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### AATA NEWS

## Message from the AATA Board Task Force on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) Initiative



AATA DE&I Task Force

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) are core to the American Art Therapy Association's vision that the services of licensed, culturally proficient art therapists are available to all individuals, families, and communities. The success of our mission is dependent on DE&I, as we work with members on advocacy, education, networking opportunities, research, and all we do to move the profession forward. Everyone benefits when we allow diversity to influence our approaches, ensure our work results in equitable outcomes, and are inclusive of everyone that can advance AATA's purpose. **READ MORE**



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## Art Therapists Make the Case for Regulation in Virginia



Clara Keane



On the morning of June 26, 2018, fifteen art therapists gathered for an open comment hearing during a meeting of the Virginia Board of Health Professions (BHP) to speak to the need to regulate art therapy to protect the public. The Board's initial draft report was positive, acknowledging the potential harm to the public if art therapy remains unregulated. Art therapists fielded questions about the profession's scope of practice, commented on moments of harm to clients they had witnessed, and identified employment obstacles art therapists face due to lack of licensure, which restricts access to art therapy services to consumers. **READ MORE**

## Tomorrow is the Deadline for Research Awards and Seed Grants — Apply Today



AATA National Office



Furthering research in art therapy is crucial to the continued growth and a priority of the Association's [Strategic Plan](#). The AATA works to support our researchers and future researchers by offering a variety of funding opportunities to reward excellence and promote further access to important research in the field. Whether your research project is still an idea unexplored or you are ready to be recognized for your contributions to the field, there is a research award or grant opportunity for you! The Research Committee is accepting **applications for research awards and the new Research Seed Grants**

**through June 29. [READ MORE](#)**

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN



Visit: [www.arttherapyconference.com](http://www.arttherapyconference.com)

## Last Chance to Apply for the New Medical Art Therapy Scholarship — Sunday, July 1 Deadline



AATA National Office

The American Art Therapy Association and its generous donor will provide a new scholarship opportunity this year for AATA's student members. Applications are being accepted now through July 1 for the Irene Rosner David Medical Art Therapy Scholarship. This scholarship focuses on understanding the role of the medical art therapist. Please see [MyAATA for more information and the full application](#). Questions can be directed to the National Office: [info@arttherapy.org](mailto:info@arttherapy.org). **[READ MORE](#)**

## Featured Member



AATA National Office



Stephanie Wray, ATR-P, RMHC, works as an adjunct professor at the University of Tampa, a corporate art therapy consultant for [Stars of Hope USA](#), and a fine artist. She is actively involved in the Florida Art Therapy Association (FATA), chairing the Membership Committee, supporting the legislative efforts, and contributing to the chapter's newsletter and social media. Her AATA membership, she says, "has allowed me to grow and learn about the many aspects of the profession while in school and after graduation. Having access to research and the ability to connect with many founders of the field has been profound." **[READ MORE](#)**

### ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

## Future Looks RAWsome, Even With Change at the Top



Item Live

In 1987, Kit Jenkins and Mary Flannery worked as art therapists at the former Danvers State psychiatric hospital. "We loved the people, and art is a great way to connect. What we did was important, meaningful and limited. There was only x amount of impact one could make in the state system," said Jenkins. Flannery also worked one day a week with boys locked up in a Department of Youth Services facility. Through art, she was able to reach these violent, angry teens and help them to gain confidence, express themselves and make

responsible decisions. [READ MORE](#)

## Turning a Blind Eye... to Art



Sonoma West Times and News

Most people think of the visual arts as being, well, visual. So you might wonder what to expect from two new shows at Sebastopol Center for the Arts, "Blind Stitching" and "In Touch with Art," both of which feature works of art by people who are legally blind or visually impaired. To say that the work is more about self-expression and the process of creation rather than the final product threatens to damn it with faint praise. What's interesting about these two shows is how compelling the work is. [READ MORE](#)

## Beverly Farmers' Market Spotlight: The Artful Life



Wicked Local

Six years ago, Natalie Blue and Madelene Pario were two local art therapists, each looking for office space on the North Shore. After meeting through a mutual friend, also an art therapist, the three realized they all had a very specific and similar vision of what an art therapy studio should be. "So the three of us got together, and it all kind of clicked," Blue recalled, explaining they eventually found a space in Salem where they felt they could bring their shared visions to fruition. And, thus, The Artful Life Counseling Center and Studio became a reality. [READ MORE](#)

## Intimacy, Vulnerability and Communication: Inside the Mind of MFA Ceramics Candidate and Art Therapist, Kathryn Wingard



University of Utah

Kathryn Wingard, Wingard originally started her career at Boulder University, working towards her MFA in Ceramic work, when she had a life changing experience that led her to pursue a career in art therapy. She then decided to switch her degree and graduated with a Masters in Art Therapy and Clinical Counselling from Mount Mary University, Wisconsin. During her time working at the University Neuropsychiatric Institute, Wingard was still making ceramic work and one day decided "I still am an artist in my core, above and beyond anything else." [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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