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AATA NEWS

Conference News: 2019 Call for Proposals is Now Open!



Susan Boxer Kappel, MA, ATR-BC, LCAT, CGP, Conference Chair

The break during the holidays, is the perfect time to work on your proposal submissions for the AATA's 50th Annual Conference to be held October 30 to November 3, 2019 in Kansas City, Missouri! We hope you will "meet us in the middle" of America's heartland as we celebrate 50 years of healing through art! **READ MORE**

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Preliminary Findings from 2016 AATA Membership Survey



David E. Elkins and Sarah Deaver, PhD, ATR-BC, HLM

The American Art Therapy Association conducted its most recent membership survey in September, 2016 in order to collect membership demographics and other aspects pertinent to the art therapy field. This brief report is intended to provide an updated and concise commentary on the results, prior to the membership survey planned for 2019. In September 2016, AATA members were contacted via direct email regarding the membership survey. Announcements regarding the survey were also created and published online for the association membership. The survey was open for 6 weeks and closed in November of the same year. **READ MORE**

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Featured Member



AATA National Office



Rachel Sikorski, ATR-BC, LCAT, runs a private practice in Buffalo, NY, and works with children, adolescents, and adults experiencing challenges associated with trauma. A leader in her community, Sikorski serves on the board of her local chapter, the Western New York Art Therapy Association (WNYATA) and is a founding member of [Art Therapy Buffalo](#), a professional group that advocates for access to art therapy services in the Buffalo-Niagara area. She has valued her AATA membership throughout her career and shares, "AATA conferences, local chapter events and workshops, as well as the recent additions of the *Art Therapy Today* newsletter and the AATA online community have helped me feel much more connected and in the loop with what's happening in our field

nationally." **READ MORE**

ART THERAPY IN THE NEWS

Life Magazine: The Art Studio Healing the Pain of Asylum Seekers and Refugees



Jewish News

As an art psychotherapist, Tania Kaczynski has heard many truly horrifying stories from the refugees and asylum seekers she meets in her studio. One tale that has stayed with her is of a severely traumatised Afghan asylum seeker, whom she met when he was 16. He had fled the Taliban and, incredibly, had made the journey to the UK on foot – but his parents had perished along the way. **READ MORE**

Student Uses Art to Cope With Grandmother's Passing



The Breeze

In the beginning of her freshman year at JMU, senior fine arts major Elise Nardo received a phone call from her father on the way to her morning class that would change her life forever: her grandmother Harriett, who had lung cancer, was in surgery. Nardo's father was coming to pick her up so she could be with the rest of the family.

Harriett, whom Nardo called “Nan,” survived the surgery, but remained too sick to interact with anyone for weeks. Nardo never had a chance to say goodbye. **READ MORE**



Art Created by Survivors of Domestic Violence Comes to Hazlet, Wall



The Two River Times

Art created by women and children who are survivors of domestic violence, with the guidance of Middletown-based art therapists, will soon be on display at two Brookdale Community College campuses. The artwork, created at the Amanda’s Easel Creative Arts therapy program, will be on display at Brookdale’s Hazlet Higher Education Center site from Dec. 3-13 and at the college’s Wall location from Jan. 22- Feb. 1, according to Cindi Westendorf, Amanda’s Easel program coordinator. **READ MORE**

A Memory of Loss: Art Memorializes Dead Geese



Montana Standard

About this time two years ago, many in Butte were grieving. On Nov. 28, 2016, thousands of snow geese landed in the Berkeley Pit. Though this event played out very differently than the die-off that occurred almost to the day in 1995, the 2016 occurrence was the second time flocks of geese found a fatal home in the toxic water in Butte. **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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