



FATA ADVOCATES FOR EXPANSION OF ACCESS TO PROFESSIONAL ART THERAPISTS & LEADS THE STATE IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF ART THERAPY AS A REGULATED MENTAL HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES PROFESSION. WE PROVIDE INFORMATION, RESOURCES, AND MEANINGFUL NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES TO ITS MEMBERS & THE PUBLIC.

INTRODUCING THE FATA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Kelly L. Burns, MA, LPC, PMHC, ATR, and FATA President is a newcomer to Florida and moved here in September from Chicago, IL. Kelly graduated from Adler University in Chicago and worked extensively with victims of domestic violence.

She was a trainer for the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence where Kelly educated advocates and professionals working directly with victims, especially the efficacy of the expressive arts therapies in treating trauma. Kelly was also an active member of the Illinois Art Therapy Association where her last position was Director of Membership. Kelly moved to Orlando, FL with her family and is now the art therapist at The Refuge, A Healing Place in Oklawaha. She continues to work with those struggling with trauma, addiction and mental illness in The Refuge's residential and partial hospitalization programs.

Kelly hopes to continue FATA's efforts toward licensure and providing trauma relief, as well as expanding opportunities for our members throughout the entire state. Kelly is trained as a painter, preferably watercolors, but has recently learned how to crochet and dabbles in mold making.



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Stephanie Wray, MAAT, ATR-P, RMHC-I and FATA President Elect

is a graduate of Saint Mary Of The Woods. Graduating with honors and awarded the Alumni Award for Responsible Leadership and Outstanding Community Service. Stephanie has always been an artist and has served as an expressive arts facilitator and educator for the past 25 years. Stephanie first learned about the field of Art Therapy as an undergraduate student at Naropa University. Through her own explorations into intuitive painting and as an art teacher, Stephanie discovered her passion for art as a healing tool and chose to pursue a graduate degree in Art Therapy. Stephanie is an adjunct professor at the University of Tampa and works in community art therapy as a program manager/art therapist for Stars Of Hope USA. Her work consists of responding in the aftermath of human and man-made disasters. Stephanie served as membership chair for FATA for 3 years prior to being

elected President -elect. Stephanie moved to the state of Florida from Texas four years ago and resides in Palm Harbor, Florida with her spouse, 8-year-old daughter and 3 fur children. Stephanie enjoys traveling, hanging out with her family, going to the beach and art fairs, and skating. Stephanie's primary medium is acrylic paint but she also enjoys making stained glass mosaics.



Geri Hurlbut MAAT, ATR-BC and FATA Secretary is new to Florida having lived in St. Petersburg for less than one year. As past Secretary of SCAAT (South Carolina Association of Art Therapy) Geri's hope is to help maintain effective records for FATA as the organization continues to grow and develop. Geri has Masters degrees in Art Therapy, Professional Counseling

and Marriage and Family Counseling, which she earned at Ottawa University. Geri also holds the title of Associate Professor Emerita of Art Therapy at Converse College located in Spartanburg, SC, where she coordinated the art therapy program for the past 12 years, teaching and supervising undergraduate art therapy students and offering classes in watercolor painting. Geri was awarded the CATO award for excellence in teaching in 2015 among other research and study grants during her tenure. Geri retired as full-time faculty in May 2018 and just completed her TEFL (Teach English as a Foreign Language) certificate. Geri is excited to begin teaching part time as adjunct faculty for the Art Therapy Program at University of Tampa this coming year. Geri loves working with psychiatric populations, and has experience working with addictive disorders, eating disorders, and trauma. Geri also offers workshops to the community as well as supervision to art therapists completing their internships. Over the course of several years I have had wonderful opportunities to serve with colleagues in art therapy and music therapy in communities affected by natural disasters and presented on our work in Port au Prince, Haiti in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake at AATA and ECArTE conferences. I have served as conference reviewer for AATA several

years in the past, and as Key Networker for the International Networking Group of Art Therapists. Our mission was to help art therapists from all countries (particularly developing ones) connect with each other and aid in promoting continuing education for those in remote regions. I am currently in discussions with a colleague working to develop a new training program in Tanzania.

Art has always had a presence in my life. My primary medium in the past several years has been watercolors, but I love sketching and working in mixed media as well. One of my favorite pastimes is traveling with sketchbook in hand, sitting in cafés and capturing my impressions of the moment.



Waitin' (Port au Prince, Haiti)
Watercolor on Arches



**Franchesca Lastra Vicente, MS,
ATR-P, RMHC-I and FATA**

Treasurer graduated from Florida State University in 2017, earning a Master of Science Degree in Art Therapy. Franchesca currently works at Bay Area Behavioral Services in Brandon, Florida providing Art Therapy services to children, families and adults as an outpatient therapist. Franchesca is bilingual in Spanish and English and has experience working with children, adolescents, adults and older adults in a variety of settings including day centers, homeless shelters, and senior living facilities. Franchesca enjoys working with a variety of art mediums including oil pastels, charcoal pencil, acrylic paint, and creating sculptures with found objects. Before joining FATA, Franchesca was President of the Florida State University student chapter association where she advocated for art therapy and organized many community outreach activities. As a member of the Florida Art Therapy

Association, Franchesca has been assisting with licensure efforts by taking the role of State Conference Committee Chair and assisting the Government Affairs Committee. During this term, Franchesca hopes to continue to assist with licensure efforts and promote Art therapy in the state of Florida.



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NEWSLETTER

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REMAINING OPEN POSITIONS:

Delegate to the Assembly of Chapters
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Ethics Liaison
Governmental Affairs
Local Arrangements
Membership
Student Representative



What is Tomorrow's Rainbow and what services are provided there? Tomorrow's Rainbow provides peer facilitated grief support groups for children 3 years of age through high school and their families. Located on a miniature horse farm in Coconut Creek, FL, we provide free bereavement support groups utilizing therapeutic art, play and horse interactions. Tomorrow's Rainbow is the only stand-alone grief support center serving Broward and Palm Beach Counties. The program is founded on two best practice models - The Dougy Center Model of grief support and Eagala (Equine Assisted Growth & Learning Association) Model of Equine Assisted Learning. Since 2005, Tomorrow's Rainbow has served thousands of grieving children and teens in our community. Our

unique program allows for bereaved youth to share their grief journey with their peers, through their art and play, and with our four-legged grief facilitators.

Tell us about yourself and your role at Tomorrow's

Rainbow... There have always been two constants in my life - horses and art. When I was 17, I heard about Art Therapy and immediately set up my scholastic career towards becoming an ATR. I chose my alma mater, University of Louisville, because it was one of the oldest institutions training counselors in Art Therapy, as well as the professors' dedication to us, the students, in finding our particular voice and modality, instead of training only one specific model. In 2012, I joined Tomorrow's Rainbow as the Program Director.

Having known Abby Mosher, the Founder & Executive Director, for many years, I knew that the program combined so many elements that were important to me. The use of non-directive art and play with children allows them to share their grief story in their language. Incorporating horses into the program allows children and teens to build self-esteem, work on creating and maintaining a relationship, as well as grounding them during times of distress. At Tomorrow's Rainbow, I wear many hats. I am often the first person that families talk to about grief and loss, where I provide best practice information on explaining death, telling the truth to children and age appropriate reactions after a death. I also oversee the Program Facilitators, who are trained lay people and interns, in providing best practice model services. In addition, my job takes me into the community to provide expert trainings on grief, loss, trauma, as well as experiential therapies, such as Art Therapy, Sandtray Therapy and Play Therapy Techniques.



What is Equine Assisted Psychotherapy & Learning?

Throughout college, I also researched the growing field of Equine Assisted Psychotherapy & Learning (EAP/EAL). Since WWI, humans have been incorporating horses into physical and mental health recovery, primarily through Therapeutic Riding, wherein a certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor teaches clients dealing with physical, medical and mental health issues to ride. While I had volunteered for years at Therapeutic Riding centers, it was not exactly what I was looking for. Over the years, two programs rose to the top of the EAP/EAL field - Eagala and PATH International. Reputable and ethical EAP/EAL programs have many things in common with ATR certification, there is a code of ethics and foundational understanding that incorporating horses and other equines is not about teaching techniques. At the basis of experiential therapies, the metaphors that occur during the session have profound impact on our clients. I am certified through both



programs, including achieving the Eagala Advanced Certification designation, and have been incorporating horses into my therapy services since 2001.

How do you combine Art Therapy and Equine Assisted Psychotherapy for the benefit of your clients? What makes this pairing so effective?

Each session at Tomorrow's Rainbow features a grief activity that involves either art making or a game, followed by therapeutic horsemanship to build consistency and stability into their lives. After the "chores" are done, they move on to non-directive therapeutic art and play areas. By combining art, play, horses, peer interactions and set activities, the clients are able to express themselves in the way that best suits their individual grief journey. In our yearly grief camps, we combine art therapy and equine assisted learning activities to enhance and grow an understanding of a particular topic. We might draw our "yucky" grief feelings onto a small jump and then lead our horse over the obstacle. The metaphors of passing over or through those difficult times is processed. The pairing of experiential activities allows for a greater understanding and growth over time.



If you would like to learn more about Tomorrow's Rainbow or would like to come to a monthly networking and demonstration series we host called Breakfast At The Ranch, reach out to Marla at Marla@TomorrowsRainbow.org and check out our website at: www.TomorrowsRainbow.org.

The FATA Board of Directors would like to invite you to attend our first open-member meeting which will occur online February 21st at 7:30PM. Details for video conference location online TBA

MEMBER EXHIBIT

THIS MONTH'S ARTWORK COMES TO YOU
FROM THE FATA BOARD MEMBERS.



Stephany Wray *Floating Lotus*
Acrylic on Canvas



Franchesca Lastra *Untitled*
Charcoal



Kelly Burns *Master Copy*
Watercolor



Geri Hurlbut *Castiglione del Lago (Tuscany, Italy)*
Watercolor on Arches

Call for Submissions!

This year our newsletter will undergo a few exciting changes. First, we are moving toward a monthly structure so that we can keep our members apprized of all of the fabulous happenings in the Florida Art Therapy Community! One way we hope to achieve this is by including a featured artwork section and a featured member section.

We want to hear from you!

If you have something exciting going on, specialize in a particular population or technique, or you have some other topic to share with our community please contact us!

We also want to feature our member's artwork!

Submissions can be made at any time via e-mail to Catherine@artaffectsfl.com.

