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March 30, 2016



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## AATA NEWS AND EVENTS

### Representing Art Therapy in the Schools - NEA New Business Item D: Specialized Instructional Support Personnel (SISP)



Jordan Potash, PhD, ATR-BC, REAT, LCPAT, LCAT, and Lida Sunderland

On March 18, 2016, we had the honor of representing the American Art Therapy Association at a meeting convened by the National Education Association (NEA) on the topic of Specialized Instructional Support Personnel (SISP). For context, the new education law "Every Student Succeeds Act" (ESSA) contains the term SISP to identify the non-educators who work in schools to support students through behavioral, emotional, and psychological support. At their last annual assembly, the NEA board of directors introduced New Business Item D intended to design a professional continuum model by engaging stakeholders in detailing the contributions of SISPs, identifying their high quality training, addressing their environmental challenges and needs, and advocating for their continued inclusion in the schools. [READ MORE](#)



### Last Chance to Apply for 2016 Awards and Scholarships



AATA

Several award and scholarship applications are due this week. The Multicultural, Research and Scholarship Committees encourage American Art Therapy Association members to submit applications by the noted deadlines: **Pearlie Roberson Scholarship Award** (due March 31); **Research Grant Awards** (due April 1), and **Scholarship Committee Awards** (due April 1). Please note that incomplete application packets and those

postmarked after the deadline will not be considered. [READ MORE](#)

## Save on Your Conference Experience!



AATA

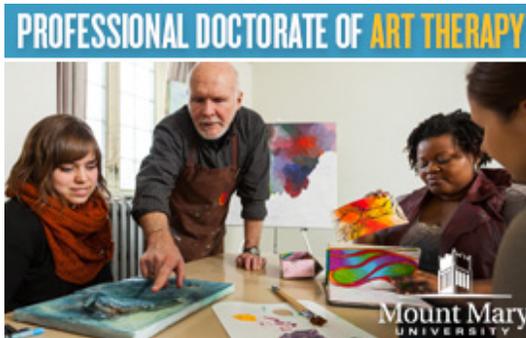


Advanced Registration is now open, [click here](#) to learn more!

Already registered? Enrich your conference experience by adding an all-day advanced practice course on Wednesday, and earn 7 units of continuing education, or a half-day course on Sunday! There are still seats in the Master Class on Thursday as well.

Visit the [website](#) for details.

### PRODUCT SHOWCASE



## Professional Doctorate of Art Therapy

Mount Mary University's professional doctorate prepares working art therapists to transform their profession and advance their careers. This three-year professional doctorate combines an annual 12-day residency on campus with online coursework and independent doctoral study with activist leaders in the field.

New cohorts begin each summer. Learn more at [www.mtmary.edu/dat](http://www.mtmary.edu/dat)

## Reminder – Annual Election Begins April 1, 2016



AATA

On Friday, April 1st, our annual election begins. The Nominating Committee 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, is posted on the [Members-Only website](#). A candidate for Honorary Life Member is also being presented by the Honors Committee, as well as proposed bylaws changes that require your vote (please refer to "Proposed Bylaws Updates" document, Version 29 March, 2016). **The voting period will begin April 1st. The link to the election, along with 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 our voting members – so please take the time to make your voice heard and vote! Voting is a privilege of membership and we look forward to your participation.

## Dr. Shaun McNiff to be a Keynote Speaker at Art as Research Conference 2016



AATA

Past-President and Honorary Life Member of the AATA, Dr. Shaun McNiff, will be one of the keynote speakers at this year's [Art as Research in Learning & Teaching International Conference](#) in Shropshire, England. He will be discussing his work in art-based research and the ways that art can uniquely address research questions and methodology.

## AATA Featured Member



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Art therapy was not first for Ellis Eisner, ATR-BC, LCAT, at least in the sense of her career chronology. Ellis' first career as a graphic artist solidified her desire to pursue a profession related to the arts. Her later work in executive sales sharpened her curiosity about psychology. But it wasn't until a good friend brought up the term "art therapy" in conversation that Ellis' interest became piqued and she began the process of research and inquisition that would eventually lead her to her third career as an art therapist. She went on to graduate from the art therapy program at Steinhardt School of the Arts in New

York University (class of '99) and recalls that an experience at her first internship strengthened her belief in art therapy's propensity for transformation. [READ MORE](#)

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#### ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

### Creativity – therapeutic uses and therapy – alike and different



The Huffington Post

As 2016 Creative Arts Therapies Week ends, it is important to discuss the meaning and significance of creativity and how it fits into the work of counselors, artists, and creative arts therapists in health, education, and social service settings. What is creativity? Creativity is "the ability to make new things or think of new ideas" or "the ability to transcend traditional ideas, rules, patterns, relationships, or the like, and to create meaningful new ideas, forms, methods, interpretations, etc." Originality, progressiveness, and imagination are all synonyms.

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### Albertus Magnus art therapy program trains to provide creative healing



New Haven Register

In New Haven, says Abbe Miller, director of the Graduate Art Therapy program at Albertus Magnus College, there is a lively art scene, one in which art is sometimes identified as a way to heal. Art therapy is a profession that uses artistic techniques, Miller said. In practice, an art therapist uses both art as therapy and therapy as art. Evie Lindemann, associate professor and clinical coordinator for the Albertus program, called it a "blended program." The graduate program at Albertus Magnus is the only accredited art therapy program in the state, and only one of 39 in the nation, Miller said. The program was established in 1997, conceptualized by professor Ragaa Mazen. [READ MORE](#)

### Mental illness – A self-portrait



Queens Chronicle

Jamaica Hospital Medical Center marked Creative Arts Therapy Week March 14 through 18 with an art gallery featuring works created in the past year by patients being treated for mental illness. Art therapists Heather Grey and Michelle Hololob coordinated the third annual exhibit. The theme was "Perceptions and Reflections: A Patient's Point of View." Works included self-portraits, sculptures and paintings and drawings reflecting everyday life and activities. [READ MORE](#)

### Art therapy pioneer Marie Revaï honored with exhibition



Montreal Gazette

A month-long exhibition on Marie Revaï, an artist and pioneer of art therapy for those with mental health disorders, winds up this week at the Centre d'Apprentissage Parallèle de Montréal. Revaï was born in 1911, three years before the outbreak of the First World War, to a Hungarian father and a French mother. Even as a

child, she used drawing to share her experiences, Lamy said. Through drawing, for instance, she was able to express her mother's anxiety about war. "She was aware that art helped her through different things," he said.

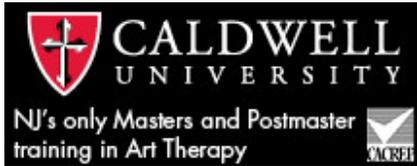
**READ MORE**

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.

**SUGGESTED COMPANIES**

 **Caldwell University**  
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