

## IATA Monthly news & updates

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May 2019



### Member Spotlight:

#### Lisa D'Innocenzo, MFA, ATR, LCPC

Lisa trained as a fiber artist at SAIC and the University of Wisconsin before graduating from SAIC's MAAT program. She has been in the trenches of art therapy for about 10 years, working in inpatient psychiatric hospitals. Along the way, she returned to teach art therapy graduate students at SAIC for several years, and joined a group practice that specializes in the integration of spirituality and psychotherapy.



She presents regularly at professional conferences, drawing on her experience of working with acute mental illness in marginalized and oppressed populations. Her recent work, "The Inner Mandala," will be presented at the AATA conference in November. Her experience as a puppeteer and maker of puppets has informed her creative and clinical work in many ways, and will be making an appearance at an IATA workshop involving puppetry and fiber arts in the fall.



Lisa is a professional editor of academic papers and books in the humanities and social sciences, and an occasional exhibiting photographer.

**Q&A with Lisa D'Innocenzo:**

**IATA: What was the best advice ever given to you?**

**Lisa:** *"It doesn't go wrong, it just goes different."*

*A mentor gave me this when I was feeling discouraged, and I've passed it on to many students and clients. It helped me see possibilities rather than failures.*

**IATA: What advice would you give art therapy students and young professionals?**

**Lisa:** *It's crucial to know who you are as an art therapist. While our professional identities develop and unfold over time, I believe that we are successful to the extent that we know ourselves and believe in the value of what we bring to the profession. Find what you do well, and joyfully, and trust that. Do it your way, because you're the only person who can. Whether one's focus is individual or systemic, local or global, if you're doing it well, and authentically, you will make a difference.*

*Art therapy is so rich and varied, and I love that it continues to expand its own definition and scope of practice. But the power of our work depends on our own authentic connection to it, which means no one else can tell you how to practice or whom to serve.*

**IATA: What have you found to be most rewarding in your career as an art therapist thus far?**

**Lisa:** *I've been fortunate to have worked with individuals and groups of some of the most marginalized and impoverished populations in our city. I've witnessed people who literally owned nothing, extend compassionate attention to others, and try to help them. It's an ongoing lesson in spiritual and cultural humility.*

*Some years ago, I set up a drawing directive in a large, diverse group at the hospital, where they paired up and had a silent "conversation" through art making. An elderly Jewish woman and a young African American man who had served time in prison were working together. At the end, the older woman expressed a sense of appreciation for the young man's abilities, and he remarked, "I felt like she heard me." Those are the moments I live for.*

Send recommendations for member features to [communications.iata@gmail.com](mailto:communications.iata@gmail.com).

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**Mark your calendars!**



**Next monthly meet-up:  
Sunday, May 26**

**Jeni's Ice Cream**

Sunday, May 26, 2019, 2:00-4:00pm  
1419 N. Well St.  
Chicago, IL

*Note: The next monthly meeting will take place on Sunday, May 26, 2019, 2:00pm-4:00pm @ Jeni's Ice Cream (1419 N. Wells, Chicago). There will not be an online option for this month's meeting.*

*This meet-up event series aims to offer a range of activities for members, nonmembers, and friends of IATA to meet, network, and hang out. Please send suggestions for future meet-ups to [programs.iata@gmail.com](mailto:programs.iata@gmail.com).*

**Attention:** IATA is seeking a Director of Membership and Nominations

**Are you?**



- Organized and prompt
- Friendly and excited to meet new potential members and board members
- Passionate about creating an inviting and inclusive community environment

Please contact IATA if you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else for this position. For more information contact: [nominations.iata@gmail.com](mailto:nominations.iata@gmail.com)

IATA, Director of Membership and Nominations

## Call for Facilitators



IATA is looking for **fiber makers and puppet makers** to lead skill share workshops for 2019. All skill levels welcome. Please email us with your name, preferred workshop, medium and materials needed, and any other necessary materials, such as direction sheets. Feel free to **email us** with other future workshop ideas.

Becca and Meredith  
[programs.iata@gmail.com](mailto:programs.iata@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Events and Programs



- Friday, June 28, 6-8pm:**  
Board Exhibit
- Sunday, August 18, 2-4pm:**  
Fiber Workshop
- Friday, September 6, 6-8:30pm:**  
IMPACT Exhibition
- Sunday, October 20, 2-4pm:**  
Puppet Making Workshop
- November/December:** Art Market

*Stay tuned for more details...*

## AATA Corner

**50 YEARS** AMERICAN arttherapy ASSOCIATION  
OCT 30 to NOV 3  
KANSAS CITY, MO

*Celebrating 50 Years of Healing Through Art*

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN**  
[www.arttherapyconference.com](http://www.arttherapyconference.com)

[Take advantage of early bird registration.](http://www.arttherapyconference.com)

## 2019 Short Film Festival

American Art Therapy Association



### Call for Entries

#### The Challenge:

Create a short film exploring the theme of Art Therapy: *Celebrating 50 Years of Healing Through Art*

#### Limit:

Must be 15 minutes or less

#### To Apply:

[ArtTherapyConference.com/highlights](http://ArtTherapyConference.com/highlights)

#### Deadline:

August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

Selected films will be screened October 31<sup>st</sup> at the 2019 AATA Conference in Kansas City.

For more info contact [aatafilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:aatafilmfestival@gmail.com)



Looking for a job?

### Job Opportunities

Check out the job listings on the IATA [website](#).



### Join the IATA Board!

If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else for a 2019 IATA Board position, contact [nominations.iata@gmail.com](mailto:nominations.iata@gmail.com).



### Ideas and Suggestions

[Contact IATA](#) with ideas and suggestions for: news, job opportunities, featured members, advocacy opportunities, programs and events, etc...

Anne Zakaras, MA  
Director of Marketing and Communications



Illinois Art Therapy Association | [illinoisarttherapy.org](http://illinoisarttherapy.org)