



The National Coalition of Creative Arts Therapies Associations, Inc., founded in 1979, is an alliance of professional associations dedicated to the advancement of the arts as a primary therapeutic treatment across a variety of rehabilitative, medical, community, and educational settings. NCCATA represents thousands of individual members of six creative arts therapies associations nationwide. In addition to maintaining professional credentials within their respective disciplines, many creative arts therapists hold state licenses within their disciplines or as counselors and mental health professionals. Creative arts therapists use intentional applications of the arts and creative processes to ameliorate disability and illness and optimize health and wellness. Treatment outcomes include, improving communication and expression, and increasing physical, emotional, cognitive and/or social functioning. NCCATA Member Organizations are listed below.

American Art Therapy Association

Art therapy emerged in the 1940s as a mental health profession in which clients, facilitated by the art therapist, use art media, the creative process, and the resulting artwork to explore their feelings, reconcile emotional conflicts, foster self-awareness, manage behavior and addictions, develop social skills, improve reality orientation, reduce anxiety, and increase self-esteem. A master's degree is required for entry level practice in art therapy. **Donna Betts, Ph.D., ATR-BC, President,** <http://www.arttherapy.org/>

American Dance Therapy Association

Based on the empirically supported premise that the body, mind, and spirit are interconnected, dance/movement therapy is the psychotherapeutic use of movement to further the emotional, cognitive, physical, and social integration of the individual. Dance/movement therapy is practiced in mental health, rehabilitation, medical, educational, and forensic settings, and in nursing homes, day care centers, disease prevention, private practice, and health promotion programs. Training and education occurs on the graduate level. **Jody Wager, MA, BC-DMT, President,** <http://www.adta.org>

American Music Therapy Association

Founded in 1950, AMTA defines music therapy as the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship by a credentialed professional who has completed an approved music therapy program. Music therapists structure the use of both instrumental and vocal music strategies to facilitate changes that are non-musical in nature. Music therapists assess emotional well-being, physical health, social functioning, communication abilities, and cognitive skills through musical responses. They design music sessions for individuals and groups based on client needs using a variety of techniques and approaches. Research shows that music therapy facilitates numerous clinical outcomes in areas such as: rehabilitation; habilitation; social, emotional and cognitive functioning; and learning. **Jennifer Geiger, MA, MT-BC, President,** <http://www.musictherapy.org/>

American Society for Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama

The ASGPP promotes the development of creativity, spontaneity and encounter to enhance the relationship between individuals, families and communities, and works actively to heal and transform society through the knowledge and practice of psychodrama, group psychotherapy and sociometry in all its diverse applications. **Linda Condon, LMHC, TEP, President, <http://www.asgpp.org>**

North American Drama Therapy Association

Drama Therapy has been an established health profession since 1979. In Drama Therapy, theatre based processes are used within a therapeutic relationship to address physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs of individuals, couples, families, and groups. After assessing the strengths and needs of clients, qualified drama therapists provide the indicated treatment including improvising scenes, role-playing challenging situations, or creating performances to raise awareness, change attitudes, and rehearse possible solutions to issues of concern. **Jason Butler, PhD, RDT/BCT, LCAT President, <http://www.nadta.org>**

National Association for Poetry Therapy

For more than 30 years, NAPT members have forged a community of healers and lovers of words and language. We are psychotherapists, counselors, psychologists, social workers, and psychiatrists. We work in many settings where people deal with personal and communal pain and the search for growth. As poetry therapists, we use all forms of literature and the language arts, and we are united by our love of words, and our passion for enhancing the lives of others and ourselves. **Nancy Scherlong, CSW, RPT, Representative, <http://www.poetrytherapy.org>**

NCCATA Member Association Annual Conferences

Each member association hosts an annual conference which showcases cutting edge research in their modality and provides avenues for professional development.

American Art Therapy Association, Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM, Nov. 8-12, 2017

North American Drama Therapy Association Annual Conference, Boston, MA Oct. 26-29, 2017

American Dance Therapy Association, Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, Nov. 2-5, 2017

American Music Therapy Association Annual Conference. St. Louis, MO, Nov. 16-19, 2017

National Association for Poetry Therapy Annual Conference, Denver, CO, April 6-9, 2017

American Society of Group Psychotherapy & Psychodrama Conference, Clearwater, FL, May 4-7, 2017

NCCATA Executive Committee

Ronna Kaplan, MA, MT-BC, **Chair** rkaplan@themusicsettlement.org

Nadya Trytan, MA, RDT/BCT, **Chair-Elect/Secretary**

Randy Mulder, MA RDT/BCT, **Treasurer**