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AATA NEWS

2018 Conference News: Early Bird Registration Opens Monday, April 2



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

WATCH THIS VIDEO to catch the vibe of our annual conference and be sure to visit the [conference website](#) on Monday, April 2, 2018, for Early Bird registration for the American Art Therapy Association's 49th Annual Conference to be held Oct. 31 to Nov. 4, 2018 in Miami, Florida. All of the conference sessions will be held at the Hyatt Regency Miami (downtown). This year our program features more than 225 educational sessions. We hope to see you in Miami!



New Resource: Read about the Research of Art Therapy Graduates across the Country



AATA National Office

The Research Committee's brand new resource, the [National Art Therapy Thesis and Dissertation Abstract Compilation \(NATTDAC\)](#), and the 2018 updated [Assessments Bibliography](#) are now available online! Look out for an upcoming announcement in ATT when the 2018 updated Outcomes Bibliography is released. Research Committee bibliographies and more can be found on the [Research page](#).

Many thanks to the Research Committee members Rebecca Arnold, MA, ATR-BC; Leara Glinzak, MSAT; Gaelan Harmon-Walker, MS; Jill McNutt, Ph.D., ATR-BC, LPC, ATRL, ATCS; and Stacey Nelson, MA, LCPC, LCPAT, ATR-BC, who compiled the first ever National Art Therapy Thesis and Dissertation Abstract Compilation (NATTDAC)! NATTDAC is a collection of final project abstracts submitted annually by art therapy graduate programs in the U.S. and will be updated each year by the Research Committee.

Ohio State Rep. Anielski Testified in Support of House Bill 557, to License Art



Therapists

AATA National Office

On March 21, State Representative Marlene Anielski (R-Walton Hills) gave [sponsor testimony](#) before the House Health Committee on behalf of House Bill 557. The bill would grant a license to Art Therapists to practice under the guidance of the State of Ohio Medical Board. “Art therapy has proven to be an incredibly useful tool in dealing with a myriad of issues where many individuals suffer,” said Rep. Anielski. Committed to improving mental health awareness and suicide prevention in Ohio, Rep. Anielski has been a passionate supporter of the Ohio licensure effort and spoke at the Buckeye Art Therapy Association’s (BATA) [Hill Day](#) back in November.

AATA Board Member Gretchen Miller, ATR-BC, ACTP will have the opportunity to provide testimony to the Health Committee in Support of HB 557 (tentatively scheduled for April 11). Read the [bill analysis](#) draft of the Ohio Legislative Service Commission to learn more!



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AATA President Christianne Strang Spotlited in UAB Article



AATA National Office



“We all have those experiences where we can’t find the words — words don’t carry what we’re feeling. Art is one way to work through those thoughts and feelings.” — AATA President Christianne Strang, PhD, ATR-BC.

Read about Dr. Strang’s career as an art therapist — working in inpatient psychiatric facilities, with HIV/AIDS patients, and clients who struggle with eating disorders or traumatic experiences — and about her passions for neuroscience, research, and teaching in University of Alabama at Birmingham article, [“Art therapy helps liberate emotions when words fail.”](#)

Accreditation Process Reaches Another Milestone



Janet Kempf, MA, ATR-BC, Vice-Chair, ACATE

After years of discussion and planning, the Accreditation Council for Art Therapy Education (ACATE) is happy to report the accreditation application process for art therapy master’s programs is now active. By way of review, programs currently approved by the Educational Programs Approval Board (EPAB) are phasing into an accreditation process with ACATE. [READ MORE](#)

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

Andrea Davis, ATR-BC, LPC-AT-S, works in private practice and has worked with various nonprofits, providing individual and group art therapy services. Recently, she founded her own nonprofit, [Dallas Art Therapy](#), that offers low-cost and free art therapy services for the community. Davis is a Past President of the North Texas Art Therapy Association (NTATA) and volunteered for a number of committees through the AATA and the ATCB on behalf of the profession. Through her work in these capacities, she is “so grateful to be able to meet such



amazing professionals and in awe at what talent exists in our profession.” She adds, “Being exposed to the pulse of what is happening in art therapy is my favorite [AATA] membership benefit.” **READ MORE**

ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

JBLM Veterans Find Healing in New Art Therapy Program



King 5-TV

Veterans have a new way to get help for their brain injuries and PTSD — they're learning how to do artwork. How do you get an injured service member to talk about an injury they don't want to talk about? Give them an art project. “I was like, ‘I'm a soldier? You want me to color,’” said Staff Sgt. Dwayne Gadsden, who was skeptical at first. “It does help,” said Gadsden, an Army flight medic who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder and a traumatic brain injury after being deployed to Iraq three times. **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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