

AATA Featured Member

*AATA Art Shared Interest Group (SIG)
January 5, 2017*

Jaimie Lee Peterson, MAAT, ATR is an active member of the AATA and the Art Shared Interest Group (SIG). Jaimie fully believes in keeping in touch with her artistic identity and has worked at Kerrville State Hospital, a forensic psychiatric state hospital, in the Texas Hill Country for over seven years as a Registered Art Therapist. She focuses on using art to aid in the recovery of court-committed individuals with mental illness. Through exhibition of artwork, collaboration with a community of artists and musicians, and creative expression, individuals learn to develop their artistic identity. Jaimie is also an adjunct art instructor with Alamo Colleges and was the chair of the Art Committee for the AATA for two years.

Her work in a forensic setting is very rewarding, but self-care and art exploration is necessary to be completely present for those she serves. She uses writing and art to process, but making time to do so can be challenging. Jaimie joined an art-making group with a retired counselor, and other artists to make time to create. She has also been a part of a writer's group for two years now to ensure that she makes time for writing, another passion she has.



Jaimie is pictured varnishing a large papier-mâché sculpture created by the artists at the hospital where she works. Over 85 patient artists alongside staff created a large holiday display out of recycled material for their community each year.

Jaimie received her BFA in Painting from the Kansas City Art Institute and her MAAT at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Her work in art therapy has been presented at the Texas Forensic Networking Conference, the AATA National Conference, and the Illinois Art Therapy Conference. She has presented on music and art therapy collaborative efforts at several regional music therapy conferences and the American Music Therapy Association Conference. She was presented with the Friends of Music Therapy Award in 2015 by the Southwestern region of the American Music Therapy Association.

