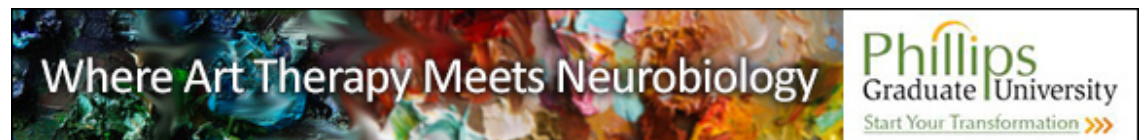


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May 4, 2017


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Tune in Tonight 7 p.m. EDT for the National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day Live Webcast



AATA



Tonight, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is hosting the 2017 National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day event and will be webcasting live! As a collaborating organization, the American Art Therapy Association will be represented at the event in Washington D.C. **Click [here](#) to join us for *Awareness Day Live* tonight at 7 p.m. EDT and share your questions and comments using #HeroesofHope.** This year's theme is focused on the importance of

addressing physical, mental, emotional, and behavioral health needs when providing services and supports for children, youth, and young adults. **READ MORE**

Arizona Governor Signs State Hiring and Title Protection Bill for Art Therapists into Law: A Chapter's Journey



AATA

On Monday evening, May 1, Arizona Governor Douglas Ducey signed SB 1434, art therapy services; contracting requirements, into law. The bill authorizes the state to contract with art therapists who hold active art therapy certification for services provided through the state mental hospital, the state's program of services for persons with disabilities, and state supported hospitals. Additionally, it defines art therapy for purposes of state law and provides title protection to prevent anyone other than those holding national credentials as art therapists from

calling themselves art therapists. This success for the art therapy profession is thanks to the hard and dedicated work by the Arizona Art Therapy Association (AZATA). [READ MORE](#)



#AATA2017 Conference: Member Engagement & Networking Opportunities



Daniel Blausey, MA, LCAT, ATR-BC, AATA Board of Directors

Are you ready to network with art therapists from around the world? The 48th AATA Annual Conference, *November 8-12, 2017 in Albuquerque, NM provides a perfect venue to meet new colleagues and explore the diversity of our profession. As a national organization the AATA unites diverse individuals from many communities across the country by our mission and through our values. The conference is an excellent way to meet and interact with the AATA national office staff, board members, and art therapists attending the conference. However, conference presentations are just one way to make the conference a meaningful experience. [READ MORE](#)

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Announcing the AATA Values Statement



AATA Board of Directors

As a non-partisan organization, the AATA's mission is to advance the Art Therapy profession. We are fortunate to be a diverse organization, with a membership that includes individuals from many communities, and we are united by our mission and through our values. Fittingly, all interactions between the AATA and external individuals, stakeholders, and organizations are approached, negotiated, and maintained in a manner guided by the socially responsible mission and vision toward the expansion of art therapy services to all individuals and communities that can benefit. Of utmost importance, these exchanges shall adhere to the AATA's values, ethical principles, and status as a non-partisan, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. [READ MORE](#)

Apply Today for AATA Scholarships



AATA

The American Art Therapy Association and its generous donors provide a number of annual awards which are presented at the Annual Conference to encourage growth of the art therapy profession. Applications are now being accepted by the Multicultural Sub-Committee and the Scholarship Working Group for the various scholarships outlined below. **All scholarship and research award applications must be submitted by June 2.** [READ MORE](#)



Call for Research Award Applications

Girija Kaimal, EdD, MA, Research Committee Chair

The Research Committee is now accepting applications for the 2017 Research Awards. The American Art Therapy Association and its generous donors provide these annual awards which are publicly presented at a special ceremony during the AATA's Annual Conference. The Research Awards encourage the growth of the art therapy profession by rewarding excellence and enabling access to information and resources for the members who are selected by the Research Committee. **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.

Art Therapy Students Plan Volunteer Trip to Bolivia



Ellie Nicol, ATR-BC

A group of graduate art therapy students from Connecticut, accompanied by board-certified art therapist Ellie Nicol, ATR-BC will be traveling to Bolivia this summer to provide art therapy services with refugee children, children and young adults with special needs, a community run nursery, care takers, and others in the Up Close Bolivia community. **READ MORE**

Congress Approves Funding for the National Endowment for the Arts



AATA

On May 1, Congress reached a bipartisan agreement on a bill to fund the nation's federal agencies and programs for the remaining balance of the current 2017 fiscal year, which ends on September 30, 2017. None of the arts and cultural agencies nor programs incurred a budget cut. The National Endowment for the Arts increased from \$148 million in FY 2016 to \$150 million in FY 2017. For more information on specific agency and program budgets, see a [statement by the Americans for the Arts Action Fund](#). Grassroots arts advocacy efforts of sending thousands of letters, emails, phone calls, personal visits, op-eds, news articles, targeted advertising, and research proved effective. Thank you to everyone who participated in the #SAVEtheNEA campaign.

AATA Featured Member



AATA



Elizabeth Hlavek, ATR-BC, LCPA has a private practice in Annapolis, MD and works primarily with individuals struggling with eating disorders and related concerns, such as anxiety and depression. She graduated from Pratt Institute in 2009 and is currently a doctoral student at Mount Mary University, anticipating a May 2018 graduation. Elizabeth is an active member of the AATA community and has held many positions over the years, including: the Maryland Art Therapy Association (MATA) chapter delegate for several years; the MATA legislative chair in 2012, when she worked to develop the first clinical art therapy license in Maryland; the AATA Conference Local Arrangements Chair in 2016; and currently, regional representative on the

AATA Government Affairs Committee. **READ MORE**

IN THE NEWS

2017 Wounded Warrior Healing Arts exhibit on display at the Pentagon



Military Times

The 2017 Wounded Warrior Healing Arts exhibit is now on display at the Pentagon. The exhibit features a variety of therapeutic art from several service members who have been involved with healing arts therapy

programs. "One of lessons we took away from 15 years of war ... is we realized there's much more than fixing a person's physical ability and injury," Navy Vice Adm. Raquel C. Bono said in a press release. **READ MORE**

Survivors heal through art as Russia turns its back on domestic abuse



NewsDeeply

Russia has removed domestic violence from its criminal code, despite the large number of women who are abused by their partners in the country. Very few Russian survivors of domestic violence are able to speak out about their ordeal, but Nina has shared with News Deeply her devastating story, which began when she was just a child. She is currently getting help at the St. Petersburg Crisis Center for Women, which uses art therapy as a way to heal. **READ MORE**

Michael Phelps' final turn



ESPN

Snakes. For as long as Michael Phelps can remember, he's hated snakes. As a little boy, he picked up a rock in his parents' front yard and found a hissing, slithering snake. He was so traumatized that for decades the memory would replay in nightmares that left him shaking, sweating and unable to fall back to sleep. Friends and family weren't even allowed to say the word "snake" in his presence. Yet in October 2014, when instructed in art therapy to draw a fearful image from his childhood, Phelps drew that moment he could never escape. **READ MORE**

SUGGESTED COMPANIES

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