

AATA Featured Member

September 14, 2016



Tally Tripp, MA, MSW, ATR-BC is a long-time AATA member and art therapist who has spent the last 35 years using her extensive training and clinical experience developing creative and innovative approaches to heal trauma and address the often “unspeakable” psychological wounds it causes. She views the AATA as the essential voice for advocacy and representation. Tally began her training in the late 1970s at The George Washington University’s Art Therapy program where many of her professors were the pioneers of the field. Starting out in private practice in 1986, she garnered a reputation for working with trauma patients who were often termed “difficult” because they were not responsive to traditional verbal therapies. Her knowledge of art therapy and other experiential, expressive approaches helped her build a successful career as a trauma therapist.

At the George Washington University, Tally teaches a class in Trauma and Art Psychotherapy, as well as Group Therapy, and she has led the International Diversity classes in South Africa. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Tally is the Director of the [GW Art Therapy Center](#), a student staffed clinic that provides low fee art therapy services to the community, specializing in the treatment of trauma.

Tally is certified in many trauma treatment approaches including Intensive Trauma Therapy (ITT), EMDR, and Sensorimotor Psychotherapy. She regularly shares her passion about art therapy through workshops and invited sessions at national and international conferences. Tally is pleased to note that the benefits of art therapy in trauma treatment are increasingly being recognized in mainstream practice.



“Sea Kayaking Reverie in the San Juan Islands” by Tally Tripp. Mixed media collage.

“In the last 20 years we have learned so much about neuroscience and trauma’s effect on the brain,” Tally states, “and finally there is research to substantiate what art therapists have known all along: that experiential, bottom- up approaches such as art therapy can help clients access and express their trauma where verbal approaches fall short.” Visit [this page](#) for more information.

