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## AATA NEWS

### Looking for a Way to Earn Continuing Education and Expand Your Knowledge?



AATA National Office

The American Art Therapy Association's Institute for Continuing Education (ICE/AT) is available 24/7 and offers a robust [catalog of courses](#) from prominent and well-respected art therapists, researchers, authors, and educators. AATA's ICE/AT includes courses in Assessment, Multiculturalism, Ethics, Trauma, Supervision, Professional Practice, and so much more! [READ MORE](#)

### In Memoriam: Frances F. Kaplan



AATA National Office

It is with heavy hearts that we report the passing of Frances F. Kaplan, DA (Doctor of Arts, Art Therapy), ATR-BC on March 17, 2018. We extend our deepest condolences to Frances' husband, Marty, family, friends, and colleagues at this difficult time. Her legacy in the art therapy community will continue through her extensive research contributions and the countless art therapy students and peers she inspired. Originally from the east coast, Kaplan was graduate Creative Arts Therapy Program Director and professor at Hofstra University, then moved to Oregon where she taught art therapy graduate courses at Marylhurst University and Portland State University. She is widely published on art therapy and social justice as well as the intersections of art therapy and neuroscience.

In an upcoming issue of ATT, the AATA will feature a full article in memory of Frances Kaplan with testimonials from colleagues in the art therapy community. If you have memories to share, please contact us at [info@arttherapy.org](mailto:info@arttherapy.org) by Friday, March 30, 2018. Marylhurst University will be hosting a ceremony in her honor on April 20th from 7-9pm.

### AATA Supports School Safety & Access to Mental Health Care in Schools



AATA National Office

Our thoughts and condolences are with the community of Great Mills in the aftermath of the most recent school

shooting. Throughout the ongoing national conversation around gun violence, the AATA, through our coalitions of mental health ([Mental Health Liaison Group](#)) and school personnel ([National Alliance of Specialized Instructional Support Personnel](#)) organizations, continues to speak out in support of legislation that promotes school safety and a stronger presence of mental health care providers, such as art therapists, in schools. Thank you to all who responded to our [Call for Action to Prevent Gun Violence in the U.S.](#) by contacting your representatives, and we ask for your continued support of [H.R.4909 - STOP School Violence Act of 2018](#).



## Professional Doctorate in Art Therapy

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## Increased Funding Received for the National Endowment for the Arts



AATA National Office

Last night, March 21, Congress finally released the Omnibus appropriations bill finalizing funding for FY 2018. The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) received **\$152.8 million each, a \$3 million increase from FY 2017** (\$149.8 million)! This funding increase will help support [Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network](#), which provides creative arts therapies, including art therapy, services for military personnel and veterans.

Thank you to all arts advocates across the country who came together to #SAVEtheNEA in the face of the President's proposed complete elimination of the Endowments. This year, the Trump Administration has again proposed elimination for FY 2019, but bipartisan support for the arts is stronger than ever. Read more details about this exciting news on Americans for the Arts' [Arts' Arts Action Fund blog post](#) and lookout for a report on AATA's participation as a National Partner in Arts Advocacy Day 2018 in an upcoming issue of *ATT*!

## Call for Nominations and Applications



AATA National Office

The American Art Therapy Association (AATA) is now accepting nominations for annual Honors Awards as well as Volunteer Officers and Directors of the Board. Applications are also open for annual scholarships and the new Research Seed Grants. Read below for details and deadlines for each opportunity. **READ MORE**

## Featured Member



AATA National Office



Anais Lugo-Axtmann, LGPC, ATR is an Early Childhood Clinical Specialist with the [Healthy Futures](#) Program at the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH), where she incorporates her skills as an art therapist in her interactions with children, teachers, and parents. She also leads art therapy groups for the homeless at [Charlie's Place](#). A proud co-founder of the Puerto Rico Art Therapy Association (PRATA) chapter, she has worked at Mind Canvas, the first Art Therapy Clinic in the island. She also volunteered with art therapy groups of Hurricanes Irma and Maria survivors in collaboration with PRATA, the Florida Art Therapy Association (FATA), and Stars of Hope in January of this year.

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## ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

## Veterans and Active-duty Personnel Discover Healing Power of Art



Spectrum News

Healing through art is the goal of a nationwide initiative called Creative Forces. Recently, art professionals and

military representatives attended a conference in Jacksonville to talk about the benefits of art therapy for veterans and active-duty personnel. In partnership with the Defense Department, Veteran's Affairs and other art agencies, the National Endowment for the Arts started the initiative. **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](mailto: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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