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AATA NEWS

AATA Releases New Video Series



AATA National Office



The AATA has recently released several videos to help you answer the questions, “What is art therapy?” and “How does art therapy work?” These videos, meant to raise awareness for the profession by focusing on broad and specific topics related to the field, can be shared with clients, employers, legislators, educators, and anyone else who may benefit from learning more. They represent the first in a series of videos that the AATA will continue to release through the next few months.

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Memo from the AATA Board of Directors



AATA Board of Directors

The AATA’s mission includes responsibility to educate the public and other parties interested in art therapy to ensure clear understanding about scope and practice. In the present Memo, the AATA Board of Directors conveys information about our recent efforts. In January, 2017, the AATA became aware that the Second Lady of the United States, Mrs. Karen Pence, was featuring the profession of art therapy on her page of the White House website. Though her support of art therapy had not previously included contact with the AATA, the news of Mrs. Pence’s intentions around art therapy prompted the AATA Board to review and deliberate what role our mission might demand. **READ MORE**

PRODUCT SHOWCASE



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About Art Therapy Today



AATA National Office

The AATA's *Art Therapy Today* (ATT), a free e-news publication distributed weekly, compiles current events, announcements, and articles that are relevant to the AATA and the art therapy profession. Each issue includes two sections: "AATA News" and "In the News." The first section highlights organizational announcements and events, our weekly [Featured Member](#), and other articles that increase awareness of art therapy (for example, interviews, program descriptions, recent events, upcoming opportunities, and research). We encourage AATA members to contact the National Office with news of achievements or events that may be of interest to the ATT readership.* The "In the News" section compiles industry news and media about art therapy from sources independent of the AATA, as well as topics relevant to our collaborators in the mental health and arts communities. Authorship of articles published in ATT is indicated in the bylines. Articles drafted by the [AATA National Office](#) have typically been bylined "AATA," but in future will be bylined as "AATA National Office." Articles authored by the [AATA Board of Directors](#) are indicated as such. ATT will continue to list full names and credentials of individual AATA members who author articles for ATT.

**Publication of any guest article is at the sole discretion of the AATA.*

Seeking Executive Editor for the Art Therapy Journal



Michaela Kirby, PsyD, ATR-BC, LMHC, Journal Editor Search Committee Chair

The American Art Therapy Association seeks applications for the position of Editor of *Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association*. The Journal is a peer-reviewed scholarly publication that has a readership comprised of educators, practitioners, and students. Its mission is to inform the readership of research, recent innovations, and critical issues related to art therapy. [Click here](#) to view the Journal Editor position description and requirements. Please direct any questions to info@arttherapy.org. **The deadline for nominations or applications is August 1, 2017.**

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Contact your Senators, Support Funding of the NEA



AATA National Office

On July 18, the House Appropriations Committee met and approved funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) at \$145 million for FY 2018. The proposal is expected to advance to the U.S. House floor in the coming weeks. Although the \$5 million cut (from \$150 million in FY 2017) is discouraging, we are heartened by the fact that it is not the termination proposal that has been sought by the Administration since March. The accompanying U.S. House report notes the "broad bipartisan support" of NEA's participation in the [National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military](#), which includes art therapy services through [Creative Forces](#). The U.S. Senate's proposal is expected after Labor Day. Please take two minutes to contact your Senators. **Use this easy, customizable form produced by the Americans for the Arts and ask the U.S. Senate to meet the request of \$155 million for the NEA.**

AATA Featured Member



AATA National Office



For the last seventeen years, Cathy Meier Asher, MA, ATR-BC, LCAT, ATCS has been in private practice. She also works part-time at the Carol Simon Center of Morristown Medical Center with clients in oncology inpatient, outpatient, and group settings. Asher earned her Masters of Art Therapy from New York University in 1992. Throughout her career, she has taken pride in organizing community projects as a way to encourage and promote the benefits of art therapy for individuals who otherwise may have had opportunities to experience art therapy. Asher feels closely connected to the AATA and has taken advantage of the Institute for Continuing Education (ICE/AT) for her ongoing edification. Ms. Asher is a

member of her local chapters, and finds AATA conference attendance to be "an excellent way to connect to other art therapists." **READ MORE**

IN THE NEWS

Art therapy in 30 seconds



VolumeOne

Amy Hahn writes: "The decision to seek professional help is rarely an easy one. I have worked with a number of people challenged with a variety of life experiences. From adults struggling with depression to teens facing anxiety and mental illness, I have committed myself to the belief that even short-term therapy can be extremely valuable. After moving from Chicago to Eau Claire a year ago, I connected with the Eau Claire School of Music to continue my art therapy efforts through my private practice within their space." **READ MORE**

Congress introduces resolution recognizing trauma informed care



The Huffington Post

This week Congressman Mike Gallagher introduced H. Res. 443 with Congressman Danny Davis recognizing the importance and effectiveness of trauma-informed care. Amidst the healthcare discussion and division among party lines, this resolution marks what may be the one nonpartisan health-related issue that policymakers can come together on. **READ MORE**



Art studio helps adults with disabilities turn their passion into a career



WFAE-TV

Teenagers often have to wait years to do the things they want to do — drive, drink, vote. But for Mara Clawson, it was something different. As a teen, Clawson loved making art — specifically drawing with pastels. So at 14, she reached out to Art Enables, a studio, gallery and vocational program in Washington, D.C., where she really wanted to make that art. But Art Enables requires its members to be at least 21 years old. That didn't deter her. During the seven-year wait, Clawson stayed focused. **READ MORE**

Study: Art boosts long-term mental health



Anglia Ruskin University via Cambridge Network

Anglia Ruskin University conducted an evaluation of an NHS initiative, Open Arts Essex, which consisted of 12-week arts courses in community venues in the county. Participants included mental health service users, carers and self-referred individuals. The research looked at the participants' experiences of the course and also measured their well-being and social inclusion three and six months after it finished. **READ MORE**

SUGGESTED COMPANIES

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