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## AATA NEWS

### Conference News: Advanced Registration Closes Tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. EDT



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

**Time is running out to get the lower registration rates for the 49th AATA Annual Conference**, to be held October 31 to November 4, 2018 in Miami, FL. If you have not yet registered, but plan on attending, be sure to [register](#) before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Savings Time (EDT) on Friday, September 28.



#### Complete your registration today:

- Register [online](#).
- Register by Phone: (888) 290-0878, (703) 548-5860.
- Register by FAX or Mail: [Download the registration form](#).

**For those already registered, please make your hotel reservations. [Click here](#) to learn more.**

### Milestone for the Profession: First Art Therapy Graduate Program Receives Accreditation and More on the Way!



AATA National Office

Congratulations to Edinboro University, the first graduate art therapy program to [receive accreditation](#) through the [Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs](#) (CAAHEP)! The AATA has been working for several years to smoothly transition from approval through AATA's Educational Programs Approval Board (EPAB) to third-party accreditation, as a key step in continued professionalization. Thank you to everyone who helped us reach this milestone!

The AATA is proud to sponsor the accreditation process through CAAHEP, the largest programmatic accreditor of the health sciences professions, managed by the [Accreditation Council for Art Therapy Education \(ACATE\)](#). Thank you to everyone on ACATE for leading us through this transition and to all program directors who have been working hard to comply with the rigorous requirements outlined in the [Standards and Guidelines](#). Several programs have already completed their site visits, and we anticipate more programs to achieve accreditation before the end of the year!



## 2018 Conference: Share Your Questions and Input for the Neuroscience and Art Therapy Plenary Session on AATA's Online Open Forum



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



The Saturday Morning Plenary presenters at this year's AATA Conference in Miami, FL invite you to provide questions and share areas of interest to help inform their presentation scheduled for Saturday, November 3, from 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. by participating in a dedicated **online Open Forum discussion available to members in MyAATA**. The presentation, ***Building for Tomorrow: Conversations in Neuroscience, Art and Related Therapies*** consists of a panel of art therapy and neuroscience experts who will discuss how neuroscience informs clinical practice in art therapy and the creative arts therapies and why a "brain-based perspective" matters.

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### SPONSORED CONTENT

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- Applications are now open for SAIC's Master of Arts in Art Therapy and Counseling
- A comprehensive Art Therapy education emphasizing the social and cultural contexts surrounding artmaking and healing
- [Professional experience through fieldwork in a diverse array of healthcare and social service settings](#)
- Graduates are qualified to apply for the Art Therapy Credentials Board's Registration and Board Certification
- [Apply by January 15](#)



## AATA Board of Directors Announce Updates to the Strategic Plan



AATA National Office

The American Art Therapy Association (AATA) undertook an organization-wide strategic planning process in 2015 from which the Board of Directors (BOD) determined core priority areas and approved 3-year key performance goals. The AATA staff, committees, and working groups use this document to develop annual work plans.

The BOD, in following best practices of governance, reviews the plan regularly and adjusts goals accordingly. Based on plan progress as of June 2018, the BOD has updated the plan to add a core priority area for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion and has adjusted 3-year goals in all of the priority areas, including: Membership; Professional Identity; Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion; Public Awareness; Fiscal Sustainability; and Governance. The AATA's Strategic Priorities are available on our [public website](#), and members are encouraged to login to [MyAATA](#) to view the 3-Year Strategic Goals (under the header "Board Communications"). **READ MORE**

## Featured Member



AATA National Office



Martha "Marty" C. Stitt, ATR-BC, LPCC-S, LICDC-CS, is an art therapist, consultant, educator, supervisor, and artist living in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. She has worked as an art therapist with psychiatric, chemically dependent, medically ill, and physically disabled people. She spent the last 12 years of her career as the Clinical Program Coordinator at the Art Therapy Studio in Cleveland until she retired in 2011 due to health reasons.

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## ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

### 'Art for Life' Exhibit Connects Survivors of Attempted Suicide With Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones



The Baltimore Sun

In the center of the Art for Life exhibit at The Baltimore County Arts Guild in Arbutus is what looks like a crowded coffee table. The cube, aptly titled "The Coaster Project," sits about knee-high off the floor and is covered in roughly 40 coasters and 20 drinking glasses. In each glass is a portrait of somebody who died by suicide. **READ MORE**



### Yayoi Kusama: The World's Favorite Artist?



The Guardian

In the past five years, more than 5 million museum visitors have queued – and queued some more – for a brief glimpse of the work of Yayoi Kusama. The 89-year-old Japanese artist, who for the past 41 years has lived voluntarily in a psychiatric hospital, has had large-scale solo shows of her work in Mexico City, Rio, Seoul, Taiwan and Chile, as well as major touring exhibitions in the US and Europe. Last year, she opened her own five-storey gallery in Tokyo. **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,

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