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November 10, 2016



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AATA NEWS

Art Therapy For Veterans, Military Service Members, and Their Families



Donna Betts, PhD, ATR-BC, AATA President



Art therapy helps Veterans and military service members. The evidence is building, and the public is taking notice. The AATA dedicates this special report to America's Veterans, and highlights the ways in which art therapy is improving their lives. On October 6th, I attended an exhibit of art by military service members, "Unmasking the Trauma of War," at the Department of Veterans Affairs headquarters, in Washington, DC. The exhibit was prominently mounted in the main lobby, and remained on display throughout October. It was sponsored by the VA National Center for Ethics in Health Care and the DoD National Intrepid Center of Excellence. **READ MORE**

A Post-US Presidential Election Message from the AATA



AATA

Here at the AATA, we realize that the 2016 election season may be a source of extreme personal emotion and stress. During such times, the communities you serve may need you more than ever. We know that you will rise to the occasion on their behalf. The AATA would like to remind you to make sure that you take care of yourselves – your own personal wellness is equally important. Also, please remember that the AATA is with you in the service of your clients and communities across the country, and will continue to proactively represent the value and impact of art therapy to our elected leaders at all levels of government.

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day 2017 & Digital Art Exhibition Call for Artwork



AATA

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day 2017 will be observed by national collaborating organizations and diverse communities across the country on May 4, 2017. The American Art Therapy Association will once again sponsor this event as a National Collaborating Organization. The Awareness Day national event will be held at 7:00 PM ET at the Jack Morton Auditorium at The George Washington University School of Media and Public Affairs in Washington, DC, and live streamed on SAMHSA's website. This live webcast will provide an opportunity for youth, young adults and families throughout the United States to have an interactive conversation with panels of family and youth leaders, behavioral health and primary care providers. **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.

AATA Featured Member



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Kevin D'Augustine is currently enrolled at The George Washington University's MA in Art Therapy program and will be graduating in Spring 2017. He currently interns at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) on the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center campus, working with military service members diagnosed with PTSD and/or a traumatic brain injury. Kevin believes that his evolution to art therapist is allowing him to achieve a life of greater purpose. He reveals, "I believe that my faith in the healing power of the art making process and my military experience will allow me to be a positive force in the treatment of military service members and their families. I want to remain connected to the military community and, for me, there is no way more meaningful than helping to reduce suffering and improving quality of life for this population." **READ MORE**

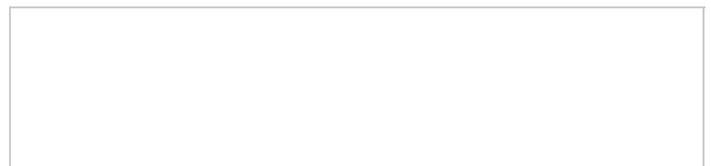
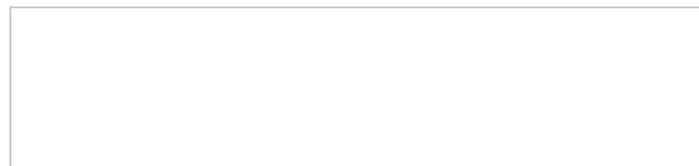
Art Can Heal PTSD's Invisible Wounds

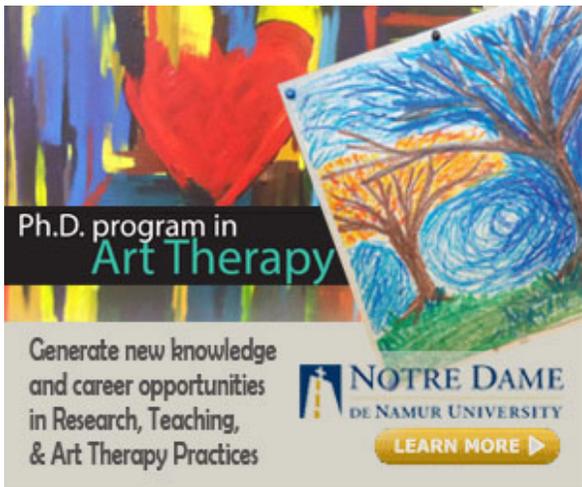


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Melissa Walker, ATR, discusses her job as a creative arts therapist at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE), where she works with active duty service members suffering from traumatic brain injury and psychological health conditions. Check out her [TED Talk](#), previously featured on TEDMED, about how mask-making has become a powerful vehicle for recovery.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT





Mental Health Reform Advocacy Week: Don't Let the Senate be Lame Ducks



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National Mental Health Reform Advocacy Week is November 14-18, 2016. This is an opportunity to make sure that Congress is committed to passing mental health reform this year. Let your Senators know that you care about this issue by contacting them directly and spreading the word to friends, family and neighbors. Tweet or post on Facebook using **#MentalHealthReform** and visit the National Alliance on Mental Illness' (NAMI) [website](#) for additional resources and details on how to contact your Senator.

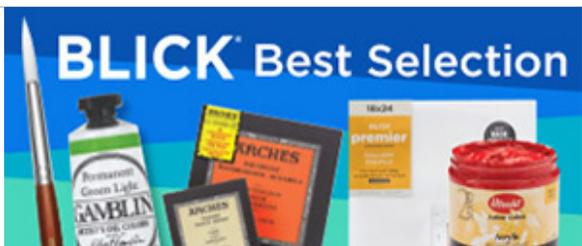
IN THE NEWS

The 2016 election is raising ethical concerns for therapists



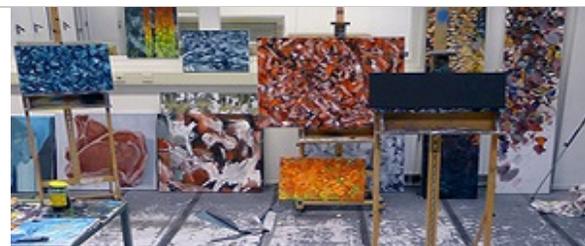
Psychotherapy Network
 In a profession that traditionally prizes neutrality, most therapists have considered presidential elections an issue outside their professional domain. After all, isn't it almost a cardinal rule that therapy and politics don't mix? Recently, however, concerned about the stakes in this year's election between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, some therapists have been wondering whether they have a professional, and even moral, obligation to bring politics into the consulting room. **READ MORE**

PRODUCT SHOWCASE



Blick Art Materials

At Blick, you'll find the largest selection of art materials available. We carry high-quality products from the best brands in the industry. No matter the medium, Blick has the supplies you need to promote creativity through the visual arts.



Windsor & Newton

William and Henry's commitment to quality and innovation are part of a rich heritage which informs Windsor & 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**

New partnership sculpts future of art therapy aboard Camp Lejeune



JDNews.com

The walls and foyers of Intrepid Spirit Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic aboard Camp Lejeune are filled in paintings, drawings, photographs and sculptures, that are serving more of a purpose than just decoration. Each piece has been created by a service member currently battling some of the toughest battles they have faced since returning home from duty, and thanks to art therapy they are starting to get the upper hand. **READ MORE**

Veterans are battling this condition with Art Therapy



Pulse.vg

At Tyrwhitt House, a facility for veterans recovering from post-traumatic stress disorder. art therapy plays a major role in the treatment. The Combat Stress facility is a mental health charity that provides free help and advice to veterans of the United Kingdom. **READ MORE**

Art Therapy Today

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