Ohio art therapists work in a variety of community agencies: mental health facilities, hospitals, hospices, homeless shelters, retirement homes, private practice, and educational settings. As helping professionals, art therapists work to improve human welfare, promote the ethical practice of art therapy, provide outreach to educate the public and health professionals about art therapy, and contribute to the progressive development of health care services.

The Buckeye Art Therapy Association (BATA) is a professional association in Ohio for art therapists, students, and individuals who support the therapeutic use of art and the advancement of the field of art therapy. BATA is one of the oldest, largest, and most active state art therapy associations in the country and is an affiliate chapter of the American Art Therapy Association (AATA). We welcome and invite you to learn more about art therapy, art therapy in Ohio, and the work of its membership.

www.buckeyearttherapy.org
info@buckeyearttherapy.org
Art therapists are master’s level professionals who hold a degree in art therapy or a related field. Educational requirements include: theories of art therapy, counseling, and psychotherapy; ethics and standards of practice; assessment and evaluation; individual, group, and family techniques; human and creative development; multicultural issues; research methods; and practicum/internship experiences in clinical, community, and mental health settings.

Art therapists are skilled in the application of a variety of art modalities (drawing, painting, sculpture, and other media) for assessment and treatment. Most professional members of BATA are credentialed art therapists. Here is a description of the professional credentialing of art therapists:

**Registration** - The designation ATR (Art Therapist Registered) is granted by the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB) to art therapists who have successfully completed the required graduate educational training and postgraduate professional experience, which includes supervision by a credentialed art therapist.

**Board Certification** - The designation BC (Board Certified) is granted by the ATCB to ATR art therapists who have successfully passed the independently administered national certification examination. Re-certification is provided every five years by documentation of continuing education, publication, presentation, and exhibition that demonstrate continuing professional competence.

The American Art Therapy Association (AATA) defines art therapy as an established mental health profession that uses the creative process of art making to improve and enhance the physical, mental and emotional well-being of individuals of all ages. It is based on the belief that the creative process involved in artistic self-expression helps people to resolve conflicts and problems, develop interpersonal skills, manage behavior, reduce stress, increase self-esteem and self-awareness, and achieve insight.