This popular event is on the horizon and will be here before you know it! This year members will have the opportunity to showcase their art by submitting 2-dimensional art of any media and any size. This year’s theme is “Art washes away the dust of everyday life,” by Pablo Picasso, and art should reflect the theme in some way. Art will be on display in the StrangeBrew Coffee Shop in Austin during October and November.

Here are key dates:

- September 18th—Deadline to enter this year’s show. Registration is online via the Google link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Vgour8DU1i3RULzW3kb1D1g-x_HPNfcUagoWXgL4g/edit?usp=sharing
- October 1st—Hanging starts at 10 PM.
- November 6th—Artist Reception from 3-5 PM.
- November 27th-30th—You can remove your art during this date range.

If you are unable to personally hang your art, you can make arrangements with another member who can attend the hanging. There are also drop-off sites for your convenience:

- S. Austin—Wanda Montemayor, O’Henry Middle School. Contact Wanda directly at wanda.montemayor@austinisd.org.
- N. Austin—Karen McGarity, 1403 Desert Quail, Austin, 78758 or work location of McCallum High School. Contact Karen directly at kmcgarity12@gmail.com, 512.350.6103.

StrangeBrew Coffee Shop has generously offered their space for our show. Please be sure to thank them when you patronize their shop!

IMPORTANT AATA CHANGES

During this year’s annual meeting, our Chapter Delegate Bethany Sweeden attended the Assembly of Chapters and brought back news of several important changes potentially impacting art therapists.

The movement toward more consistent licensing continues, with 28 states working on licenses specific to art therapists. Public awareness is on the rise, with many chapters reporting the use of art shows, social media, and other events to promote art therapy. This year’s conference in Baltimore was the largest ever, with 1274 attendees.

Of note to all who supervise art therapy interns, AATA will require that supervision be obtained from an ATR-BC/ATCS. The Art Therapy Supervisor credential is not currently required, but this requirement will become effective in January, 2018.

The Ethics Committee has developed guidelines for art therapy education that are available on the website. They mention the use of coloring books and art therapists offering art therapy training for non-art therapists, and can help you with ethical questions if you are working in these areas.
Letter From Your STATA President

Greetings to STATA Members and Friends of Art Therapy,

As the fall season approaches, STATA has so much exciting news to share. It’s been a wonderful year filled with workshops, community events and members who have made tremendous professional growth in their own practices. Congratulations to all! I’d like to extend a big thank you to Wanda Montemayor for sharing her community art therapy skills at a CEU presentation and for assisting with our annual STATA art show! As chapter delegate, Bethany Sweeden offered an exciting presentation on social action art therapy and attended the annual AATA conference. During the conference, Bethany was involved with AATA discussions and has shared news with our members about national efforts. Thanks to these members for supporting STATA with your time and creative energy!

Connecting with art therapy colleagues has always given me the feeling that I’m tapping into my art therapy roots. Recently a colleague asked, why did you decide to become president? I suddenly became excited with a rush of energy, rattling off all the reasons I was so honored and accepted the position. The words suddenly caught my breath when I answered that I am a visionary. Recognizing opportunities for growth, collaborating with colleagues, planning events with the BOD and seeing others unite as Art Therapists is truly a beautiful moment.

STATA is not a blank canvas. Together, we are rich with vibrant colors, movement and full of possibility. From Wimberley to Houston, in the Valley, throughout Austin and San Antonio, Art Therapists are making it happen. I encourage you to share your passion and shine your colors bright. Some say this type of synergy is contagious. Tell us about your favorite art materials, new therapeutic approaches, challenges with clients. Even if you haven’t been to a meeting in a while, come and join. Tap into your art therapy roots. Your Art Therapy tribe will be there with open arms.

Hope to see you soon and wishing you all my best.

Sincerely,

Karen McGarity, LPC-AT/S, ATR-BC
STATA President
News from our dens—San Antonio

The SA Den wanted to educate and provide services to the community, so began checking into the possibility of receiving a grant. They attended the San Antonio Grant Workshop to learn about available grants and how to apply for them. Members split up the grant questions and answered them, later submitting grant applications for two non-profit organizations. Haven for Hope provides transitional shelter for individuals and families, and USACrit offers medical treatment to families with children with disabilities.

A key component of the grant application included STATA’s financial information and very targeted responses to the grant application questions. The grant recipients will be announced in November, but the San Antonio den is actively pursuing other grant opportunities.

Interested in learning more? Contact Deb Murphy, Chair, at artfuldiscoveries@gmail.com and “like us” on Facebook, Art Therapy San Antonio.

Back2School Bash

The SA den also attended a Back2School Drive, along with over 800 other people! The event focused on families and was held at Hemisphere Park. One of the most popular events there was the face-painting booth.

Image and story provided by Yadi Puente.

Fun with paint!

Houston News

Amy Huffaker, LMHC-Intern and Art Therapy Intern, and Deborah Lindeen, LPC-AT/S, ATR-BC recently volunteered at Brigid’s Hope, an organization offering temporary residency, counseling, and job skills to women who were formerly incarcerated.

Amy and Deborah led the group in creating mandalas. It was a lively and engaged group, and almost all the residents commented that it had been years since they had taken time for creativity or beauty.

Future opportunities to volunteer at Brigid’s Hope are available for art therapists or art therapy interns. If you are interested, contact Deborah at dklpath@aol.com.

Mandala making for stress-reduction and community-building
Art therapy continues to be an exciting and intriguing career choice, yet most of us are familiar with the question, “What do art therapists actually do?” This Career Panel will focus on the careers of three STATA members working in diverse settings. Join this event and be a part of the conversation about our professional identity while learning more about the many different aspects of art therapy.

The event will be held at St. Edward’s University in Austin, from 2-4:30 PM on Sunday, October 16. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a Q & A session to learn more. There will also be time for art reflection on the topic of “My Journey as an Art Therapist.” Mark your calendars for this event, and see the biographies of the three presenters, below.

Mark your Calendar!

STATA Career Panel
Sunday, October 16, 2016, 2-4:30

MEET THE STATA CAREER PRESENTERS

Becky Butler, LPC, ATR-BC
Becky works as a community based art therapist for Blue Sky Abilities through Austin Travis County Integral Care. She earned her Master’s Degree in Counseling and Art Therapy from the University of Louisville in 2013. After working in Kentucky for a year, she moved back to Austin where she primarily works with adolescents and children to overcome trauma, depression, anxiety, and grief. In her free time, Becky enjoys illustrating, reading, and playing roller derby.

Elizabeth Hendley, ATR-BC
Elizabeth earned her undergraduate degree in Studio Art at UT Austin, and received her Master’s in Creative Arts Therapy from Hofstra University in NY. She has worked in a variety of settings—schools, a hospital psychiatric unit and prison ward, and a continuing day treatment center for chronically mentally ill adults. After returning to Austin in 2006, Elizabeth spearheaded the Expressive Arts Therapy program at Dell Children’s Medical Center, working there as a part-time art therapist since 2008. She also teaches Kindergarten Art at Sterling Classical School, decorates cakes, makes jewelry, and offers art lessons and workshops.

Salina Loriaux, LPC, ATR
Salina is a graduate of Pratt’s Art Therapy program. She works at San Antonio Behavioral Healthcare Hospital in San Antonio working with Military PTSD, Chemical Dependency, adult and adolescent populations.

Salina is an Army Veteran and military spouse giving back to those who have served working with local and national military/veteran agencies in the arts. She enjoys painting, gardening running and the performance theater.
News from the Austin Den—Violet Crown Festival

For National Children’s Mental Health Day, the Austin Den hosted a children’s activity booth at the Violet Crown Festival. STATA members invited children (and adults) to decorate their own Inspiration Stones to take home. Each child decorated their stone with an image or word to remind them of their own strength or a positive message. Posters at the booth provided information to the children and parents about what art therapy is and how art-making is beneficial for mental health.

A big thanks to our STATA volunteers for the event - Carolyn Mehlomakulu, Bethany Sweeden, Lindsey Taucher, Shelley Frederick, Deann Acton, and Ruth Airhart.

Participants at the Violet Crown Festival
Images provided by Carolyn Mehlomakulu

Events such as the Violet Crown Festival help boost community awareness of art therapy’s benefits and local practitioners.

From Your Newsletter Chair

It’s exciting to receive information from our dens about their activities! Please consider capturing your event in photos and sending them to me for inclusion in future newsletters. You can forward your stories and photos to dklpath@aol.com.

Many thanks to all who did offer updates for this edition of the STATA Newsletter.

Deborah Lindeen, LPC/AT/S, ATR-BC
**STATA Mission Statement**

The South Texas Art Therapy Association, STATA, is an affiliate chapter of the American Art Therapy Association. The purpose of this association is to progressively develop the therapeutic use of art, to advance research, to improve standards of practice, and to provide vehicles for the exchange of information and experience. The objectives of this association are to aim treatment most effectively toward rehabilitation and the improvement of human welfare, to improve the effectiveness of those engaged in art therapy through the means of meetings and seminars, to provide a professional support system for the profession and its practitioners regionally, to encourage the development of professional training opportunities in art therapy and to inform people about the field of art therapy.

**Contact your Board**

President—Karen McGarity, LPC-AT/S, ATR-BC

jacksonkp@hotmail.com

Vice-President/Elect—Vacant

Secretary—Elizabeth Bickel, LPC, ATR, LCDC

elizabeth.a.bickel@gmail.com

Treasurer—Lindsey Taucher, LPC

lctmaatrbc@yahoo.com

Newsletter—Deborah Lindeen, LPC-AT/S, ATR-BC

dklpath@aol.com

Chapter Delegate—Bethany Sweeden, LPC-AT, ATR-BC

bethany.sweeden@hotmail.com

STATA Webmaster—Carolyn Mehlomakulu, LMFT, ATR

carolynmehlo@gmail.com

ART THERAPY: TRAVERSING LANDSCAPES OF HEART & MIND

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