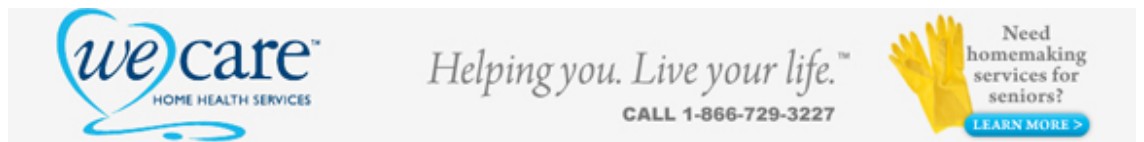


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October 5, 2017


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AATA NEWS

AATA sends its Deepest Condolences to the Victims of the Tragic Mass Shooting in Las Vegas [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#)

AATA National Office

The AATA's thoughts and deepest condolences are with the hundreds of victims and their loved ones who were harmed by the senseless act of violence that occurred Sunday night in Las Vegas. We extend our sympathies to the wider community and to all Americans that started their week with this devastating news. We encourage our members, as qualified mental health providers, to act as resources in their communities as people struggle with trauma, both direct and vicarious, in the aftermath of this tragedy. The AATA has connected with our members in Nevada who stand ready to step up and support, as the Florida chapter did in the aftermath of the Pulse Nightclub tragedy last June. Following events such as these, the American public is left with anxiety and stress as it grapples with the questions and confusion invited by inconceivable violence. Our thoughts and sympathies are with the nation as it begins to heal.

Resources that may help:

- [Chapter Emergency Trauma Recovery Guide: Providing Art Therapy Services Following Natural and Man-made Disasters](#)
- [After Las Vegas shootings: What do we tell the kids?](#)
- [FULL LIST | Trauma relief and counseling services available following Las Vegas shooting](#)

Creative Forces Clinical Research Summit



Adrienne M. Stamper, MA, Creative Forces Art Therapist (NICoE)



The Creative Forces Clinical Research Summit took place on September 18th and 19th, 2017, at the National Academies of Science in Washington, DC. The intimate event gathered Department of Defense (DoD) and National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) collaborators to discuss clinical research findings and approaches for investigating creative arts therapies. The Summit aimed to develop a five-year research agenda, as part of the Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network, which will be adapted into a formal report by the end of the year. Creative Forces was established in 2012 to serve the “unique and special needs of military patients and veterans who have been diagnosed with traumatic brain injury (TBI)

and psychological health conditions [post-traumatic stress disorder] (PTSD), as well as their families and caregivers across the country.” [READ MORE](#)



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AATA Provides Public Comment to the CDC urging the documentation of LGBTQ Tragedies in the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS)



AATA National Office

On September 29, 2017, the AATA responded to a request for public comments (Docket No. CDC-2017-0607) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS). In the [letter](#), the AATA emphasizes the critical need for the CDC to implement policies and procedures to require the collection of sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) data within the NVDRS for all decedents. AATA further points out the disproportionate statistics that affect the LGBTQ community, such as that LGBTQ youth seriously contemplate suicide at almost three times the rate of heterosexual youth and are almost five times as likely to have actually attempted suicide. The letter concludes: “One of the primary goals of the NVDRS is to better understand and ultimately prevent the occurrence of violent deaths, and the best mechanism to achieve this is to require that SOGI data be collected. Therefore, the AATA supports the systematic collection of accurate statistical data which would help art therapists to better serve LGBTQ youth and adults and aid in suicide prevention.”

Attention AATA Members: Process for Submitting Member Resolutions for the upcoming Annual Meeting of the Membership



AATA National Office

Attention, AATA Members! The process for submitting member resolutions for consideration at the November 9th Annual Meeting of the Membership (AMM) is being updated to enable more people to participate. The new process will allow for individuals to submit resolutions in advance of the meeting, which will contribute to streamlining the resolutions process, and provide an opportunity for members to submit their input even if they are not attending the conference. Be on the lookout for further details about how to submit resolutions.

This year's AMM will take place on Thursday, November 9, 2017, from 8:00 – 9:45 a.m. during the AATA's 48th

Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. All conference attendees are strongly encouraged to attend. Voting members must check in at the registration desk before entering. We look forward to seeing you there!



AATA Featured Member



AATA National Office



Eunice Yu received her MS in Art Therapy/Counseling with a specialization in photography in August, 2017, and embarked shortly thereafter to teach English and volunteer in South Korea through a year-long Fulbright grant. Her passions in photography, teaching, and art therapy all relate to her long-term career goal: to “work as an art therapist and counselor with Asian and Asian-immigrant populations.” She especially values her AATA membership for the Journal access, which was, “a reliable resource throughout my graduate studies.” Now, Yu recognizes that “living in a different country right after graduate school has presented its challenges in regards to navigating my identity as an art therapist” and finds that the “Art Therapy Today emails have been an excellent means of feeling connected to the AATA community at this time of adjustment.” **READ MORE**

ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

Creative Arts Therapy and Wellbeing Conference in Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Sue Wallingford, ATR

Partners for Social Justice (previously known as Naropa Community Art Studio-International) is happy to announce a partnership with Raggamuffin Cambodia to sponsor the **1st Creative Arts Therapy and Wellbeing Conference** in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, at the Himawari Hotel, January 16- 18, 2018. The focus of the conference is the holistic and effective care for caregivers who are on the front lines working with trauma. This conference will highlight speakers from Cambodia, the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, and other countries and will offer a platform to engage and inspire participants by providing relevant and up-to-date information on trauma-informed therapy, cutting edge research in neuroscience, and an innovate look and emphasis into the positive effects of self-care on the brain and body through experiential learning and creative arts. Most importantly, this conference will provide nourishing opportunities and meaningful connections between people across the globe who aim to better the lives of people touched by trauma. We are excited to offer this next iteration of the work we began in 2011. **We will be accepting proposals through Oct. 31.** [Click here to submit your proposal](#) and [visit our website](#) to learn more or to register. Please direct any questions or scholarship applications to suew@naropa.edu. **READ MORE**

Drawing on art to help Delaware children

Delaware State News

The boys drawing pictures with markers and paint at round tables inside Solid Rock Community Outreach Center weren't just creating artwork. They were using art to express their feelings, part of a mental health approach called art therapy. A'Zion Curtis, a sixth grader from Dover, picked up a thin brush and began to carefully paint a blue circle. Ultimately his circle became part of an elaborate picture that portrayed a potential conflict between he and a peer. **READ MORE**

National Arts and Humanities Month

Americans for the Arts

October is National Arts & Humanities Month — a coast-to-coast collective recognition of the importance of culture in America. NAHM was launched by Americans for the Arts 30 years ago as National Arts Week in honor of the twentieth anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts. **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 AATA. The opinions expressed and/or contents of guest articles, advertisements, and external links included in any AATA publication do not represent the positions or policies of the AATA. The AATA makes no warranty or representation concerning the accuracy of such content.

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