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the  
**Illuminations From Jane's Tribe**  
Newsletter for Art Education and Art Therapy Communities



## 2015 Featured Two Great Guest Speakers

Dr. Charles Flood is the 2015 recipient of the Annual Award for Community Service in Art Therapy and Art Education. The award was presented by Holly Feen-Calligan during the Annual Student Art Show held last June through July. Dr. Flood also gave a talk on "Mitigating family and survivor trauma: Using art with children as compassionate intervention after a mass trauma event." Dr. Flood is an alumnus of the Visual Arts Education program at Wayne State. Additionally, Gioia Chilton, PhD, ATR-BC presented an interactive talk entitled "Positive art therapy: New directions in positive psychology and art therapy practice and research." She also taught an extended class on discovering and capitalizing on character strengths and the importance of positive emotions in using creative techniques. We thank both Dr. Charles Flood and Dr. Gioia Chilton for honoring us with their presence and sharing their immense knowledge with us this past summer.

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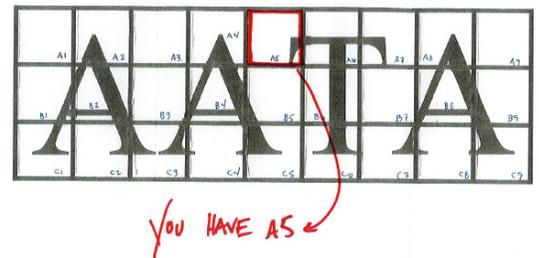


## 2015 AATA Conference

Many of our graduate students attended the 46th annual American Art Therapy Association (AATA) conference from July 8 to 12th in Minneapolis, MN this past summer. The topic was Bridging Cultural Terrains: Expanding the Lens of Art Therapy, which focused on the wide variety of settings in which art therapy promotes healing, health, and wellness in diverse populations. The opening keynote speaker was Dr. Temple Grandin who spoke about living with autism and how the world needs people who think differently, including art therapists who generally think visually. There were also memorials for Edith Kramer and Don Jones and the students were able to meet with many current art therapists including Cathy and Bruce Moon, Lisa Hinz, Lynn Kapitan, Gretchen Miller, along with many others. There were many opportunities for learning new things in the sessions, along with creating artwork and making many connections. There are a few articles below about the student’s experiences at this most recent conference.

### AATA Mural

This year, AATA put out a call for art to help them create 21-piece mural to hang in their National Office. The mural is broken down into 12” x 12” squares. Each space is designated to participating Art Therapy programs and designed around the image of the programs’ initials. Each school was asked to visually represent what the school is known for and COE students chose to represent the urban atmosphere and the emphasis of research at Wayne State University. SMATA decided to take on the project and is in the process of sending in the finished panel. It was an honor to be part of the process and will be a great contribution to the final art piece that will remain in the American Art Therapy Association’s National Offices for many years to come.





## Students at the 2015 AATA Conference

Since many of the students realized how close the conference was for 2015, a large group decided that they were going on a road trip to Minneapolis for the professional development. After much planning, it was decided to rent a house near the conference that was able to hold up to 20 people, which ended up with a total of 16 people staying in the house. It was an interesting experience with 16 women, one pregnant, another currently in a wheelchair due to a foot injury, all with staying together with limited bathrooms. Everyone admitted to having a great time and getting to know each other better in the process, and many have indicated doing the same for next year's conference. There were many fun stories of staying in the house together, having a cookout on the last night, and the several times the large group had to coordinate between getting to and from the conference and the outside events each chose to attend. Over the few nights in the city, small groups chose to go to several different locations and ended up all over the city. Some of the things attended were a Detroit Tigers game, watching Bruce Moon (and Karianne) play guitar at the bar, visiting many art museums, the sculpture garden, a couple breweries, going out to dinner with Holly Feen, and hiking in the national park, all while still attending the conference. Many great memories were made and close friendships were built. But the most important part was the building of a great network of people, not just the Wayne State art therapy students who went together, but with other amazing art therapists across the nation. This was an experience many will never forget and there were so many great things that happened, much more could be written about the experience. The best part is knowing that many of the students from last year plan to do it again in the upcoming year, but this time in Baltimore! More information about trip planning will be coming soon.

## Congratulations!

**Our own Holly Feen-Calligan received the Distinguished Service Award at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual American Art Therapy Association Conference.**

AATA recognized Holly for her service as the Associate Editor for the *Journal of American Art Therapy Association*. Holly served three terms as Associate Editor, two terms of the Education Program Approval Board, and one term on Nominating Committee. She was on the AATA Addictions Symposium in the 1990s and she facilitated the Addictions Master Supervision Group at AATA conferences for seven consecutive years. Other AATA service includes the Education Committee, the Coalition of Art Therapy Educators, and nearly 30 years of annual conference presentations.



## Cannarsa Sister Scholarship

On October 29<sup>th</sup> the Visual Arts Education program proudly presented a lecture by Emily Smith, M.Ed. candidate, which documented her study of mosaics in Ravenna, Italy last summer. Ms. Smith was a recipient of the Cannarsa Sisters Study in Italy scholarship, which provides future and current visual arts teachers an opportunity to travel to Italy and study the arts and architecture of the past two millennia. She was well prepared for this event, and provided a lively and interesting Power Point presentation demonstrating her learning the traditional methods and process for creating mosaics, her two final projects, and her studies of mosaics in surrounding churches in Ravenna and Bologna. Of particular note was her gathering of technical and historical information, which added greatly to the depth of her lecture. Students and faculty were provided a clear picture of her focus, commitment, and desire to bring her new learning back to the middle school environment where she teaches.



Recipients of the Snow Sisters Study in Italy Program scholarship are given \$6,000 to pursue a course of study that will both contribute to their education and training, as well as bring a part of that experience back to their peers at Wayne State University. Students must complete an application that includes a detailed proposal for a course of study, an itinerary of museums, architecture, or schools which will be visited, the goals for the studies, documentation, and a lecture which fully explicates the student's learning and will be presented to the students and faculty upon the student's return to the university. Applications that include proposals for unique or innovative studies that will advance the student's understanding of the visual arts and Visual Arts Education will be given top consideration.



### Interview with Valerie Miller

Graduate student Valerie Miller is finishing out her final year of the Masters of Arts in Teaching here at Wayne State University. She received her Bachelors in Fine Arts in Advertising Design at WSU and after a long pause, has decided to finish out her master's degree. In the time between and while in school, she raised four sons, homeschooled her children, taught in private schools, and taught a couple summers at CCS on children's book illustration. She is also currently student teaching at Woodhaven elementary school and next semester will be teaching in the high school. She chose the art education program because she was forced to leave her comfort zone and be taught all art disciplines to be confident enough to be able to

teach it. She said that it has opened her skill set, peaked her curiosity in other areas, allowed her to explore new media on her own, and has also helped her art career. In addition to all that she is already involved with, she is also an artist and showcases her work, most recently at the National Conference of Artists Annual Art Party at the Charles Wright Museum here in Detroit. Valerie is excited to graduate in the spring, but stated that she will miss the professors. She feels that the professors were the best part of the whole program as they were easy to relate to, compassionate, but also challenged her, made her think, and helped stretch her as a student, teacher, and artist.

## Wayne State Alumni News

Cindy Schumaker was accepted as an adjunct, part-time instructor at Anne Arundel Community College.

Robin Keller, 2013 M.Ed art therapy graduate has just graduated from Michigan School of Professional Psychology with a Masters of Art in clinical psychology.

Teresa Rose took a full-time art therapy position at Prime Health Care in Redding, CA.

Rachel Gaffney, M.Ed, took a new position as the life enrichment director at All Seasons in Birmingham, MI.

Eileen Finnegan, EdD, 2015, WSU Art Education, and her students exhibited their research mural at Marygrove College October 23 through November 13 at their "Living Spaces" art exhibit.

Heather Brown, MS, LPC, ATR, ACTP has openings in 2016 for professionals in need of ATR or ATR/LPC supervision. She offers individual and group supervision at her Midtown Detroit office. Go to [www.BrownCounseling.com](http://www.BrownCounseling.com) or contact her at [BrownCounselingLLC@gmail.com](mailto:BrownCounselingLLC@gmail.com) or 313.285.8097 for more info.

### MAEA Conference- Michigan Art Education Association Conference

WSU student Jessica Lisey attended the Michigan Art Education Association Conference in Grand Rapids Michigan this past October. The theme was "Framing the Future; Fostering a sense of community while providing the highest quality professional development and showcasing the strengths and talents of our members". Jessica stated that she was able to learn about new mediums, projects, and methods to work with her students. She also got to meet a plethora of other art teachers and learn their background and how they run a classroom. She stated that they also offer many opportunities to explore the city and mingle with others outside of the workshops. As a student going into education, she felt that she walked away with a more rounded sense of art education. She encourages more Wayne State Students and other teachers to invest in the next conference that will be in Traverse City next October.

# Drawing with Drew

## Notes from Jim Brown

“Drawing with Drew” is a Visual Arts program created specifically for the Charles Drew Transition Center, in the Detroit Public School system, for students 18 to 26, with moderate to severe cognitive impairments. The program began in the fall of 2012 as a result of a dialogue between Beverly Dade, a teacher at the Drew Center and myself about how the visual arts might benefit the students there. Since it’s beginning, I have been the lead teacher for classes both at the Center and at WSU. I have also used this opportunity to provide practicum and service learning experiences for students from our Visual Arts Education Program, as well as, Art Therapy, Nursing, KHS, and CFPCA students. The process of my teaching methodology has been guided by the work of Arnheim and others, in Visual thinking, Housen, et al. in Visual Thinking Strategies, and Reuven Feuerstein, et al. in teaching individuals who experience cognitive impairments. To date, art supplies have been provided by the principal Robert Avidisian and myself, with busing also provided by him.

Currently I utilize a process of formative assessment and relationship building with these students, during each class. A series of lesson plans is created for the students each semester, utilizing contralateral movement exercises and contralateral art experiences. This is done to establish a baseline of developmentally identified skills, which the students’ are using to represent concepts, feelings, their immediate environment, and people in it. Then working in teams, goals for encouraging higher order thinking, perception, and representation (drawing) skills are developed. We have used drawing media, acrylic paints, and clay as the main media for this class. In all of the groups included so far, we are seeing very encouraging results, and their teachers are reporting other improvements in learning, focus and attention, mood and affect, and behavior in their classrooms. It is our belief that in addition to providing Visual Arts Classes which teach thinking skills that most core curriculum classes do not, and by encouraging the acquisition of new perceptual, verbal, and representation skills, the students may develop new ways of learning, and a new appreciation for their own ability to learn. My work with the Drew students is a high point of each week for me, and I look forward to a continuing of this fruitful collaboration.

**I am grateful to Beverly Dade, Robert Avidisian, the Staff, and Parents of the Drew Center for giving us the opportunity to work with their wonderful students.**

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to all Art Education and Art Therapy graduates of 2015! We wish you the best of luck with all of your future endeavors.

# SMATA News

This year has brought on a lot of new things for SMATA- the Students of Michigan Art Therapy Association. First, the officers may all have been officers in the past, but most have all new positions. Alison Maples was voted President, Angie Bolton as Vice President, Kenzie Timm this year's Secretary, and Valerie Smith is the new Treasurer. Kayla Ruttinger is staying in the Activities Coordinator position. The other big new thing is that SMATA now has a website! It is a place to keep all students updated on things that are important and special events that are coming up. It also has a place for the general public to get an idea of the projects the students have been doing along with a blog to keep everyone updated. At this point many students have joined the site and many events have already been scheduled. So now the best way to keep up with what the student group is doing, please visit [www.WayneStateArtTherapy.com](http://www.WayneStateArtTherapy.com).

The Students of Michigan Art Therapy Association (SMATA) has been very busy so far this school year. So far this year, we have had a few members involved in the Suicide Prevention Walk, Out of the Darkness, along with the window-painting project for Wayne State's Homecoming. We also held our annual Halloween Party where many themed foods were enjoyed and many came dressed for the holiday. We also plan to do a few things over the holiday break for self care and just general get together while we have a mental break from classes. To keep up with our upcoming events, don't forget to check the website.



[www.WayneStateArtTherapy.com](http://www.WayneStateArtTherapy.com)