

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 Arnhem Award*: MaryAnn Worden de Ramirez (accepted on her behalf by Jordan Potash, PhD, ATR-BC, REAT)



Donna Betts and Sarah Deaver



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.



Left: Joan Phillips. Right: Donna Betts and Deborah Good.

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).



Left: Erin McSorley



Right: Katherine Houpt and coauthors.

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



Girija Kaimal and Donna Betts present research awards to: Abbe Miller & Megan Robb (top left), Marissa Tan Rivera (top right) and, Theresa Van Lith & Jessica Woolhiser Stallings (below).



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.



Top left: Michelle Dean and Donna Betts

Top right: Donna Betts and Christianne Strang

Below: Swearing in of the 2018 Board of Directors

