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October 5, 2016


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Dear Subscribers: Each week, *Art Therapy Today* provides you with the latest news, events and information about the AATA and topics pertaining to the art therapy profession. Effective this week, *Art Therapy Today's* publication schedule will move from Wednesdays to Thursdays. So, be on the lookout for next week's issue on **Thursday, Oct. 13th**, to stay current.

## AATA NEWS

### AATA President-Elect and Executive Director Join the Buckeye Art Therapy Association for Symposium



Christianne Strang, PhD, ATR-BC



AATA President-Elect Christianne Strang and AATA Executive Director Cynthia Woodruff attended the Buckeye Art Therapy Association (BATA) 35th Annual symposium, "Art Therapy as a Path to Healing." This was a vibrant symposium offered by one of the AATA's most active chapters. Held in Columbus, Ohio from Sept. 29- Oct. 1, 2016, participants included more than 120 art therapists and art therapy students from across Ohio, as well as from Michigan, Kentucky and Indiana. **READ**

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**Call for Proposals for the AATA 2017 Conference Now Open!**

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

The American Art Therapy Association will host the 48th Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Nov. 8-12, 2017, at the Hyatt Regency in Downtown Albuquerque.\* The theme of the 48th Annual Conference, Art Therapy: Traversing Landscapes of Heart & Mind, reflects how the use of art therapy brings together an all-inclusive approach to wellness and provides a rich platform to inspire our presenters as they bring their knowledge to light. **READ MORE**

**President Obama Declares October as National Arts and Humanities Month**

AATA

The American Art Therapy Association and our friends at Americans for the Arts are celebrating October as National Arts and Humanities Month! President Obama has already kicked things off by issuing an official White House Proclamation that articulates the importance of the arts and culture in our history and in our future. He states, "In many ways, the arts and humanities reflect our national soul. They are central to who we are as Americans – as dreamers and storytellers, creators and visionaries. By investing in the arts, we can chart a course for the future in which the threads of our common humanity are bound together with creative empathy and openness." **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**

AATA



Natasha Westrich Wood, MA, ATR-BC graduated from SIUE (class of '97) with her Masters in Art Therapy, a perfect blend of my two undergraduate majors, psychology and art history. "I was fascinated with the fact that art could tell a person's story," she explains, "I have witnessed such amazing moments through working with children dealing with cancer and allowing them to express their journey through art." As the only art therapist in her work environment, Natasha values any means that help her feel connected to the art therapy community, including her AATA membership: "I enjoy feeling like I am in touch with art therapy on a national level by reading the journals and attending the conferences. I have been going to the conferences since I was in graduate school, over 20 years

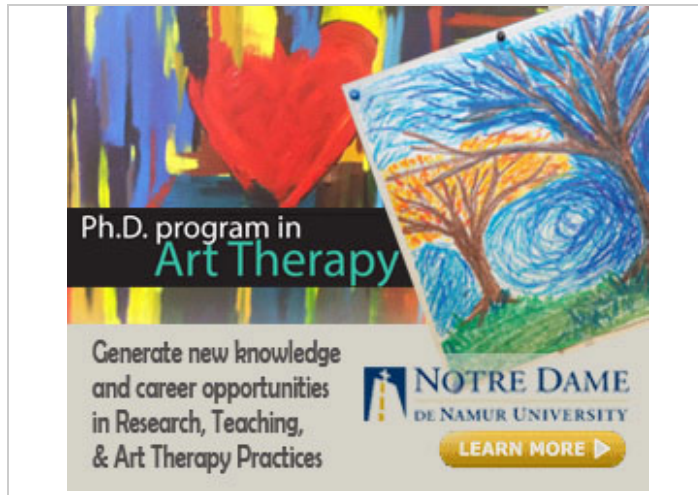
now." **READ MORE****Research Corner: Anti-Memoir: Creating Alternate Nursing Home Narratives Through Zine Making**

AATA

In the latest issue of Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association, Houpt, Balkin, Broom, Roth, & Selma (2016) examine how zine making in nursing homes can promote social action and culture change in their article, "Anti-Memoir: Creating Alternate Nursing Home Narratives Through Zine Making." Focusing on the ongoing work of the program Write for You, a collaboration between an art therapist and nursing home community members, the authors outline the effects of increased connection and creative development for

destigmatizing nursing home communities. AATA members and subscribers to Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association can access the full article [here](#).

#### SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



### Free Access Article Available from the British Association of Art Therapists



AATA

This free access article "Art therapists with experience of mental distress: Implications for art therapy training and practice: (Huet & Holttum, 2016) is now available through the British Association of Art Therapists. The article discusses the experiences of art therapists with dual experiences as professionals and mental health service users. Click [here](#) to access the full article.

### Webisode 'Altering the Course: First Episode of Psychosis Intervention' Available Online



AATA

In case you missed last week's livestream of the webisode "Altering the Course: First Episode of Psychosis Intervention," the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has made a recording available online. The webisode outlines evidence-based strategies and resources on how to support youth and young adults who may be experiencing early phases of psychosis or first episode psychosis (FEP). Click [here](#) to watch.

#### IN THE NEWS

### Celebrating National Arts and Humanities month with an eye to a new cast of characters

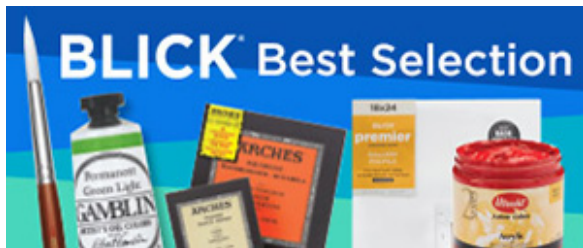


The Huffington Post

October means something very important to the arts world and to communities throughout the United States – National Arts and Humanities Month, a month to reflect on the many ways the arts and humanities contribute to our society. This year there is a sense of urgency. We are at the edge of a changing political tide, whereby elected leaders and administrations will change and support mechanisms for the arts will necessarily evolve. We have one last shot in 2016 to show our future elected leaders the importance of the arts in America. **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**

## **Integrating technology into art therapy programs**



McKnight's

In recent decades, many in the aging services field have recognized the transformative power of the arts in care for older adults with cognitive and/or physical impairments. At Mather Lifeways, art therapists facilitate creative expression and connection for residents of skilled nursing, assisted living, and memory support care settings, built on the belief that self-expression through the arts is a fundamental psychosocial need and a vital component of well-being. Our art therapy programs are built on evidence-based research that shows engaging in creative expression promotes social connection, brain health, and physical and mental well-being as we age.

**READ MORE**

## **Demystifying the misconceptions of art therapy**



PsychReg

What do you think of when you hear the words "art therapy"? Do you think of a therapist for artists? A psychologist who holds up inkblot images to analyze patients' personalities or disorders based off of what they see (better known as The Rorschach Test)? Or perhaps you think of a person who teaches art to children? The above are common fallacies that I have heard firsthand after telling people, "I'm an Art Psychotherapist". **READ MORE**

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4875 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 240 | Alexandria, VA 22304 | 888-290-0878 | [Contact Us](#)

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