

ATCB

REVIEW

Official Newsletter
of the Art Therapy
Credentials Board

Winter 2007

Mission: To protect the public by promoting the competent and ethical practice of art therapy

Attention ATRs! Participate in the BC Initiative Now!

Thomas L. Hartsell, Jr., ATCB Public Member, GAC Liaison
Don Cutcher, ATR-BC, Past-Chair AATA GAC

With only a few months left to participate in the ATCB BC initiative, the ATCB and the AATA Boards of Directors are strongly encouraging all ATRs to apply for Board Certification (BC) through one of the three options available through April 2007. By doing so, you will enhance your own professional standing and support AATA's legislative and governmental affairs activities in a number of ways:

- Statutory recognition of art therapists in state laws is the best way to preserve art therapy as a distinct discipline rather than becoming a modality of other licensed or board certified professions.
- Recognition at the state level also increases art therapists' potential for third party reimbursement and provides additional opportunities for development of art therapy positions, independent practice, and contract work.
- National recognition of art therapy as a distinct profession is also crucial. One of the long-term objectives for the profession is to become recognized by the United States Department of Labor and other federal agencies. In order to achieve recognition, a profession must demonstrate that it is distinctly different in its scope of practice and that it requires competency of its practitioners through board certification.

You may ask, "Well, why do I need Board Certification? I don't need the BC to practice in my state." Yes, your own livelihood may not be affected in the short-term if you do not hold a BC. But it is important to consider the larger

picture for the field of art therapy in your decision whether or not to become board certified. By becoming a board certified art therapist, you can help strengthen the field of art therapy by increasing the number of art therapists who have met the highest standard of competency in the field. Currently, the number of board certified art therapists is too low for AATA to pursue many of its legislative initiatives and objectives and for the profession to secure its distinct scope of practice. AATA Legislative Consultant, Matt Dunne, has repeatedly advised that increasing the number of art therapists with the highest credential offered by the profession is critical to convincing legislators to assist the profession with statutory recognition. In most cases, at least 100 board certified art therapists are needed in a state to appeal to regulators to protect the title and scope of practice of the profession. Nationally, at least 3,000 board certified art therapists are needed to achieve recognition by federal agencies and legislators; as of this writing, we are only about halfway to that goal. It is crucial that all ATRs make every effort now to become board certified. If you are an ATR, you believe in art therapy as a distinct and special discipline and you want to preserve it. Support your profession by applying for Board Certification during the current ATCB BC initiative. It is imperative that all art therapists participate in this effort. The ATCB and AATA Boards of Directors strongly encourage you to take advantage of this unique opportunity to move the profession ahead and help us all preserve, protect, and enhance the growth of art therapy as a distinct field of mental health practice.

Features.....

BC Initiative	1
Clinical Supervisor Certification	2
Update from AASCB Conference	2
Upcoming Exam Dates	2
ATCB Credential Holder Profile	3
Option C Announcement	3
New ATR-BCs	4
Call for Books	4
Change in Recertification Standards	5
New ATRs	5
Distance Supervision	5
Invitation	6

A Special Thank You

The ATCB Board of Directors would like to express their appreciation to the retiring Nomination Committee members:

Janet Eskridge, Chair
Mimi Farrelly-Hansen
Ellen Speert

We would like to thank you for your dedication to the profession of art therapy and the many hours you devoted in reviewing the candidates nominated for the ATCB Board.

Board to Institute Clinical Supervisor Certification: Board Seeking Feedback from Credentialed Art Therapists

At its November 2006 meeting, the ATCB Board of Directors voted unanimously to create a new, optional credential for individuals who provide art therapy supervision. The ATCB is soliciting feedback from active credentialed art therapists and art therapy supervisors about the proposed criteria for qualifying individuals for the Clinical Supervisor (CS) credential.

ATRs and ATR-BCs who are interested in demonstrating substantial supervision qualifications will be encouraged to obtain Clinical Supervisor Certification. This credential will signal to employers, prospective employers, supervisees, and prospective supervisees, that the individual offering art therapy supervision has met specific criteria for competency in the theories and practices of art therapy supervision. The credential supports the shared efforts of AATA and ATCB to have art therapy establish parity with other mental health professions and will further recognition for the unique services art therapists provide.

The proposed Clinical Supervisor Credential is posted on the ATCB Web site. We invite and encourage you to review the proposal and send your feedback to the ATCB National Office, either by mail at: 3 Terrace Way Greensboro, NC, 27403-3660 or by e-mail at feedback@atcb.org (please put Clinical Supervisor Certification in the e-mail subject box). Comments will be accepted through July 1, 2007.

Please note that, although no individualized, personal responses to comments will be possible, the ATCB will carefully review and weigh all feedback as it moves to implement this new credential. We appreciate your thoughtful contributions to this process as we all work to enhance art therapy as a distinct and valuable profession.

ATCB Representation at the AASCB Conference

ATCB President, Gayle M. Sutch, and President-Elect, Terry Towne, attended the 20th annual conference of the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB) January 11-13th. The conference, held this year in Sarasota, Florida, combined a number of professional activities with opportunities to network. ATCB has long identified this conference as a way to specifically promote our Board Certification credential and the Art Therapy Credentials Board Examination to counseling board members from across the country. ATCB had an exhibitor's table in the registration area where attendees could get information and enjoy our post-it markers, key rings, and mints.

Among the conference presentations was a plenary session devoted to the 2008 educational standards being developed by the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), and programs on Supervision Standards, Contemporary Trends in Counselor Licensure Requirements, Dealing with Ethical Issues, and What Counseling Boards Need to Know About Art Therapy (this being presented by representatives from AATA).

ATCB celebrated the AASCB's 20th Anniversary by hosting The President's Reception which was held poolside under a banner that was created to commemorate the occasion! This is one of the ways we are working for you to promote excellence in and the recognition of art therapy.



Help us build a better profession.....
Become an ATR-BC today!

Upcoming ATCB Certification Examination Date and Locations

April 28, 2007

Chicago, IL
Boston, MA
Los Angeles, CA
Atlanta, GA

ATCB Credential Holder Profile: Janet Eskridge, ATR-BC

The first time I witnessed the therapeutic value of the creative process was in a cotton field in rural North Carolina. I was 20, a new college graduate, a first grade teacher of



30 children from the most deprived circumstances I had ever seen. Most of my students did not know colors, how to use paste and scissors, or how use crayons and paint. This was both humbling and overwhelming. I soon discovered, however, that these same children who had difficulty sitting at a desk and had not a clue how to recognize their names on paper, had an incredible gift. They were tremendously creative. I was fascinated by both their artistic creativity and their resourcefulness. Although I did not fully understand this, I was convinced there must be a link between depravity, creativity and resilience. It was this experience that eventually led me to the field of art therapy.

My first art therapy position was at a family service agency, where I worked with children, adolescents, and adults struggling with a variety of issues ranging from school refusal to domestic violence to problems of aging. It was a perfect place to begin my professional life. Thankfully, the agency embraced the idea of having an art therapist on staff.

Probably my greatest professional challenge came in the mid-90s when Nebraska passed a law requiring all persons providing mental health services to be licensed. I expected to sail through the process just as my social work and counselor colleagues had. When I received notice from the state that I would be denied the opportunity for licensure due to my professional training, I was outraged. Determined to fight this, I hired an attorney and began a lengthy series of meetings and administrative hearings to prove that my education and training were equivalent to what my colleagues

had received. My internship supervisors testified that my art therapy internship had been no different in scope and depth from the training of the counselors and social workers they'd supervised. My experience ended in success. I was allowed to take the exam to become certified as a professional counselor, thereby establishing eligibility for state licensure.

I took the first Art Therapy Board Certification Exam in 1994. I never questioned the importance of this exam. My immersion into the process of certification and licensure on the state level, though challenging, had educated me on the value of credentialing. Shortly thereafter, I had the opportunity to participate in the work of the ATCB, initially as part of the Certification Committee, then as a member of the Board. My years of service further reinforced the importance and rationale for a high-quality credentialing program.

In 1996, I was hired to develop an art therapy program at Children's Hospital in Omaha. The opportunity to create a program from the ground up has been a tremendous opportunity, and I feel that my professional identity has been celebrated and understood there from the beginning.

What has been most instructive and validating for me in the area of credentialing? My most valuable experience has been working alongside nurses, respiratory therapists, and doctors for whom credentialing is a vital part of professional identity. The hospital enforces strict requirements for professional credentialing, and I have gained a thorough understanding of the reason for this. Excellent credentialing leads to well-trained professionals who stay on the cutting edge of their field. I have learned those with whom I work, regardless of discipline, want to maintain the highest credentials in their field, regardless of hospital and state requirements.

I once talked to an ATR in my state that said that she had no intention of becoming

Board Certified. She said that it really didn't mean anything in our state, and besides, her employer didn't even know about board certification for art therapists. I was disheartened by this attitude. Now, years later, I have had opportunity to be part of an environment where I fully understand the importance of credentialing for all professionals. I am even more convinced that credentialing does matter. It matters to institutions, and it should matter deeply to each professional employed by them. Achieving the highest level of credentials available within a profession should be a personal goal for everyone. It is the right thing to do and can only serve to improve the profession as a whole.

Important Announcement Regarding ATR Option C

At the Fall 2006 Board Meeting, the ATCB Board of Directors voted to eliminate Option C as a path to registration (ATR) after lengthy consideration and discussion. Prior to making this decision, the ATCB Board of Directors sought input from representatives of the AATA Board of Directors, AATA Education Committee, and the Coalition of Art Therapy Educators, all of whom agreed that the elimination of Option C was in the best interest of the art therapy professional community.

It must be noted that students currently working toward registration under Option C, and those who are beginning their studies in the Fall of 2007, will have an opportunity to complete their progression toward ATR registration. Option C applications will be accepted until September 1, 2010. Any Option C applications postmarked after this date will not be accepted.

It is important to emphasize that the decision to eliminate Option C is the result of close collaboration among the ATCB Board of Directors, AATA, and the Coalition of Art Therapy Educators.

Congratulations to Our New ATR-BCs

September 1, 2006- December 31, 2006

Radmila Abram	Lynn Digiorgio	Amy Johnson	Kimberly Mueller	Shalini Singh
Lesley Aчитoff	Barbara Discenna	Laura Johnson	Linda Murray	Beth Sirota
Tisha Adams	Mary Donald	MaLinda Johnson	Stephanie Musial	Sara Slack
Saundra Akridge	Kathleen Dowling	Patricia Keating-	Martine Musy	Wendy Smeltzer
Sandra Alcorn	Lynne Dow-Zalis	McCutcheon	Gillia Neckles	Meredith Snow
Anu Amalal	Thelma Drew	Roni Kellner	Teresa Neill-Green	Donna Soldano
Constantine Andreadis	Deborah Elkis-Abuhoff	Penelope Kelly	Lisa Nelson Raabe	Debra Spaier
Lori Andrews	Linda Elliott	Irena Kenny	Annette Nemeth	Bruce St. Thomas
Lee Armstrong	Helen Ellis	Lisa Kiefer	Amy Ng	Pamela Stack
Bruce Arnold	Tracy Elsenraat	Jong-Hee Kim	Michelle Nienkamp	Teresa Stevenson
Alice Barber	Heather Fabbre	Michelle Kinsella	Lori Niermeier	Ellen Stoller
Penny Baron	Mimi Farrelly-Hansen	Laura Kiser	Margaret Nowak	Emily Stordahl
Eena Bass-Feld	Jane Ferris Richardson	Carrie Knebel	Sandra Nudo-Crocke	Deva Suckerman
Cheryl Becker	Ellen Filar	Irene Kovacs-Donaghy	Frances Nutter-Upham	Elisa Sweig
Betty Bedard-Bidwell	Lisa Fliegel	Katie Kurtovic	Claudia Oppenheim-	Madoka Takada
Pamela Bertaud	Grace Frantilla	Nancy Landy	Cameron	Urhausen
Diane Bethune-Zeines	Joyce Gagnon	Beatriz Ledesma	Phyllis Palombi	Kerry Taniguchi
Christy Elizabeth Black	Jillynn Garcia	Karen Lee	Mershona Parshall	Christina Taylor
Wendi Lea Boettcher	Rebecca Garcia	Deborah Lindeen	Emily Parsons	Hannah Willow Troy
Rosvita Botkin	Jacqueline Gates	Lauren Lucchese	Awilda Perez	Linda Turner
Jill Brenegan	Katie Gillespie	Amy Lyons	Melissa Pino	Sandra Lee Tyrrell
Elissa Bromberg	Patricia Ann Glatzel	Lori Mackey	Robyn Proctor	Audrey Uhl
Laura Buechler	Clough	Christine Makarewicz	Elaine Rapp	Elissa Valente
Pamela Camblin	Adam Graves	Denise Malis	Rebecca Ratkowski	Delores Van Lanen
Stephen Campbell	Alison Green	Mary Lee McCourt	Susan Reichmann	Trish Vernazza
Christina Carrad	Therese Halas-Lincoln	Marita McDermott	Sheri Roseman	Lori Vitello
Diane Cesta	Sandra Hartley	Carolyn McDonald	Merryl Rothaus	Sue Wallingford
Lydia Cho	Lyssa Harvey	Kathleen McGovern	Susan Sabini	Sarah Warner
Eve Cohen	Marion Hecht	Erin McGovern	Vera Scalingi	ArlettemWasik
Jill Cohen Gardner	Tamar Hendel	Karen McMichael	Dina Schapiro	Jodi Weingarten
Teresa Connell	Susan Heumiller	Lois Merrill	Julie Scheinman	Robert Whiteside
Jane Courtien	Mariella Hogan	Barbara Mescher	Lucy Schrage	Amy Williams
Karen Crane	Kathryn Howard	Sherry Mestel	Natalie Schrage	Christy Wolfram
Kristin Crosson	Nicola Shea Hughes-	Abbe Miller	Ruth Seider	Rowan Wolnick
Erica Curtis	Brand	Melanie Mills	Katherine Shargo	Pei-Jung Yang
Catherine Daesch	Linda Iacurto	Elizabeth Morale	Jana Silverman	Mary Ann Zent Tunnell
Ingrid Davis	Deborah Jacobs	Linda Morris	Christine Simoneau	
Barbara De Rose	Jill Jeffrey	Lacy Mucklow	Hales	

Certification Committee Establishes Reference Library: Books Needed

The ATCB Certification Committee is seeking the donation of books covering the theory and practice of art therapy for a reference library. The library will assist the Certification Committee in researching and writing questions for the Art Therapy Credentials Board Examination (ATCBE).

ATCB requests the donation of new and lightly used books from both certificants and art therapy educators (who may have duplicate desk copies). Books may be mailed to:

ATCB, Inc.
3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403

Change in Recertification Standards Juried Art Shows

Once an art therapist becomes board certified, he or she is required to document a minimum of 100 continuing education credits (CECs) every five years. ATCB recertification standards specify that ATR-BCs may earn CECs for specific activities within the eligible content areas provided by an approved provider of CECs. Approved activities include attending lectures, workshops, or other educational programs; presenting lectures, workshops, or other educational programs; publishing an article, chapter, or book; taking or teaching a graduate or undergraduate course; or participating in a juried art show.

Reviewed on a routine basis, these recertification requirements are designed to encourage ATR-BCs to continue to develop their clinical skills as art therapists. In the fall of 2004, in consideration of the current mental health regulation trends, the ATCB Board voted to start requiring six CECs in ethics, effective in recertification cycles starting July 1, 2006. Similarly, the ATCB Board conducted a recertification review at its fall 2006 meeting. In particular, the Board reviewed the use of juried art shows as an approved activity of recertification. The ATCB Board expressed a strong affirmation of the value of participating in juried art shows. They also noted that of those who utilize juried art shows most document participation in no more than 1 or 2 shows within a particular recertification cycle. Rarely do ATR-BCs rely solely on juried art shows for recertification.

In light of this information and in the spirit of continuing to encourage the development of the art therapy profession, the ATCB Board voted to keep juried art shows as an approved recertification activity. However, the Board approved a modification regarding the use of juried art shows. **For those recertification cycles starting after July 1, 2008, the number of approved art shows that an ATR-BC may document for recertification is limited to two shows or 20 credits.**

The ATCB Board of Directors believes that this change is consistent with the purpose of recertification and with the current practice of most board certified art therapists. Should you have any questions or concerns about this change, please call the national office at 877-213-2822.

Congratulations to Our New ATRs!

September 1, 2006- December 31, 2006

Laura Alles
Allie Andrus
Jane Avila
Stephanie Barge
Deanna Baughman
Candace Blase
Bruce Bradley-Gilbert
Berre Burch
Sarah Busch
Audrey Chowdhury
Kaena Clark
Megan Clary
Teresa Connors
Delia Cordero
Katherine Cornish
Andrea Davis
Brigitte DeChiaro
Mio Delorimier
Nicole Desmond
Harriet Anne
Donaldson
Marie-Celine
Drapeau
Amy Dupree
Emily Fister
Melanie Frazak
Kerry Freeman
Eileen Fregeau
Konstantina Gilbert
Sally Giles
Ellamonique Greene
Amy Halper
Alexa Hart
Holly Highfill
Emily Holt
Holly Hueglin
Lynette Ingram
Louvenia Jackson
Jamie Jones

Christa Kagin
Margaret Keene
Maria Kim
Yu-Jung Liu
Kathryn Longroy
Debra Lynne
Breanne McDowell
Meghan McQuaide
Mary Medbery
Laura Menucci
Einat Metzl
Laura Minato
Kathryn Mockett
Molly Mullett-Flynn
Sharon Nahra
Kristen Pace
Elizabeth Parks
Katherine Patterson
Bridget Pemberton-Smith
Theresa Quinn
Gitty Rassouli
Ma Josephine Ruiz
Verletta Russell
Joseph Scarce
Wendy Sharak
Ashley Sherman
Deborah Shoemaker
Madeleine Taney
Shannon Trewartha
Naomi Tucker
Rosy Tyree
Kristin Vardakis-Spillane
Katherine Vermillion-Sierota
Jeanett Villagomez
De Muir
Lorie White

ATCB Statement on Distance Supervision

The ATCB is aware of questions and concerns raised regarding the use of distance supervision for the purposes of ATR application. The ATCB created an Ad Hoc Committee on Distance Supervision to actively investigate the efficacy and ethical issues associated with this form of supervision. The Ad Hoc Committee apprises the ATCB Board of Directors of its findings and recommendations. At this time, distance or Internet supervision are not recommended. The ATCB continues to recommend the use of face-to-face supervision.

ATCB Board of Directors and Committees 2006-2007

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Frederick, MD

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Would You Like to Get Involved?

ATCB is looking for dedicated ATR-BCs to serve on the certification and nomination committees.

The Certification Committee is responsible for the development and administration of the Art Therapy Certification Examination. Committee members meet with designated testing consultants for the purpose of exam development, establishment of a passing score, and exploration of any other business related to certification. Members serve one-year terms with the possibility of reappointment.

The Nomination Committee is responsible for reviewing the applications of those seeking to be elected to the ATCB Board of Directors. The committee considers a variety of factors (experience, etc.) when selecting the final slate of candidates. Members serve for two election processes or 4 years.

To volunteer for a committee, you must be a current ATR-BC. Please submit a letter of interest to the ATCB National Office, 3 Terrace Way, Greensboro, NC 27403. With your letter, please include a copy of your current resume. Committee members must be willing to sign and adhere to a confidentiality agreement.

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