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September 21, 2017



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AATA NEWS

The NEA Creative Forces Clinical Research Summit



AATA National Office



The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in Washington, DC, was host to a Clinical Research Summit September 18-19 that provided a forum to examine research priorities for the NEA Creative Forces initiative. A Summit kickoff breakfast took place on September 18, where Second Lady Karen Pence emphasized the importance of the art therapy profession, as showcased by the Creative Forces NEA Healing Arts Network for military service members and veterans, and of increasing access to art therapy, music therapy, and dance/movement therapy services.

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Final Results of 2017 Annual Election



AATA National Office

The results of the 2017 Annual Election are in. A warm congratulations to all those who were newly elected and reelected to the following positions:

President-Elect: Margaret Carlock Russo, EdD, LCAT (NY), ATR-BC

Secretary: Jennifer Jividen Jackson, ATR-BC, LMHP, LPC

Board of Directors:

- Daniel Blausey, MA, ATR-BC, LCAT
- Michaela Kirby, PsyD, ATR-BC, LMHC
- Gretchen M. Miller, MA, ATR-BC, ACTP

Nominating Sub-Committee: Gioia Chilton, PhD, ATR-BC, LCPAT

Honorary Life Member: Sarah Deaver, PhD, ATR-BC



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Our Hearts and Thoughts are with Puerto Rico



AATA National Office

Our thoughts are with the people of Puerto Rico and other islands that were impacted by Hurricane Maria. After the most devastating storm in a century, Puerto Rico is entirely without power, just beginning to learn the death toll, and continues to experience flash flooding. Our hearts go out as well to people not on the island, who are facing tremendous stress and uncertainty as many have not yet been able to make contact with loved ones to ascertain their safety. The AATA will continue to seek contact with members of our chapter, the Puerto Rico Art Therapy Association and will expand our disaster relief efforts to include victims of Hurricane Maria, in addition to ongoing efforts to support communities affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Be on the lookout for details in upcoming issues of ATT and contact Kat Michel at kmichel@arttherapy.org for more information about how you can get involved.

Latest Issue of the Journal Published Online



AATA National Office

The fall issue, Volume 34, Issue 3, of *Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association* is now available online for AATA members and subscribers. AATA members can access the Journal online by logging in to [MyAATA](#).

Seeking Applicants for Executive Editor of 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 that 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 full Journal Editor position description and requirements. Please direct any questions to info@arttherapy.org. **The extended deadline for nominations or applications is September 30, 2017.**



AATA Opposes the Graham-Cassidy Proposal to Repeal and Replace Major Components of the U.S. Healthcare System



AATA National Office

On September 20, 2017, the AATA and forty-seven healthcare organizations in the Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) signed a [letter](#) addressed to Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer asserting that the

proposal “fails to protect the health care coverage and consumer protections available under current law, particularly for individuals with substance use disorders and mental illness” and “would create a health care system built on state-by-state variability that would exacerbate inequities in coverage and most likely place millions of vulnerable individuals at risk of losing their health care coverage.” The MHLG opposes rushing through any legislation to repeal and replace the Affordable Healthcare Act through the current budget reconciliation authorization, which is set to expire on October 1. The letter further urged the Senate Leaders to support the bipartisan policies being developed by the Senate HELP Committee through regular order. By the year 2027, 32 million people across the nation are estimated to lose coverage under proposed by the Graham-Cassidy Bill. [Click here](#) to read a report from the Center for American Progress outlining the coverage loss by state. Contact your state representatives to voice your opinion on this or other issues.

Conference News: Just One More Week to Save on Conference Registration



— Let's Go!

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



If you're still on the fence about registering for the 48th Annual AATA Conference to be held *November 8-12, 2017, in Albuquerque, NM, we invite you to [watch this video](#). Don't miss this premier art therapy annual conference where you can learn, network, explore, and create! Registration has surpassed 1,000 attendees and will be one of our largest conferences ever! The advanced registration rates end on **September 29, at 5:00 p.m. EDT**, so [register today!](#)

AATA members receive a discount, so be sure to [join or renew](#) before registering!

[Click here for more information.](#)

**This date reflects the shifting of our annual conference back to the fall, as was reported at the Annual Meeting of the Membership in San Antonio, TX, June 12, 2014, and as cited in the AATA Spring Newsletter, 2015. AATA conferences were traditionally held in the fall until 2010.*

AATA Featured Member



AATA National Office



Mollie German is a second year student in Lesley University's Graduate program in Clinical Mental Health Counseling: Art Therapy, and interns at Centerpoint Adolescent Treatment Services in South Burlington, Vermont. Of her AATA membership, she shares, "Becoming involved with AATA has allowed me to stay connected to my future field, now as a student, soon as a clinician. I am able to read the latest journal articles and stay abreast of current information and research." German continues, "I am very grateful to have been awarded the 2016 Anniversary Scholarship. This was at the onset of my graduate work at Lesley, just following my prerequisite psychology courses. At that time I felt supported greatly by this wonderful community, being very

new to the community yet still recognized for my hard work." [READ MORE](#)

ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

Readout of Second Lady Karen Pence's visit to MercyFirst in New York



The White House

Recently, Second Lady Karen Pence visited MercyFirst, a non-profit human services agency, in Syosset, New York. Upon arrival, Mrs. Pence was greeted by the MercyFirst staff and youth. Following the greeting, the Second Lady viewed an art exhibition titled, "Hope Holds No Borders: Children's Art of Compassion and Inclusion." The artwork, created by children who participated in the art therapy program at MercyFirst, was displayed at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City earlier this year. After viewing the artwork, the

Second Lady joined an art therapy session with youth and reviewed a case summary to explore how art therapy positively impacted one of the youth who has participated in MercyFirst's art therapy program. **READ MORE**

Processes of change in school-based art therapy with children



British Association of Art Therapists

Although theoretical processes of art therapy with children have been suggested, they have lacked a systematic research basis. This systematic qualitative study explored children's school-based one-to-one art therapy in order to create a theory of change. Across two primary schools, 14 children were interviewed individually, as were their parents, teachers and art therapists. All children had received art therapy within the previous 12 months. Children completed an art activity to aid the interview process. **READ MORE**

The AATA's Art Therapy Today includes a digest of the most important news selected for the AATA from thousands of sources. Guest articles may be submitted to Clara Keane at ckeane@arttherapy.org. Publication of any guest article is at the sole discretion of the American Art Therapy Association. The opinions, information, statements, views, positions, or contents of any articles or advertisements in AATA publications do not necessarily reflect the policies, positions or opinions of AATA. AATA makes no warranty or representation concerning the accuracy, truthfulness or completeness of any content published by any author, contributor or advertiser in the Journal.

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