A Day of Soaking Up knowledge in Sarasota

FATA hosted Judy Rubin this past April in Sarasota. Dr. Rubin’s presentation was based on her new DVD, The Many Faces of Art Therapy. The four-hour workshop was filled with snippets from Dr. Rubin’s video, discussion, and experientials. We would like to thank Dr. Rubin for her assistance in putting together a great continuing education experience for our membership. Those in attendance were very pleased for the opportunity to listen to and learn from Dr. Rubin, network with other art therapists, make some art, and gain CEC’s to use toward certification renewal. A few of the attendees accompanied Dr. Rubin to a cocktail reception hosted by Dr. Rawley Silver. In addition to the privilege of being able to sit and “chat” with two highly respected individuals in our profession, we were also fortunate enough to see an art exhibit of Dr. Silver’s artwork.
## From the President

**From Crawling to Sprinting**

The Board of Directors of the Florida Art Therapy Association has been working tirelessly to meet the needs of our members. We have hosted a Regional Symposium, provided continuing education opportunities, facilitated social/networking events, and begun the process of working toward licensure in the state. We plan on continuing these efforts through the planning of a state conference, weekend seminars, networking opportunities, and strategic planning for licensure within the next coming months. It is also our hope to establish a membership directory and a web-based referral system for members only.

These are big goals for a small group of dedicated individuals to accomplish; however, we are all up to the task of serving the art therapy community within our state. Although we are up to the challenge, we are always looking for individuals who are willing to donate their time and energy for the betterment of the profession. Our organization is up and running (sprinting, actually) again as we have demonstrated through our various activities this past year. Please help us keep up the momentum through feedback, attendance at events, and volunteerism. To this end, we will begin to host open board meetings (dates, times, and locations to be posted on our webpage). We invite you to attend, hear our ideas, and also have an opportunity to communicate your ideas as well. It is only with members' feedback that we can best meet your needs.

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Craig Alan Siegel, ATR-BC
President, Florida Art Therapy Association
NEWS: Florida State Conference

This year’s state conference was a huge hit by all that attended the Carnival Cruise Line and this coming year the FATA Board has decided to keep it on land. As the president-elect of FATA, one of my roles is to focus on the state conference and all the steps that is needed to get it from our thoughts to a reality. We want to make sure that we are representing the art therapy community and we hope that all our efforts are appreciated.

The FATA board has been juggling some ideas for the conference theme and it looks like “Art Therapy Today” may be what art therapist want and need to work in today’s world of managed care and homelessness, just to mention a couple of the issues we are faced with. Please e-mail to thewassermans@bellsouth.net if you have a topic you would like to hear about or if you would be interested in speaking about the work that you have been doing. This is the best time to make suggestions and comments while we are formulating our plan of action.

Please look for the location and other exciting plans in our next newsletter and share this conference idea with your co-workers. I look forward to sharing the progress and outcome of the plans as they unfold. I know this conference will be a blast and beneficial for us all as growing clinicians in the State of Florida.

Your Friend,
Lisa Wasserman, Psy.D., ATR-BC
President-Elect of FATA

NEWS: An FSU Update from Dave Gussak, PhD, ATR-BC

Well, Dr. Marcia Rosal is out of town, and I have been left behind as acting chair of the Department. Why is this important? Well, it really isn’t, except your president, Craig Siegel, called to ask Marcia to write a blurb about the FSU program for this newsletter. Well, as you all know, your president is quite tenacious; after being sent away by Marcia’s voicemail, he managed to convince me to write this in Marcia’s stead. Since Marcia did not leave me with clear instructions what I could or could not say, what I write here does not necessarily reflect Marcia, the department, or anyone else in the field, but rather, simply of me.

In the last newsletter, you were all informed about this Spring’s special event—Dr. Nancy Slater’s presentation on International Art Therapy. It was a huge success, and everyone who attended, including a large number of applicants to the program, seemed to really enjoy it. We are looking forward to our next visitors—for the three weekend courses this summer we have Dr. Linda Gantt, Dr. Richard Carolan and Dr. Arnell Ethrington teaching about their work in art therapy for the treatment of trauma and abuse. (note to Craig—I believe this announcement has already been made, so no dates are necessary here...is this true?).

Even as I write this, we have two more students, Celine Hunt and Amity Montcrief, in Thailand. They will be working alongside the FSU’s Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, conducting art therapy with victims of last winter’s tsunami and of the sex trade. We have since heard from both of them, and they are doing well and having incredible experiences. They will be there for about six weeks, returning just in time for summer classes.

We are very proud of our graduating students. Special congratulations to Cynthia Andreas and Donna Betts who successfully defended their dissertations this past spring.

As the program gears down after an incredibly productive year, we are preparing for the next year. We interviewed many applicants, and at this time, we are planning to have around 14 Masters students entering in the fall as well as a couple of doctoral students.

The election for the 2005-2006 FSU-ATA slate of officers has also been conducted. The results were:
Celine Hunt-President
Kelly Moore-Vice-President
Kate Dorsey-Treasurer
Suzanne Arendt-Secretary
Amity Moncrief-Historian/Public Relations

A liaison between FATA and FSUATA will be chosen from this years’ FSU-ATA to continue the ongoing dialogue between the state association and the student organization.
There is much more going on here than I can include in this note, but I hope I have hit the highlights. If you would like more information, feel free to contact me, or Marcia.
Continuing Education

A First in South Florida!

Dr. Myra F. Levick, Ph.D., ATR-BC will be initiating and directing a first for South Florida. In the fall of 2005 a Post Master’s Certificate program in Art Therapy will begin on the Florida Atlantic University Campus, in the new College of Nursing Building, Boca Raton, Fl. The program will meet the educational standards established by the American Art Therapy Association for those individuals holding a master’s degree in a related field, such as counseling, nursing, social work, and psychology, seeking art therapy credentials. Faculty will include Janet Bush, ATR-BC, Patricia Isis, Ph.D, ATR-BC and Craig Siegel, ATR-BC.

For information write or call, Dr. Levick, Phone: 561-482-0114, e-mail: myralevick@bellsouth.net, or visit her web site at childrenatrisk.biz.

FATA Community

Visiting professor Cynthia Andreas successfully defended her dissertation at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Fla. Her research topic was “Promotion of Visual Perceptual Development through Therapeutic Art Education.” Professor Andreas will be graduating from FSU this week with her Ph.D. in Art Therapy and Art Education. She has been an adjunct and a visiting professor at Lynn University for the past three years, teaching psychology, sociology, and humanities undergraduate courses.

How do you feel about our community?

Draw a picture of yourself as a professional Art Therapist and how you relate to the Florida Art Therapy Community.
FATA Membership

Want a great way to stay in touch with other Art Therapist around the State?
Interested in the field of Art Therapy and want to know more?
Joining FATA will give you access to this and much more!

FATA provides:
• Continuing Education through workshops and symposia.
• A quarterly newsletter
• Connects the Art Therapy community with one another.
• Promotes Art Therapy within the community.

FATA Membership falls into the following categories:

- Credentialed Professional, Professional, and Associate Member $20
- Retired Professional and Student, $10
- Contributors, $20

Name: __________________________________________________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________________________
Phone: __________________________ E-mail: __________________________

Please make checks payable to: AATA

Mail membership form and payment to: AATA at 1202 Allanson Road, Mundelein, Illinois 60060-3808
To receive more information on how to join FATA, contact Cynthia Andreas at cynthia048@msn.com

FATA dues are payable each year. You must first be a member of AATA in order to become a member of FATA. Upon receipt of your dues, you will receive a membership card and will begin to receive newsletters and updates on workshops. FATA exists through volunteer hours and efforts. Dues cover membership in the umbrella organizations, postage, expenses related to programs, publications, and outreach. Thanks for your support!

Membership

As mentioned in the Letter from the President, we are beginning the process of putting together a membership directory. Each member will be receiving a postcard in the coming weeks to verify information to be included in the directory, as well as which information you would like to be excluded. At the same time we will be working on a web-based directory for the community to help consumers better access art therapy services. The directory and web referral system will only be available to current members of FATA. Please make sure your membership is current so as not to miss out on these membership perks.

Mission Statement

The Florida Art Therapy Association is dedicated to providing education, professional development, training, and political action for its members. Further, FATA will pursue the highest Professional and ethical standards to protect the public for which it serves.
From the Editor

Please feel free to contact us with any information you would like to see included in future newsletters. Suggested Topics: Book reviews, Networking, What’s happening at your place of business, Goals, Popular techniques, Editorials, Training, Workshops, Graduation, or career advancements. Photos are greatly encouraged!!

Also, we have included areas in the newsletter for you. You will find boxes that ask you to draw! It is so rare for us to find time to make art. I thought that if we added art boxes to our newsletter that it provide a motivation to create. If you are so inspired please take photos or scan your art box creations and e-mail them to us so we can share them in our newsletters.

We are looking forward to providing the Art Therapy community with a quarterly newsletter. The following is a list of deadlines and publications for the newsletter, please submit any articles or information no later than the first of the month prior to publication.

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