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November 9, 2017



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AATA NEWS

Conference Welcome Letter from the President of the American Art Therapy Association



Donna Betts, PhD, ATR-BC, AATA President

On behalf of the American Art Therapy Association's Board of Directors, welcome to the AATA's 48th Annual Conference in Albuquerque! While it's been over a year since we last convened, I hope you are as excited as I am to return to a fall schedule, and Albuquerque could not be more beautiful this time of year. The scenery of this Southwestern city will help to put you in the mindset of this year's theme, Art Therapy: Traversing Landscapes of the Heart & Mind. As art therapy uses an all-inclusive approach to wellness, this year's presenters provide a diverse platform to inspire attendees traveling from near and far to learn about the various inner landscapes that our profession serves to support. **READ MORE**

A Message on the Sutherland Springs Shooting



AATA National Office

The AATA is deeply saddened by the tragic shooting that took place on Sunday in Sutherland Springs, Texas.



We mourn the 26 lives lost, and our hearts go out to the 20 people who were wounded, the entire congregation who witnessed this traumatic event, and the community that is forever changed. We encourage our members, as mental health practitioners, to continue to act as resources for their communities as they grapple with this incomprehensible act of violence.



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Help Us Reach Our Fundraising Goal to Support Community Relief



AATA National Office

We extend our thanks to all of those individuals, chapters, and organizations who have already joined as fundraisers and donors to "Art Therapy Relief for Our Communities." By mobilizing resources through our local chapters, we hope to fund art therapy-based services and events for children, adults, and communities impacted by these life-changing circumstances. The campaign will continue through the end of the month, culminating on this year's Giving

Tuesday, the national day of giving, on November 28, 2017. It's not too late to participate and help us achieve our goal!



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AATA Featured Member



AATA National Office



Peter J. Buotte, MFA, MPS is working toward his LPC and ATR. In December 2016, Mr. Buotte completed 28 years of combined Active and Reserve service in the US Army, culminating as a Lieutenant Colonel with five combat tours overseas. Now, he works as the Healing Arts Therapy Program Coordinator at the Intrepid Spirit, Fort Hood, TX. He fosters a safe, supportive environment for therapeutic self-expression for Active Duty military patients who have post-traumatic stress and/or mild traumatic brain injury. Buotte feels connected to the AATA community: "When I became an AATA member as a graduate student at the School of Visual Arts (SVA) in NYC, I felt part of a caring nationwide community. Two supervisors, Robert Grant [ATR-BC, LCAT] and Liz DelliCarpini [ATR-BC, LCAT] epitomized the diversity, skill, and professionalism of the larger AATA community."

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ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

How art is helping veterans overcome PTSD



Artsy

Approximately 2.6 million United States service members were deployed to serve in the military from 2001 to 2011, during the period of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. And research suggests that 10–18 percent of veterans from those operations return home with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Intense and debilitating fear, depression, negative moods and nightmares interrupt their daily lives. Among the various clinical techniques and tools used to treat service members with PTSD, art therapy is a strong option. [READ MORE](#)



Governor of New Mexico pronounces this week 'Art Therapy Week'



Office of New Mexico's Governor

Whereas, the American Art Therapy Association is an organization of professionals dedicated to the belief that the creative process involved in the making of art is healing and life-enhancing for individuals of all ages. Now, therefore, I, Susana Martinez, Governor of the state of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim Nov. 5-11, 2017 as "Art

Therapy Week." [READ MORE](#)

In honor of Alzheimer's awareness month: An invitation to step up and stamp out Alzheimer's disease



The Huffington Post

November is Alzheimer's Awareness month, and in an effort to raise awareness during this recognized month, it's imperative we not forget to keep the momentum ongoing in advocating for research and improving caregiving services in Alzheimer's disease. As the most common type of dementia, Alzheimer's affects an estimated 5.3 million Americans with numbers expected to triple by 2050. Costing our country \$236 billion last year in Alzheimer's care, this disease is the most costly in America, and it is the most underfunded. Like Breast Cancer Awareness, Alzheimer's disease needs strong advocates and involvement, and that starts with each of us.

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Afternoon of the Arts showcases seniors' self-portraits



NorthJersey.com

Seniors put their inner selves on display in the Afternoon of the Arts exhibition at Congregation Adas Israel. The exhibition showcased self-portraits and other art from seven seniors as part of this year's fundraiser to support the Sequoia Program, which seeks to help Jewish senior citizens remain active and independent. [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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