Message from ATCB President Barbara Parker-Bell

Dear credentials holders, future credential holders, and others,

It is a pleasure to provide, for your review, the Art Therapy Credentials Board Annual Report of 2018, our 25th year as a credentialing organization. Did you know that in 2018, more than 1,200 credential holders have retained their art therapy credentials for 25 years or more? Congratulations to all who have achieved this milestone and best wishes to our newer credential holders for a 25th credential holder anniversary in your future.

Each year, the ATCB works diligently towards fulfilling its mission of protecting the public “by promoting the competent and ethical practice of art therapy through the credentialing of art therapy professionals.” With the support of our Executive Director, Erin Clark, the national office staff, the Board of Directors, Ethics Officers, and the amazing volunteers who serve on all of our committees and panels, we are able to get many important things accomplished. These accomplishments range from protecting the public through providing, reviewing, and updating the Code of Ethics and hearing and addressing ethics matters, to assisting art therapists in understanding credentialing requirements and application processes for the ATR-P, the ATR, the ATR-BC, the ATCS, and the Art Therapy Credentials Board Exam (ATCBE).

A lot of ATCB work happens “behind the scenes.” Subject matter experts (SME), standard setting committee members, and psychometricians worked hard at ongoing examination development for the ATCBE so that the ATCB can continue to assure competency of art therapy professionals in accordance with NCCA credentialing standards. Behind the computer screen, the BRAG marketing team, the Electronic Media Committee, blog writers, editors, designers, and programmers supported the ATCB’s transition into the 21st century with an improved website, a greater presence on Facebook and Instagram, and the creation of the ATCB Blog: Credential Conversations (www.atcbblog.org). These social media formats help call attention to the importance of art therapy credentialing and the competent practice of art therapy. Please take a look if you have not already done so!

As the ATCB said hello to the ATCB Blog in 2018, it also said goodbye to the ATCB Newsletter. Fortunately, credential holders and the public may still access earlier additions of the Newsletter on the ATCB website and will find current and future newsletter type information on the ATCB Blog.

Throughout the Annual Report, you will find more information about ATCB beginnings, endings, and accomplishments in 2018. Please read on!

With best regards,

Barbara Parker-Bell
Ethics, Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures

In April 2018, the ATCB published revisions to the *Code of Ethics, Conduct, and Disciplinary Procedures* that included a new section related to social media (2.10.2), and revisions to reporting requirements (3.2.2) as well as the handling of allegations (5.2.2), complaints (5.2.4) and grievances (5.2.10).

In 2018, the ATCB reviewed approximately 38 ethics matters. Most matters were referred to the ATCB via self-disclosures of identified concerns through application or renewal processes. A smaller number of concerns were received as complaints. After careful review, seven cases were referred to an ATCB ethics officer, and three cases were considered by the ATCB Disciplinary Hearing Panel (DHP). No public sanctions were issued by the DHP.

The ATCB Makes Broader Connections

The ATCB Blog: Credential Conversations (www.atcbblog.org) was launched in October 2018 in conjunction with an ATCB website (www.atcb.org) design update. By the end of October, 6,780 visits to the new blog had occurred. Blog readers had access to articles on Ethics Code Spotlights, Exam News, Supervision, Credential Holder Profiles, and Credential Updates. Additionally, blog readers found access to exam dates and application deadlines on the Events section calendar.

To draw traffic to the ATCB blog and website, where valuable credential information is available, more attention was paid to cultivating a Facebook presence. This effort began in September 2018 and continued with the launch of Facebook Live Videos in October to highlight featured articles in the ATCB blog. By the end of December, we had 4,098 fans. The ATCB also established a connection with others on Instagram. Instagram posts launched in October with 1,640 ATCB followers established by the end of 2018.
Conference Conversations

Face to face conversations with current and future credential holders continued to be a priority for the ATCB in 2018. During the year, ATCB was represented at the Expressive Therapies Summit in Los Angeles (April 2018), the Expressive Therapies Summit in New York City (October 2018) and at the American Art Therapy Association Miami conference (October/November 2018). ATCB Board Members presented via lunch and learn sessions and focus groups to provide current ATCB information to attendees. Additionally, ATCB National office representatives staffed booths and tables to answer ATCB related questions and to distribute ATCB 25th anniversary swag to all who visited. Art therapy conferences will continue to provide an excellent opportunity for ATCB conversations.

Virtual Conversations

In 2018, ATCB President Barbara Parker-Bell, paid a virtual visit to the Ethical and Professional Issues class at George Washington University’s Art Therapy Program to explain and answer questions about ATCB roles and credential processes. Is your art therapy program interested in a similar virtual visit from an ATCB Director? Please contact the ATCB National Office with your request.

2018 Treasury Report

The ATCB continues to maintain sound fiscal planning and financial practices. The audit of ATCB’s 2018 fiscal year finances by the accounting firm Butler & Burke found that ATCB finances are managed in full accordance with “accepted accounting principles.” Sound financial practices support the Board’s ability to fully address and sustain efforts to promote the competency and ethical practice of the art therapy profession and to protect the public. The ATCB conscientiously allocates its financial resources to advance the ATCB Mission.
2018 ATCBE News:

To assist those preparing for the ATCBE, The ATCBE Preparation Guide was updated to include new sample test questions. The ATCBE Preparation Guide is currently available on the ATCBE website (www.atcb.org).

In 2018, the ATCB offered four computer-based test (CBT) administrations (Mar, Jun, Sept and Nov), and the last ATCBE national paper and pencil exam administration was held on November 3, 2018. In total, 290 people took the exam for board certification with a 98 percent pass rate. Three hundred forty-two (342) ATRs became board certified in 2018. Additionally, 103 people took the exam for the purpose of state licensure in NY, KY, MD and NM. The pass rate for this group of examinees was 96 percent.

### Credential Holder Updates

#### 2018 Year-End Credential Holder Statistics:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ATR-P</th>
<th>ATR</th>
<th>ATR-Ret</th>
<th>BC</th>
<th>BC-Ret</th>
<th>ATCS</th>
<th>Total*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>2,717</td>
<td>89</td>
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<tr>
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<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>259</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,944</strong></td>
<td><strong>99</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>84</strong></td>
<td><strong>125</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,886</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ATCS not included in total

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**Amy Freer,** Art Therapy Student  
Lewis & Clark College, Masters of Art Therapy Program  
*Self-Portrait: I am a process*  
Acrylic paint on stretched canvas  
24” x 36”
ATCB 2018 Committee Highlights:

- **A Continuing Education Credit (CEC) Ad Hoc Committee** was established to investigate the need and viability of an ATCB role in the evaluation of art therapy CEC providers and CEC content. In the future, the ATCB may engage in the CEC review process to assure that CEC quality is sufficient to support art therapists’ continued competency. Future actions will be based on a thorough review of committee recommendations to the ATCB Board.

- **The Code of Ethics, Conduct, and Disciplinary Procedures Special Committee**, established to conduct a periodic review of the code every two years, became the **Code of Ethics, Conduct and Disciplinary Review Committee**. This committee’s function is to provide ongoing reviews of the Code to assess, identify, and propose needed updates to the Code as new developments occur.

- **The Registration Standards Committee** reviewed four appeals regarding denials of applications, two from ATR-P applicants and two from ATR applicants. In three cases, applicants who did not currently meet educational requirements for registration or provisional registration were provided the opportunity to complete remaining academic requirements so that they may reapply at a future date. One appeal was denied.

- **The Certification Committee** consists of three separate committees for Item Writing, Item Reviewing and Exam Development and Standard Setting. In 2018, ATCB launched a significant effort to recruit qualified subject matter experts to continue the strong development of the ATCBE. Committee members utilized a new and secure on-line system for developing questions. If you are interested in serving as a test item writer or reviewer, please contact the ATCB National Office.

- **Audit Committee**: In 2018, the ATCB established an Audit Committee consisting of two ATCB Board members who do not serve on its finance or investment committees. The committee’s role is to interface with the accounting firm conducting the annual audit and provide another layer of review to assure best financial practices.

Thank you to all committee members for your excellent service!
2018 Board of Directors

Executive Committee
- Barbara Parker-Bell, President
- Charlotte Boston, President Elect
- Deborah Sharpe, Secretary
- Christine Kerr, Treasurer

Directors
- Katy Barrington
- Lisa Garlock
- Deborah Murphy
- Ruth Xilomen Rios
- Tom Hartsell, Public Member

National Office
- Erin Clark, Executive Director
- Kimia Hafezi, Program Assistant
- Brandon Bell, Administrative Assistant

Front row (left to right): Deborah Sharpe, Barbara Parker-Bell, Charlotte Boston
Back row (left to right): Ruth Xilomen Rios, Christine Kerr, Deborah Murphy, Katy Barrington, Tom Hartsell, Lisa Garlock, Erin Clark, Kimia Hafezi

[not pictured: Brandon Bell]
The mission of the Art Therapy Credentials Board is to protect the public by promoting the competent and ethical practice of art therapy through the credentialing of art therapy professionals.

Contact Us
Write, call, email us for more information about credentialing
OR visit our website: www.atcb.org

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