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AATA NEWS AND EVENTS

Art Therapy Licensing Bill in Connecticut Heading to the Senate



Ellie Nicol, ATR-BC



On March 23, 2016, it was announced that the Connecticut (CT) bill, Raised Senate Bill 354, An Act Concerning Music and Art Therapy, was unanimously and favorably passed through the Public Health Committee (PHC) and is on its way to the Senate floor. The bill was developed collaboratively with music therapists, but would create separate licenses for the two professions. Art therapists Mary Hamilton, ATR-BC, LPC, President of the Connecticut Art Therapy Association (CATA), and Ellie Nicol, ATR-BC, Chair of CATA's Government Affairs Committee,

joined with local legislators to provide testimony in support of this bill. **READ MORE**

Remembering Dr. Howard McConeghey



Linney Wix, PhD, ATR-BC

Dr. Howard McConeghey, founder of the Archetypal Art Therapy Program at the University of New Mexico (UNM, 1978-2001), died on March 28, 2016 at the age of 95. Howard lived in Albuquerque, having moved to New Mexico in 1973 to become the chair of UNM's Department of Art Education, from which he retired in 1990. Howard was an art teacher, a painter, and an art therapist. His way of life was through and in art. He taught art at all academic levels, from kindergarten through university coursework. He based his teaching of art on the act of supporting students as they expressed themselves, which he believed was therapeutic in its own way. He

studied painting with Max Beckman at Washington University in St. Louis and with Fernand Léger in Paris. His work was influenced by Picasso's art and Gertrude Stein's writings, and highlights of his life included meeting both in Paris during his service in World War II. Howard claimed that both art education and art were core to his philosophy of life, and later to his philosophy of art therapy. **READ MORE**



AATA Featured Member

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For Amy Jones, MA, LPC, the benefits of membership in the AATA include connection and community. "Since I have my own business, it is so beneficial to be part of a larger community," she explains, "I appreciate learning from colleagues and belonging to an organization that advocates for the art therapy profession at a local and national level." Amy holds a Master's degree in art therapy from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, and is working toward attainment of her ATR credential. She is also a Licensed Professional Counselor in Colorado.

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2016 International Conference on Mobile Brain-Body Imaging (MoBI) and the Neuroscience of Art, Innovation and Creativity to be held in Cancun



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On July 24-27, 2016, the [International Conference on Mobile Brain-Body Imaging \(MoBI\) and the Neuroscience of Art, Innovation and Creativity](#) will be held in Live Aqua, Cancun. This international event brings together thought-leaders, performers and innovators who work at the intersection of the arts, neuroscience, engineering, media, industry, education and medicine. The conference will address how the brain responds to art, how art can promote innovation and creativity in a number of settings, and how the arts can be supported by neuroscience and technology. Featured speakers include renowned scientists, engineers and artists from a variety of disciplines, such as Dr. Anjan Chatterjee, Professor and Chair of Neurology at Pennsylvania Hospital, and the featured keynote speaker for this year's [Annual AATA Conference](#) in Baltimore, Maryland. Doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows who are interested in attending can [apply](#) for funding and reduced registration rates by submitting their applications before April 15, 2016, and junior faculty at the Assistant Professor Level can request a waiver of registration fee to participate as discussants at the meeting.

ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

Choosing arts for life



The Huffington Post

Dr. Val Huet writes: "At a time when evidence on the social and emotional benefits of the arts is growing, I felt dismay when a U.K. Education Minister visiting a school stated that choosing arts-based subjects for your A Levels was a career-sinker - better go for maths and science to ensure a successful and lucrative future. So as a result, many budding artistic teenagers will do the sensible thing and give up on art, music, drama, dance, etc. This is of course not a new phenomenon: when teaching on art therapy Introductory and Foundation courses, I have frequently met people who made this choice and spent much of their working lives in occupations many found unfulfilling. They all shared a deep regret in having given up on arts in their youth and showed remarkable courage by trying to steer themselves back to an art-based career." **READ MORE**

Bringing art to life: An intergenerational approach to Alzheimer's



The Huffington Post

"Each day is a gift. You know you really realize that when you get older," says Don. Don is one of the many people with Alzheimer's disease participating in the Bringing Art to Life art therapy program at the University of

Alabama – Tuscaloosa. Now in its fifth year, Bringing Art to Life is a special elective Undergraduate Honors course at UA. Developed by neurologist, Daniel C. Potts, M.D., F.A.A.N., in collaboration with the Undergraduate Honors College, and art therapists, including me, Bringing Art to Life gives undergraduate honor students, coming from diverse majors, an opportunity to spend a semester learning about Alzheimer's and related dementias. Intensive learning comes from both on and off campus as students spend each week getting creative with Art Therapist, Carrie Ezell, who facilitates the art therapy sessions for persons with dementia that are in need of support. **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. Publication of any guest article is at the sole discretion of the American Art Therapy Association.

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