awarded to Dr. Florence Galo and Dr. Girija Kaimal



Dr. Girija Kaimal, EdD, MA

Dr. Florence Gelo and Dr. Girija Kaimal from Drexel University received a grant from the Foundation for Spirituality and Medicine to develop and study the outcomes of an arts-based model for well-being (physiological, psychosocial and spiritual) at end-of-life. The intervention includes receptive visual arts experiences (led by Dr. Gelo) for patients and art therapy sessions for their family caregivers (led by Dr. Kaimal). This mixed methods study is expected to be conducted over a two-year period and seeks to understand the unique contributions of arts-based approaches from the perspectives of spiritual counseling and art therapy. The project aims to provide a protocol for a comprehensive model of arts-based palliative care for patients living in home-based hospice settings.

### ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

## Innovative art show comes to SVHC Corridor Art Gallery



Bennington Banner Community

Three area organizations are contributing to an innovative art show at the Corridor Art Gallery at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center from March 10 to April 13, "The Healing Power of Art." Life's Journey Creative Arts Therapy, PLLC, of Hoosick Falls, New York, the Vermont Arts Exchange of North Bennington, and Bennington Project Independence are all furnishing artwork for the display that will reflect the healing properties of the artistic process. "This show will feature art that was created by individuals of all ages who have used the artistic process to make a positive difference in their lives," said Eileen Druckenmiller, the licensed, board-certified art therapist who formed Life's Journey in 2013. **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 Kat Michel at [kmichel@arttherapy.org](mailto:kmichel@arttherapy.org). Publication of any guest article is at the sole discretion of the American Art Therapy Association.

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