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October 20, 2016


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## AATA NEWS

### AATA Represented at the Memory Care Forum in San Diego



Paige Asawa, PhD, MFT, ATR-BC, AATA Board Treasurer



The Memory Care Forum produced by the Institute for Advancement of Senior Care (IASC) took place in September in San Diego, California. I had the honor of representing the American Art Therapy Association (AATA), at the invitation of the IASC. The Memory Care Forum provided attendees with examples of best practice models in many areas of senior care. Memory Care Units are specifically developed facilities for the care of seniors diagnosed with dementia and Alzheimer's. **READ MORE**

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### Annual Conference Reminders



Heidi Tournoux-Hanshaw, MA, ATR-BC, LPC-AT

2016 Postconference Reminder: If you attended the 2016 Annual Conference this past July 2016, in Baltimore, Maryland and you want to receive your Continuing Education Certificate, please complete your request before Dec. 31, 2016. [Click here](#) to visit the website. Remember to login using the same email you used to register for the conference. If you need assistance [please contact us via email](#). **READ MORE**

## AATA Featured Member



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Deondra Wilkins, candidate for the Master's of Art Therapy at The George Washington University, has considered herself an artist from a young age. With a focus on children's book illustration, she completed her BFA in Communication Arts at Virginia Commonwealth University. "I fell in love with illustration's ability to convey meaningful stories," she states. Toward the close of her undergraduate studies, Deondra learned about art therapy and instantly recognized it as meaningful. She explains, "Art therapy turned out to be what I had been looking for, a profession where healing takes place through the art making process, and where art making is used to facilitate change and enhance one's self-awareness." As an intern at Tracy's Kids, Georgetown University Hospital, she experienced art therapy's impact on the individual and collective level by working with pediatric cancer patients and their families. Currently, Deondra interns at the Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute and is a member of the Potomac Art Therapy Association (PATA). **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.

## SAMHSA's Awareness Day 2016 Final Report Now Available



AATA

On May 5, the [AATA was a Leading Supporter](#) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day 2016 event, "Finding Help. Finding Hope." SAMHSA's Final Report on the event is now available, and includes a summation of the people, communities, and activities that made Awareness Day 2016 a tremendous success! It features the stories behind the communities and organizations who work hard every day to ensure that children, youth, and young adults with behavioral health challenges can access the services and supports they need. Read SAMHSA's Final Report [here](#).

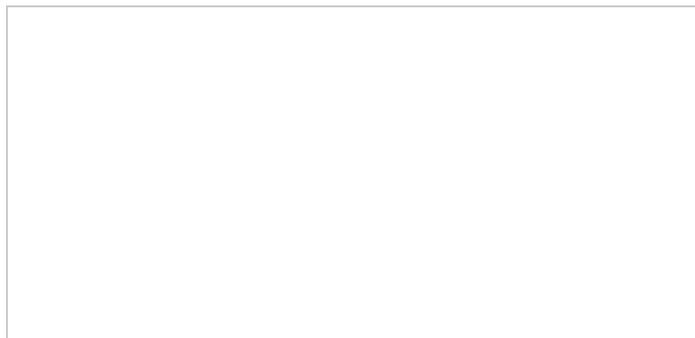
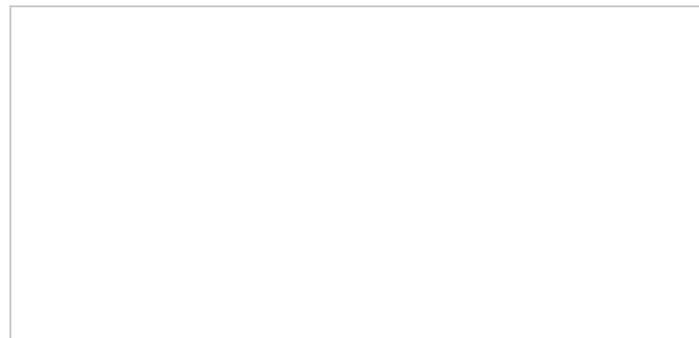
## Only 11 Days Left! Submit Artwork for the AATA-Dover Publications Collaboration

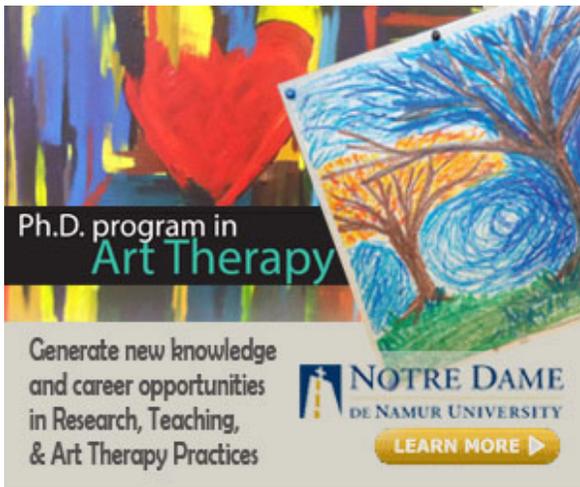


AATA

There's only a few days left to submit artwork for the AATA-Dover Publications adult coloring book collaboration before the **Oct. 31 deadline**. This is an opportunity to help spread an accurate message about art therapy as a mental health profession by using the popular platform of adult coloring books. Illustrations will be provided solely by credentialed art therapists and the AATA will be helping to oversee the book's publication. Click [here](#) for more details about how to submit artwork.

### SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT





## 2017 Spring Art Therapy Symposium at Mount Mary University



AATA

Mount Mary University will be hosting the Art Therapy: Creative Action as Collective Action Spring Symposium on April 7, 2017. The all-day event will include workshops, lecture, and discussions exploring how the arts inspire and promote community revitalization and personal empowerment. The symposium will feature Keynote speaker Holly Feen-Calligan, Ph.D., ATR-BC. Presentation proposals can be sent to [belkofec@mtmary.edu](mailto:belkofec@mtmary.edu) and must be received no later than Nov. 30, 2016.

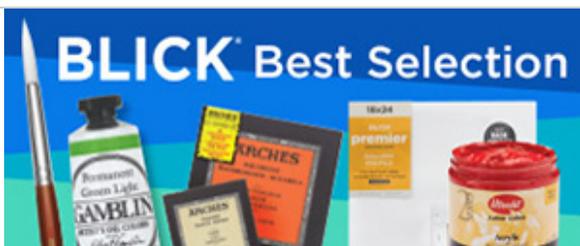
## What Do Americans Believe About the Arts?



AATA

The value of the arts in mental health and well-being is foundational to art therapists – but how does the average United States citizen perceive the arts in his or her life? Americans for the Arts and Ipsos Public Affairs sought to answer that question by surveying more than 3,000 American adults over the age of 18 on topics including support for arts education and government arts funding, personal engagement in the arts, the personal benefits and well-being that come from engaging in the arts, and if/how those benefits extend to the community. The findings of their research are now available online and can be reviewed [here](#).

### PRODUCT SHOWCASE



#### Blick Art Materials

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#### Windsor & Newton

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### IN THE NEWS

## These artists refused to allow disabilities to adversely affect their careers



The Creator's Project

Many individuals have experienced physical afflictions, ailments, and other impairments that threatened to cut short their careers in the arts. But painters such as Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and Frida Kahlo have displayed that a disability rarely gets in the way of a true artist. In addition to creating memorable works, an artist serves to galvanize and motivate future creatives in the face of adversity. Contemporary artist Chuck Close creates highly collectible photorealist paintings with his prosopagnosia, an inability to recognize faces. [READ MORE](#)

## Photos show life on the streets through the eyes of those who live there



Dallas News

Matthew Nard sees splendor in the grays of a life most people would call bleak. The outline of a shadow against the dirt. An array of personal possessions outside a tent. The symmetry of birds on a telephone line. He and other homeless people have gotten the chance to show life on the streets from their perspective through a photography project sponsored by The Human Impact, a Dallas organization that works to form relationships with the city's homeless population through boots-on-the-ground contact. [READ MORE](#)

### *Art Therapy Today*

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