Distinguished AATA Members Recognized at 2017 Conference Awards Ceremony

AATA National Office
December 21, 2017

The American Art Therapy Association celebrated the distinguished recipients of honors, awards, and scholarships during our 48th annual conference in Albuquerque, NM. Then AATA President Donna Betts, PhD, ATR-BC, hosted the awards ceremony during the Breakfast Plenary on Saturday, November 11th before swearing in the 2018 Board of Directors and AATA President Christianne Strang, PhD, ATR-BC.

Dr. Betts presented the 2017 Honorary Life Membership Award. Honors Committee Chair Craig Siegel, ATR-BC, ATCS, presented additional prestigious honors:

- **Honorary Life Membership Award**: Sarah Deaver, PhD, ATR-BC
- **Distinguished Clinician Award – General Services**: Straja Linder King, MA, ATR-BC
- **Distinguished Clinician Award – Adolescent Services**: Emmy Lou Glassman, MA, ATR-BC (accepted on her behalf by Sangeeta Prasad, ATR-BC)
- **Distinguished Service Award**: David E. Gussak, PhD, ATR-BC
- **Rudolph Arnheim Award**: MaryAnn Worden de Ramirez (accepted on her behalf by Jordan Potash, PhD, ATR-BC, REAT)

From left: Donna Betts with Straja Linder King, Emmy Lou Glassman, MaryAnn Worden de Ramirez, and David Gussak with Donna Betts.
Dr. Betts bestowed two Presidential Recognition Awards: the first annual Presidential Legacy Award was posthumously awarded to Joan Phillips, PhD, ATR-BC and was accepted on her behalf by David Gussak. The Presidential Honor Award went to Deborah Anne Good, PhD, ATR-BC.

Multicultural Committee Chair Delora Putnam-Bryant, MS, ATR, LPC-IT announced Erin McSorley, MAAT as the recipient of the 2017 Pearlie Roberson Scholarship Award (accepted on her behalf by Emery Mikel, MA, ATR-BC, LCAT, LCPAT).

AATA Board Liaison to the Journal Michaela Kirby, PsyD, ATR-BC, LMHC, awarded AATA member Katharine Houpt, MAAT, ATR, LCPC and her coauthors Linda “Ariella” Balkin, PsyD; Rubye Hunt Broom, MA; Allen G. Roth, BA, MA; and Selma, PhD, the Best Paper Award for their article “Anti-Memoir: Creating Alternate Nursing Home Narratives through Zine Making” (accepted on her behalf by Deborah Del Signore, MAAT, ATR-BC).
Research Committee Chair Girija Kaimal, EdD, announced the 2017 Research Award recipients:

- **American Art Therapy Association Research Award**: Abbe Miller, MS, ATR-BC, LPC and Megan Robb, ATR-BC, LPC
- **Gladys Agell Award for Excellence in Research**: Marissa Tan Rivera, MAAT
- **Rawley Silver Research Award**: Theresa Van Lith, MA, PhD, ATR, AThR and Jessica Woolhiser Stallings, ATR-BC, LPC, AS

Scholarship Committee Chair, Michele Rattigan, MA, ATR-BC, NCC, LPC, presented certificates to recipients of the Student Scholarship Awards and the New Professional Scholarships:
- **American Art Therapy Association Anniversary Scholarship**: Chia-Yun Chiang
- **Cay Drachnik Minorities Fund**: Claudia Itzel Marquez
- **Myra Levick Scholarship Fund**: Jenna A. Broderick
- **Prasad Family Foundational Student Scholarship**: Bani Malhotra
- **Rawley Silver Award for Excellence**: Joan T. Mancuso
- **Student Scholarships to the American Art Therapy Association Annual Conference**: Kimberly Nguyen and Tiernee Schatz
- **New Professional Scholarships to the American Art Therapy Association Annual Conference**: Sadie Abler, Katelynn Dwyer, and Maria Mannino Flores

AATA thanks Michelle Dean, MFA, MA, ATR-BC, LPC, outgoing Secretary of the Board of Directors for her service (2015-2017) and welcomes two incoming Directors of the Board, Secretary Jennifer Jividen Jackson, ATR-BC, LIMHP, LPC and Gretchen M. Miller, MA, ATR-BC, ACTP. After the installation of the Board of directors by Dr. Betts, incoming Board President Dr. Strang recognized Dr. Betts for her leadership, integrity, and service to the Board.