

36th Annual IATA Conference
Intersecting Art Therapy and Social Justice
October 22nd, 2016, 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Advocate Children’s Hospital, 4440 West 95th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Lectures

10:15-11:15 ***Outside the Norm: The Art of Difference***
Randy M. Vick, MS, ATR-BC, LCPC, HLM
Room 0636

This paper introduces the concept of “Art of Difference”, a broad term encompassing the convergence of art and people with developmental, psychological, or social differences—groups that have been historically marginalized. The broad terms “Art Brut” and “Outsider Art” have long encompassed works by such individuals yet the field of art therapy has made few inroads into the international dialogue on this topic. Historical and contemporary manifestations of this theme will be discussed along with implications for theory, research, social justice, and other aspects of professional practice.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Identify three research areas involving art and people with developmental, psychological, or social differences.
- 2) Articulate how “Art of Difference” functions outside the norms of art or society.
- 3) Describe how concepts from this presentation might help inform or expand their current professional practice and ideas of social justice.

10:15-11:15 ***White Art Therapists, What Are You Going to Do?***
Cathy Moon, MA, ATR-BC
Val Newman, MAAT, ATR, LCPC
Jeannette Perkal, MAAT, LPC, ATR
Room 0629B

This presentation addresses the question, “White art therapists, what are you going to do?” in relation to the systemic oppression of Black people in the U. S. It considers this question from three roles of the art therapist: educator, clinician, and activist.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Identify at least three key aspects of White racial socialization that are relevant to the art therapy education.
- 2) Describe at least two examples of racial microaggressions commonly committed by White therapists.
- 3) Describe at least three strategies for responsibly using White privilege to be an advocate or activist in relation to the systemic oppression of Black people.

11:30-12:30PM ***A Study of the Masters: Art, Politics, and History***

M. Ryan Noble, ATR, LPC

Room 0636

Concepts of the “political body” are key to understanding contemporary art media. In practice, the political body is directly related to the increasing phenomenon of performance art, street art, digital media, and social practice; therefore, it is of vital importance that art therapists approach these media with competence and sound ethics.

The presenter will introduce his background in figurative art as it informs his current series of paintings: a deconstruction of “master” narratives in US politics, history, and modern art. Each of these themes will be supported with examples of disrupting and transferring power in the workplace; both clinical and community settings will be referenced. Most importantly, attendees will be provided with time to write/discuss their own agendas for redistributing institutional power.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Identify at least two modern artists that indicate an oppressive influence in their own art therapy practice.
- 2) Define at least two ways that professional norms contrast with AATA/IATA’s organizational "Code of Ethics."
- 3) Write one “SMART” goal in their effort to redistribute institutional power.

11:30-12:30PM ***Supervising Activists: Navigating the Terrain***

Barbara Fish, PhD, ATR-BC, LCPC

Room 0629B

Therapists dedicated to social change are challenged by entrenched biases and values that support ongoing systems of care. Balancing their social justice agenda and their need for employment can leave therapists feeling frustrated and disillusioned. This paper explores the supervisor’s role supporting students and new therapists as they navigate their work and advocate social justice.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Identify two impediments to social justice encountered in medical model systems of care.
- 2) Identify two ways response art may be used in supervision to support supervisee activism.
- 3) Describe two ways imagery may be used by supervisees to communicate social justice issues.

3:45-4:45PM ***Talking in Church: Spiritual Narratives of Korean-American Women***
Jane Sang Hyon Kim, MAAT
Room 0636

This research study investigates the practices of sharing narratives and art making as forms of exploring identity politics and empowerment with Korean-American Christian women who have experienced spiritual disenfranchisement. The researcher will present how altered books were used to discuss the intersections of race/ethnicity, gender, and faith in identity.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Recognize various factors that influence identity politics and disenfranchisement of Korean-American Christian women.
- 2) Learn about the role of spirituality in narratives of Korean-American Christian women.
- 3) Learn about how art making, with altered books, was used to explore the intersections of race/ethnicity, gender, and faith in identity and empowerment within a group context.

3:45-4:45PM ***Postmodern Perspectives on Dementia, Art Therapy, and Human Computer Interaction Technology Design***

Caroline Edasis, MAAT, LPC

Anne Marie Piper, PhD in Cognitive Science, MA in Education, BS in Computer Science and Assistant Professor in Communication Studies at Northwestern University

Amanda Lazar, PhD in Biomedical & Health Informatics, BS in Electrical Engineering and Postdoctoral Fellow in Communication Studies at Northwestern University
Room 0629B

This presentation will share findings of interdisciplinary research undertaken in an assisted living and skilled nursing setting, exploring how contemporary approaches to HCI (Human Computer Interaction) can complement a social action approach to art therapy in dementia care. Interactive technologies can provide new methods for older adults living with cognitive and physical impairments to communicate personal meaning through art-making, and participate more fully in the process of sharing this meaning with peers, caregivers, and family. The research team sought to introduce technologies that could extend the reach of residents' voices within the care venue, encouraging other community members to view them as creative and engaged individuals rather than passive recipients of care. Attendees will learn about theories from diverse fields of study, along with case examples and interaction with older adults' multi-media stories.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Identify at least one way that biomedical systems of care can disempower individuals living with cognitive impairment, and at least one way that art therapy can challenge these dominant care systems.
- 2) Identify at least three ways that technology can support meaning-making within the therapeutic process of art therapy with people living with dementia.
- 3) Reflect on how and when art therapists make decisions about sharing of client artwork and meaning, identifying at least one way that technology could be involved in the art-sharing process.
- 4) Identify at least one interaction between contemporary theories of Human Computer Interaction design, current approaches to art therapy as social action, and person-centered art therapy within dementia care.

Workshops (attendees must pre-register and pay workshop fee)

10:15-12:15PM ***Subversive Stitch: Crafting for Social Justice***
Sophie Canadé, ATR, LPC
Room 1639

Drawing on third wave feminism this workshop presents CEW (Creatively Empowered Women) Design Studio, an art therapy social enterprise for gender and economic justice in Chicago, serving Bosnian and South Asian women. In this workshop, participants will be introduced to the complexities, methods, and practices of setting up an art therapy studio. The focus will be on crafting as a means to advocate for social and cultural inequity; reclaiming crafting – knitting and crocheting - as a therapeutic form of material labor practice; and its cross-cultural relevance.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Define the therapeutic use of crafting.
- 2) Define at least two ways art therapy can be a tool for social change.
- 3) Articulate two ethical considerations when practicing art therapy in a social setting.

10:15-12:15PM ***Culturally Considerate Art Therapy: Drawing from Our Differences***
Kim Anderson, MSW, LCSW, ATR-BC
Room 0613

Art-making can be equalizing, making expressive arts therapy an inherently viable option for exploration of equity and social justice issues. Through didactic and experiential invitations, participants will become familiar with concepts such as “location of self,” “othering,” and “narcissistic altruism.” Participants will also be introduced to expressive therapy prompts, directives and invitations designed to help clients process issues of inequality and/or injustice and illicit change in individuals, families, groups, and communities.

Through didactic presentation and participating in expressive arts activities, attendees will learn the basic premises of equity and social justice within clinical practice as well as methods for creating a culturally considerate clinical environment that:

- 1) Demonstrates awareness of the many cultures represented within clientele and advocates respect and reverence of individuality.
- 2) Acknowledges limitations, admits mistakes and changes policies, programs and personnel accordingly.
- 3) Adopts innovative modalities and programs in the interest of all clients.

1:30-3:30PM ***Exploring Self-Identity: Walking, Talking, and Acting like a _____***
Sze-Chin Lee, MAAT, LPC
Room 1639

This session introduces a Men's Group developed by the presenter with a fellow intern at a non-profit organization in Chicago to address the needs of Asian immigrants and other underserved and marginalized communities. He will share his experiences of co-facilitating the group. Participants will reflect on their own identities and develop effective practices to adapt their work for diverse clients.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Identify 3 or more creative expression-based approaches.
- 2) Define 3 or more clinical goals for creative expression-based approaches.
- 3) Describe 1 or more creative expression-based approaches to identify, acknowledge and address cross-cultural issues in a group.

1:30-3:30PM ***Ethical Considerations of Community Based Art Therapy***
Chenoweth S. Allen, LPAT, ATR-BC
Beth J. Henson, LPAT, ATR-BC, LPCC
Room 0613

Public art can be transformative, especially when community members are involved in the process. Art therapists participating in socially-engaged art have an obligation to raise and address ethical considerations in the development, implementation, and maintenance of community-based art projects. Workshop participants will use art materials to imagine a public art project and grapple with ethical considerations which may arise outside of traditional clinical settings.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) List six questions to consider when developing community art projects in a setting without delineated ethical policies and procedures.
- 2) Identify three ethical considerations related to promoting and funding community-based arts projects.
- 3) Name three issues regarding sustainability and maintenance of the physical art product produced in a community setting.