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January 12, 2017


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AATA NEWS

Report to the Membership: AATA's Strategic Plan and Restructuring Transition



AATA



In 2016, the AATA Board of Directors initiated a comprehensive strategic planning process that resulted in specific strategies that will lead to further healthy growth and professionalization of the Association in support of its mission (Waechter, 2010). Valuable input from AATA members was used to inform the 2016-2019 strategic plan. The plan is well underway, and is increasing productivity across all levels of the Association, benefitting committees, our state chapters, the National

Office team, the Board of Directors, our members, and all whom we serve. **READ MORE**

The Definition of the Profession: Seeking Member Input



AATA

The AATA Board of Directors has worked diligently over the last few months to establish a comprehensive definition of the profession appropriate for our Association. This process has been guided through a review of recent publications and an expressed desire from the membership for a more inclusive definition. The Board has approved this version of the definition, via deliberation and vote, and would like to provide the opportunity for member input. Please be cognizant, all responses will be thoroughly considered but not inevitably incorporated into the final definition. If responding, it is helpful to the process to include alternative phrasing or words to help us better understand your rationale. **READ MORE**

School of Arts & Sciences | Art Therapy
 The Undergraduate Art Therapy major will provide students with both theoretical foundations and practical experience while learning the diverse application of art therapy.



2017 Call for Honors



Craig Siegel, MA, ATR-BC, ATCS, Honors Working Group Chair

The Honors Working Group will soon be opening the 2017 Call for Honors nominations. The nomination period will begin on February 1, 2017 and will close on May 1, 2017. Professional Members of the Association may make nominations for art therapists to be considered for honors in 2017 for their outstanding contributions to the American Art Therapy Association (AATA), the profession of art therapy, art therapy education and clinical work. **READ MORE**

AATA Featured Member

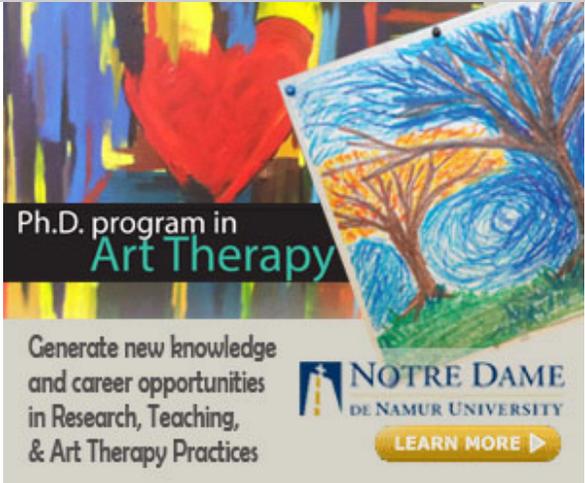


AATA



Nancy Xiong is a second-year Art Therapy graduate student at Mount Mary University. As an intern she worked primarily at Aurora Hospitals, primarily at Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center in Milwaukee, where she made art with cancer patients during infusions, with family members in waiting rooms, with patients in their rooms, and with various other individuals during open studio hours at the hospital. “Art making is inherently therapeutic and the artwork is metacommunicative,” she elaborates, “When we expand on the visual language of art, we help individuals express thoughts and feelings.” Nancy also spent a semester volunteering once a week at a middle school where she conducted stress-management art therapy groups with students. **READ MORE**

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The Future in Your Hands: Donate to Support Students and New Professionals



AATA

So far we’ve raised over \$1,300 to help send up to ten New Professionals and Students to our largest education event of the year, the 2017 Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Our campaign will continue through Jan. 31, 2017 so it’s not too late for you to lend a hand. Donate today!

IN THE NEWS

Keep the Affordable Care Act to keep progress on treating opioid disorders and mental illnesses



The Hill

In enacting the 21st Century Cures Act this past December, Congress took important steps toward promoting access to high-quality care for mental and substance use disorders. The act directs new resources to two long-standing challenges: federal opioid misuse and abuse (\$1 billion over two years) and serious mental illnesses (about \$200 million in 2017). These new appropriations, secured through a broad bipartisan vote, will fund critical investments in treatment capacity and quality. **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.

Healthcare organizations take on art therapy to reduce employee burnout, improve health



Healthcare Financial Management Association via HERe Initiative

The smallest doodle on the edge of a memo. A child's drawing hung in a workspace. Enjoying lunch next to a sculpture. These are all ways art can creep into the work day, and each has a larger effect than one might suspect. More than 80 percent of workers polled by a workplace design group say that art is important in their work environment, and there is a wealth of research confirming the benefit of artistic endeavors in spurring creativity, relieving stress and improving employee wellness. **READ MORE**

Art Therapy Today

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