

# NCCATA

## National Coalition of Creative Arts Therapies Associations

**VISION** To promote education, wellness, and healing through the creative arts and to increase access to quality creative arts therapies, in order to serve the public.

**MISSION** To further the creative arts therapies through facilitation of collaborative advocacy, research and education.

**FOUNDED** 1979

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### Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2013-2014

**Executive Committee:** Robyn Flaum Cruz, Chair, Joan Phillips, Chair-Elect, Randy Mulder, Treasurer

**2013-2014 Members:** American Art Therapy Association, North American Drama Therapy Association, American Dance Therapy Association, National Association of Poetry Therapy, American Society for Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama, American Music Therapy Association

### Highlights for Fiscal 2013-2014

- The Annual meeting (April 2014) and quarterly teleconferences (Sept, Dec, Feb) were attended by the “working group” (Executive Committee and the President of each member association) saving costs for member associations and NCCATA.
- The working group voted to maintain dues for member associations at the same reduced rate as 2012-2013.
- In Sept 2013 the working group voted to pursue 501c3 status for NCCATA. The decision was based largely on the desire to legitimize the coalition which has never been incorporated and to gain better control over its bank account. Banking regulations that went into effect in 2001 have prevented the coalition from moving its bank account. Much effort went into investigating all feasible options and into judging the impact of this on the budget in an ongoing way. Former NCCATA Chair, Sherry Diamond, is acting as NCCATA legal counsel and is filing the required paperwork. She also worked with a committee members Chair-Elect Joan Phillips and NADTA President Nadya Trytan to develop new bylaws and policies and procedures for review in the spring meeting April 26 in Chicago. Incorporation is a large step and is not expected to be completed until 2015, which gives the coalition time to create structures for the new reporting and other requirements.
- In Nov 2013 NCCATA presented a panel presentation at the Expressive Therapies Summit in New York City on research. Panelists representing the NCCATA organizations were: Sherry Goodill, ADTA; Nisha Sajani, NADTA; Yasmine Awais, AATA; Kathleen Murphy, AMTA; Heidi Landis, ASGPP; Nancy Scherlong, NAPT.
- In December NCCATA was invited by the Joint Commission to join their new Professional and Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) on Behavioral Health. ADTA member Norlyn Asprek volunteered to represent NCCATA at the teleconferences that constitute the groups’ meetings. In the past, NCCATA was represented at the Joint Commission by AMTA staff member, Judy Simpson. NCCATA is pleased to be able to continue being represented at Joint Commission and credits Judy with establishing a presence over the years that allowed this to take place. The first Behavioral Health PTAC meeting was held in March 2014 and a report by Norlyn is located on the NCCATA website.
- In Jan 2014 NCCATA again participated in the American Association for State Counseling Boards’ Annual Conference, speaking before the Board of Directors. For the second year in a row, an ADTA member volunteer represented NCCATA, and this year it was Allison Winters. Her remarks were well-received. Encouraging state licensing boards to be open to creative arts therapists was the goal of this activity which is relatively low cost. The only cost associated with it in addition to a membership was for photocopies of an information packet distributed to state counseling board representatives.
- Communications with constituents included featured news items on the website.
- NCCATA has successfully reduced the budget and streamlined operations for another year. The NCCATA current balance is 100% of the budgeted expenses for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.
- NCCATA hosted Creative Arts Therapies Week – March 16 – 22, 2014 designed to inspire events around the US to increase the visibility of creative arts therapies. The event was publicized on the NCCATA Face Book page highlighting one of the member associations each day of the event week.