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April 27, 2017


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AATA NEWS

AATA Launches #IAmAWorkOfArt for Children's Mental Health Awareness Day 2017



AATA

On Tuesday, April 25 the AATA launched the “I am a work of art” digital gallery on our website! In January, the AATA, in collaboration with the Office of Head Start and Youth M.O.V.E. National, invited art therapists who work with children, youth, and young adults (ages of 3-25) to submit artwork for a digital exhibition to be displayed in conjunction with National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day events during the month of May. All artwork submitted was made specifically for this exhibit and was based on the exhibit theme: “I am a work of art.” [READ MORE](#)



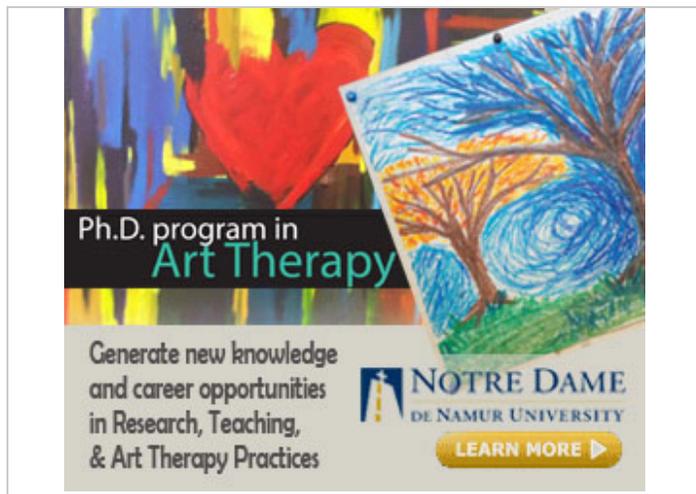
#AATA2017 Conference Highlights: Depth, Diversity, and Innovation



Heidi Tournoux-Hanshaw, MA, LPC-AT-S, ATR-BC, ATCS, Conference Chair

Have you made plans to attend #AATA2017? If you are looking for a way to **expand your knowledge and learn about the latest techniques** in art therapy, the American Art Therapy Association’s 48th Annual Conference — the premier art therapy event — will take place November 8 – 12 in Albuquerque, NM! [Early Bird registration](#) is open now through June 16. Including the pre- and post-conference educational offerings, our program consists of more than 230 educational sessions spanning five days. Our 324 confirmed presenters include leading art therapy experts, researchers, clinicians, educators, and authors with impressive backgrounds and experience. [READ MORE](#)

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

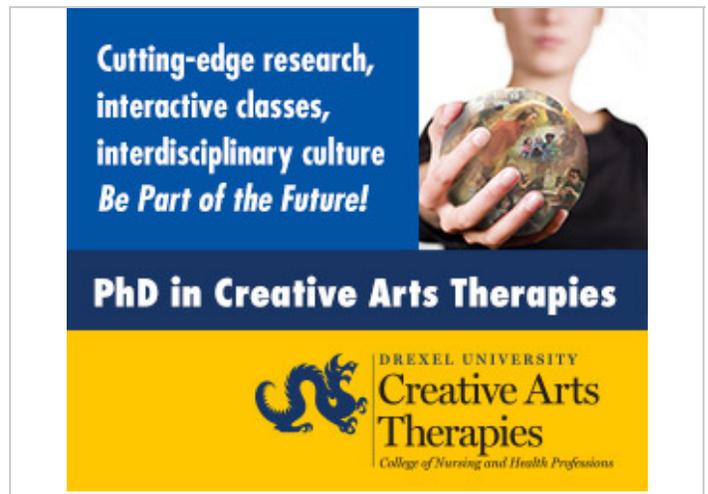


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2017 Call for Honors Nominations Deadline Extended to June 15



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

The deadline for Honors nominations has been extended to June 15. As the Honors Working Group asks for your 2017 Honors Nominations, we would like to once again acknowledge all of last year's nominees. Those of us who are fortunate to serve for this group are keenly aware of all the great work that is being done by all nominees for the betterment of the American Art Therapy Association, its members, and the profession in general. We are also aware, however, that there are so many additional individuals deserving of recognition that go unnoticed due to the limited number of nominations submitted each year. **READ MORE**

Nominate Volunteer Officers & Directors of the Board



Megan Robb, ATR-BC, LPC, NCC, Nominating Committee Chair

The American Art Therapy Association (AATA) has opened nominations for Volunteer Officers and Directors of the Board. AATA's Nominating Committee invites nominations of qualified members to the following positions for a two-year term (2017-2019):

- President-Elect (1)
- Secretary (1)
- Directors (3)
- Nominating Committee (1)

You may submit your own name or a colleague's name for consideration as a nominee. Nominations must be received by May 5, 2017. **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.

Join SAMHSA and AATA for National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day, May 4



AATA

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is hosting the 2017 National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day event next Thursday, May 4th. Join SAMHSA, the American Art Therapy Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the American Psychiatric Association Foundation,

the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the National Council for Behavioral Health, and the Annie E. Casey Foundation, as we draw attention to the importance of integrating behavioral health and primary care for children and youth with mental and/or substance use disorders. The event begins at 7:00p.m. EDT, and SAMHSA will be webcasting live! [Click here](#) to register for the live webcast, and please note that registration for in-person attendance has been closed. [READ MORE](#)



Partnering For Help and Hope



AATA's Chapters Recognize Mental Health Awareness Month

AATA

In addition to the AATA's participating in the 2017 National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day event and launching the #IAmAWorkOfArt digital exhibition, two of our chapters, the Northern California Art Therapy Association and the Georgia Art Therapy Association, will be holding events of their own. [READ MORE](#)

"13 Reasons Why" Netflix Series: Resources for Educators and Youth on Suicide Prevention



AATA

The trending Netflix series *13 Reasons Why* is raising concerns that its powerful storytelling may lead impressionable viewers to romanticize the choices made by the characters. The series revolves around 17-year-old Hannah Baker, who takes her own life and leaves behind audio recordings for 13 people whom she claims contributed to her decision to commit suicide. Experts recommend that vulnerable youth, especially those who have any degree of suicidal ideation, avoid exposure to this series. While many youth are resilient and capable of differentiating between a TV drama and real life, engaging in thoughtful conversations with them about the show is vital. The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) has compiled a list of valuable resources to address the issues that may surface through watching *13 Reasons Why*. Click on [this link](#) to find: **Cautions**, outlining the problematic areas of the series and identifying groups who may be at risk; **Guidance for Educators**; **Guidance for Families**; **Safe Messaging for Students**, including separating myths from facts regarding suicide; and **Additional Resources**, offering links to trusted organizations on suicide prevention.

AATA Featured Member



AATA



Maia Wheeler, ATR, LCPC has been working at Easterseals Academy, Chicago since she graduated from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2007. She works alongside children and young adults, primarily diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), towards achieving greater levels of communication and social-functioning. Maia has previously served as Programs Co-Chair for the Illinois Art Therapy Association and continues to support the efforts of the AATA Multicultural Committee. She has benefitted from many resources and opportunities provided by the AATA, especially the Art Therapy Career Center, the Institute for Continuing Education (ICE/AT), the Toolkit on ASD, and the AATA Annual conference. [READ MORE](#)

IN THE NEWS

ExYoMKE sets a committed pace for thousands of at-risk youth



OnMilwaukee

For 15 years, under the guidance of art therapist Lori Vance, Express Yourself Milwaukee (ExYoMKE) has gone one-on-one with some of the most disaffected children in Milwaukee, children of all races and genders, and tried to help them see the world through the eyes of an artist. Each year over 1,000 young people participate in their

programs. Almost all of them come from low-income families and half of them have delinquency and other behavioral problems. All of them have experienced trauma of some kind. [READ MORE](#)

Violet Hive Art Therapy brings creativity, mindfulness to youth



The Denver Post

Amy Leiter watches as her two students work on their art boxes at the Lil Ladies Teen Art Studio at Leiter's Violet Hive Art Therapy studio on East Colfax Avenue. It's a little loud in there as traffic passes by the open door to the small room. While Leiter gives some instruction, she mostly watches and is encourages the girls while they work. Leiter started the Lil Ladies Teen Art Studio in 2016 as part of her nonprofit organization's efforts to provide therapeutic art services to youth throughout the Denver area. [READ MORE](#)

Lake effect weekend: Resettling in wisconsin, art therapy, Radio Chipstone, Ex Fabula



WUWM-FM

We meet a member of a Syrian refugee family and one of the locals who helped him and his family settle in Milwaukee. Then, we explore how art therapy focuses more on the process and less on how a piece of art turns out. Plus, we'll have the latest episodes of Radio Chipstone and our storytelling series, Ex Fabula. [READ MORE](#)

SUGGESTED COMPANIES

 **Caldwell University**
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