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AATA NEWS

AATA Signs Letter to Protect Coverage of Mental Health Services



AATA

On March 17th, 2017 AATA joined 41 other partner organizations of the Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) in signing a letter addressed to House Speaker Paul Ryan and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi urging Congress to protect the access to and coverage of mental health and substance use disorder care and services. The letter specifically expresses serious concerns about provisions of the American Health Care Act (AHCA) that would restructure the Medicaid program and end the Medicaid expansion as well as provisions that would significantly reduce the Federal premium assistance that enables enrollees to maintain continuous insurance coverage. These changes would specifically affect mental health care through the elimination of required coverage for prevention and treatment of mental illness and substance use disorders under state Medicaid managed care and alternative benefit programs. **READ MORE**

Emporia State University Hosts 43rd Annual Art Therapy Conference



Jessica Stallings, MS, ATR-BC, LPC, AS and Gaelynn P. Wolf Bordonaro, Ph.D., ATR-BC

Greetings from the center of the country! On Sunday, March 12, 2017, Emporia State University hosted the 43rd Annual Art Therapy Discovery Day Conference. The annual event began in 1974, shortly after Robert Ault established the Graduate Art Therapy program in Emporia, Kansas. The one-day conference is a fun and informative event open to anyone with an interest in art therapy. Attendees included professional art therapists, counselors, social workers, psychologists and current and prospective students. **READ MORE**



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

AATA Represented at Arts Advocacy Day 2017



AATA



AATA leadership and staff were honored to participate as a partner organization with Americans for the Arts (AFTA) for their thirtieth year of Arts Advocacy Day on the Hill! The events spanned two days and included advocacy training on Monday and a busy day of congressional meetings on Tuesday. AATA was well represented by leadership, staff, and a member who traveled from California for the event. AATA Board President Dr. Donna Betts is preparing a full report to be included in next week's issue of Art Therapy Today, so stay tuned! **READ MORE**

Latest Issue of the Journal Published Online



AATA

The [latest issue](#) of *Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association* has been published online. Not only is *Art Therapy* the official Journal of the AATA, but it's also a leading publication in the field of art therapy. AATA members maintain full online access to the Journal as a benefit of membership, and can review articles after logging into their [MyAATA](#) account. If you're interested in catching up on the latest research and findings in art therapy, consider [joining](#) or [renewing](#) your membership today!



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



Gail Wetherell-Sack, ATR-BC, LPCC-S earned an MA from University of Akron and was trained in art therapy at the University of Illinois with Harriet Wadeson and with Mary K. McGraw, founder of the Art Therapy Studio. She has worked as an art therapist since 1983. With an emphasis on trauma recovery, she uses art psychotherapy as a primary method in her work with adolescents, adults, families and groups. She teaches art therapy courses at Walsh University and Ursuline College and provides supervision for students and clinicians. Gail is particularly excited to be serving as a consultant for the development and implementation of "Art for Health & Healing," an innovative program at the Canton Museum of Art. [READ MORE](#)

IN THE NEWS

The heart of the matter: Art as healing



The Weekender

At the heart of any artistic endeavor is just that — heart. As discussed in a previous issue of The Weekender, here at the University of California, Berkeley, students are already using this form of personal expression as a means to manage their own mental health. But what does that all add up to in a more professional setting? Helen B. Landgarten, Art Therapy Clinic Director, associate professor of Marital and Family Therapy at Loyola Marymount University and American Art Therapy Association board member Paige Asawa explained how art therapy is intrinsically different from traditional forms of therapy, and how she has experienced its efficacy throughout her life and career. [READ MORE](#)

Flourish Foundation Art Therapy Service at Ritsona Refugee Camp



The British Association of Art Therapists

Following their art therapy pilot project at Ritsona refugee camp in 2016, the Flourish Foundation have returned to provide a longer-term art therapy service for residents. Ritsona camp is situated north of Athens in a remote area of mainland Greece and has a predominantly Syrian population alongside a small number of individuals from Somalia, Morocco, Iraq, Sudan and Palestine. [READ MORE](#)

American College of Cardiology: Medicine needs art to flourish



MedPage Today

The head of the Smithsonian Institution issued a stirring defense of the arts, humanities and social sciences, telling thousands of cardiologists recently that "wisdom gleaned" from those fields can make them "better, more empathetic" doctors. In a keynote address at the opening of the annual meeting of the annual scientific meeting of the American College of Cardiology, David J. Skorton, M.D., said "science isn't enough to solve the world's thorniest problems. We need the social sciences, art and humanities too." [READ MORE](#)

SUGGESTED COMPANIES



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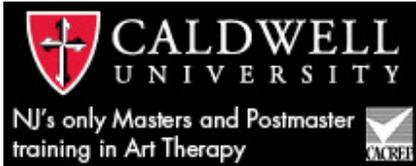
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Art Therapy Today

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