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## AATA NEWS

# Inspiring Stories about Art Therapy and the Chance to Share Your Own



AATA



In April, the AATA launched Voices of Art Therapy, a call for stories by the art therapy community. We have been receiving inspiring stories and companion artwork of memorable moments in art therapists' careers. The stories cover a wide variety of topics including art therapy in the global community, working with specific client groups such as refugees, patients with cancer, clients with Alzheimer's Disease, and trauma survivors, and special moments of clients' empowerment and discovery. We want to share two of them with you, and remind you to share your own! In the first story, a client with multiple sclerosis realizes the power of art therapy, and in the second, a young girl who has experienced trauma creates a mandala. In both stories,

the clients engage in art therapy to battle their anxieties. **READ MORE**

## 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 and 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. The deadline for nominations or applications is August 1, 2017.

#### PRODUCT SHOWCASE

### Decalcomania: Glue Paint Symmetry Prints

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Surrealist technique.



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### Decalcomania: Glue Paint Symmetry Prints

Surrealist artists used "Decalcomania" to create spontaneous paintings controlled largely by chance. Our tidy, interactive process uses glue paint in a finger painting-style of application — without actually touching it. Looking for hidden images and contour lines in the print encourages imaginative thinking.

### AATA Representative Attends ASGPP Conference



Lisa Wasserman, PsyD, ATR-BC, ATCS, AATA Board of Directors

I had the great honor and pleasure of representing the AATA at the 75th annual American Society for Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama (ASGPP) conference held at the beautiful Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort and Spa in Florida. The conference was themed "Navigating Waves of Change; Discovering and Celebrating our Hidden Treasures." I have been to many conferences as an attendee, a speaker, and as a member of the conference committee but have never been to a conference where a group of people introduce themselves with such genuine warm hugs!



#### READ MORE

#### SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

### AATA Featured Member



AATA

Joseph Scarce, MA, MFT, ATR-BC, President of the Florida Art Therapy Association (FATA), owns a private practice, Joe's Art Time, LLC, where he provides art therapy for substance abuse groups and in-home art



therapy services for trauma survivors. Joseph values his AATA membership particularly for the opportunities offered at the annual conference. He says, "Seeing old friends at the AATA Conference every year provides a sense of greater purpose and sustains fuller insight in the causes and directions of the art therapy profession." He reports that he "felt especially connected to the AATA community at the 2016 Annual Conference in Baltimore MD, as I lead an effort to honor those who perished in the Pulse Night Club Tragedy in Orlando." **READ MORE**

#### IN THE NEWS

## Art therapy helps cancer patients navigate emotional journey



TapInto.net

What happens when you or a loved one is diagnosed with cancer? One thing is certain, your world will be turned upside down and, despite your best efforts to be calm and carry on, it's likely you will be pummeled by the full range of emotions — fear, anger, bitterness, hope, despair and more. Art therapists help people find a way to express their emotions and, in the process, find hope, a new way to cope or even transform their life. And, make no mistake about it, credentialed art therapists are just that, therapists. They work with their clients to help them find a way to identify, explore and express emotions they can't speak about or, sometimes don't even realize exist. **READ MORE**

## Medicaid is a lifeline for 1 in 10 veterans, will the Senate healthcare plan leave them behind?



The Hill

We are on the eve of Congress enacting radical changes to the American healthcare system, including proposals to significantly restructure the Medicaid program. Republican leadership in the Senate is working to swiftly finalize a bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. Although many details are still unknown, the House-passed American Health Care Act included proposals to enact per capita caps or block grant Medicaid, resulting in a \$834 billion cut to the program — the single largest source of funding for mental health and substance abuse treatment in the United States. **READ MORE**



## House ACA repeal bill puts children with disabilities and special health care needs at severe risk



Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

The Senate is currently considering the American Health Care Act — the House-passed bill that would not only effectively end the Medicaid expansion, but radically restructure federal financing for virtually the entire Medicaid program, threatening coverage for tens of millions of Americans. These changes to Medicaid would make it especially hard for children with special health care needs, including those with disabilities, to get the care they need to stay healthy, remain in their communities, and succeed in life. **READ MORE**

## Secret asylum seekers provide art at Ben Uri Gallery



Camden New Journal

A show with a difference, with pseudonyms or first names used to conceal the identity of some of the artists involved, can be seen at Ben Uri Gallery and Museum this week. A clue as to why is in the title, Thirty-Six Pounds and Ninety-Five Pence, which refers to the weekly voucher allowance for all asylum seekers. And any

paid work could lead to detention or deportation. "When I paint my pictures I forget my torture," says one artist who attends the New Art Studio (NAS), "a creative therapeutic community" which is based at the Islington Arts Factory, Holloway. **READ MORE**

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