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## AATA NEWS

# The AATA and the ACA Issue Joint Response to the Attorney General's Remarks on Mental Health in Higher Institutions



AATA National Office

On July 24th the Attorney General Jeff Sessions addressed an audience of high schoolers at Turning Point USA's High School Leadership Summit and accused many higher institutions of "doing everything they can to create a generation of sanctimonious, sensitive, supercilious snowflakes." In his remarks, he listed therapy dogs, art materials – specifically coloring books and playdough – and art activities, such as encouraging students to "draw about their feelings," as examples. [Read the speech transcript here.](#)

The American Art Therapy Association and the American Counseling Association (ACA) collaborated in writing a formal response, asserting that his **“remarks were highly misguided and they further stigmatize young people who seek mental health services and ways to manage stress at a critical transitional time in their lives.”** [READ MORE](#)

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## AATA Elections Now Open! (August 1-31, 2018)



AATA National Office

All voting members are encouraged to participate in the election of volunteer leadership positions with the American Art Therapy Association. **Voting opened Wednesday, August 1 and will remain open until Friday, August 31 at 11:59 p.m. (EDT).** All voting members should have received an e-mail from Association Voting



with instructions to cast an online vote. If you have not received this message and you have questions about the voting process or would prefer to receive a paper ballot, please contact the AATA National Office via phone (888-290-0878) or e-mail ([info@arttherapy.org](mailto:info@arttherapy.org)).

**READ MORE**

## Save the Date: New MyAATA Online Member Community Opens August 8



AATA National Office

We are excited to announce the launch of the online MyAATA Community forum on Wednesday, August 8th! The MyAATA Community is a platform for members to explore, network, and engage with each other and with industry experts throughout the year. We invite you to login to MyAATA beginning next Wednesday to join with your colleagues in building this new community. Hope to see you there! **READ MORE**



## In Memoriam: Sister Kathleen Burke



AATA National Office



It is with a heavy heart that we report the passing of Sister Kathleen Burke, OSU, PhD, ATR-BC, LPC on July 24, 2018 at the age of 81. In 1986, Sister Kathleen founded the Master of Arts in Art Therapy Program of Ursuline College in Pepper Pike, Ohio and was its Director until 1999. She continued teaching part-time until her "retirement" in 2016. Memories and quotes from the AATA community about Sister Kathleen, reflecting on her impact, are welcome and will be included in a tribute for a future issue of ATT. Please send any submissions to [info@arttherapy.org](mailto:info@arttherapy.org) by Friday, August 10, 2018. **READ MORE**

## Editor in Chief Sought for *Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association*



AATA National Office

The American Art Therapy Association seeks applications for the position of Editor of *Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association*. The journal is a peer-reviewed scholarly publication which has a readership comprised of educators, practitioners, and students. Its mission is to inform the readership of research, recent innovations, and critical issues related to art therapy. **The deadline for nominations or applications is September 30, 2018.** Please find the full position description and application requirements below and direct any questions to [journal@arttherapy.org](mailto:journal@arttherapy.org). **READ MORE**

## Featured Member



AATA National Office

Jenelle Hallaert, M.S., will be joining the 2018 cohort at The George Washington University (GWU) this fall to obtain her post-master's in art therapy. This summer, Hallaert channeled her passion for art therapy accessibility in the Midwest by spearheading licensure efforts in Nebraska, joining forces with [Nebraskans for the Arts](#) and



collaborating with the AATA National Office. After relocating to Washington D.C. for school, she will continue to support efforts by the licensure committee, which consists of credentialed art therapists and arts advocates residing in Nebraska.

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## ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

### Neurology Today Conference Reporter: Alzheimer's Association International Conference



Neurology Today

A virtual reality program, which simulates the experience of living with dementia, builds empathy and insight into caregiving among teens, according to findings presented here at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference. The tool has helped improve an already existing art therapy program, called Bringing Art to Life, for people with dementia, said Daniel Potts, M.D., who started the program after his father became a skilled and avid painter after becoming non-verbal due to dementia. [READ MORE](#)

### Using Art Therapy to Identify How Kids Are Feeling in Wake of Toronto Danforth Shooting



Global News

As people continue to recover after the Toronto Danforth shooting, there can be an issue faced by parents on how to speak to their parents about it. Antony Robart spoke with an art therapist about how art can help in the process. [READ MORE](#)

### The College Mental Health Crisis in 10 Sketches



Yes! Magazine

The students are seated in neat rows. Left elbow in, right elbow out, head slightly tilted. Then, a figure out of line: lying down, arms flailing. Drowning. Illustrator Ella Baron conducted a series of interviews with college students, many who had suspended their studies because of mental health concerns, to create a series of sketches about the mental health crisis at colleges, listening to the recordings as she drew. The images, published in June 2017 in The Guardian, are as pointed as they are perplexing, parsing the intricacies of mental health in ways that provide a unique access point for viewers. [READ MORE](#)

### California Author, Illustrator Headed for Ursuline's Counseling And Art Therapy Program



Ursuline College

Children's book author and illustrator Michael Boyce is leaving California to move back to Ohio and pursue a master's degree in Mike Boyce reading to children Counseling and Art Therapy at Ursuline College. We look forward to welcoming him. Here he talks about ways he is already using his art to promote wellness and healing. [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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