



President's Message

Dear AHTA Members,

Welcome to the newsletter and to the exciting year ahead for AHTA 2022-2023! I welcome everyone and invite you to AHTA in the year of continuing growth, inclusion and new opportunities. AHTA is currently exploring partnerships, increasing social media, and reaching out to members and non-members to help connect AHTA in a more diverse, unique, holistic way. Passion drives productivity, and AHTA is riding the wave of passion!

The [AHTA Board of Directors](#) met on September 7, 2022, prior to our awesome in-person conference, *Renaissance in Bloom: Reimagining and Revitalizing Horticultural Therapy*. How wonderful it was to connect to all!

At the board meeting we discussed and planned for:

- Increasing our membership by reaching out to non-members, diverse populations, and allied professionals
- Increasing our social media presence and marketing of [our video](#)
- Recruiting board members and work team members
- Continue the AHTA magazine excellence
- Open publication for our research journal
- Pre-approval for coursework for HTR and soon to be HT-BC eligibility
- The newsletter, community meetings, and webinars
- Conference options
- Continuing the excellence of our awards
- Finding new “pathways” for eligibility of HTRs and soon to be HT-BC

Speaking of HT-BC (Horticultural Therapist-Board Certified), AHTA along with Professional Testing Corporation, recently completed a [2022 Job Task Analysis](#)! Our next step is to create the exam for HT-BC to follow the standards of allied professions.

I invite you all to reignite your passion for horticultural therapy! Join us through membership, volunteering for the board of directors and work teams. Let AHTA know about you, your programs and events in your area!

Sincerely,

Lana Dreyfuss, LPCC, LCADC, SEP, HTR
AHTA President

2022 AHTA Conference Recap

This year's annual conference, *Renaissance in Bloom: Reimagining and Revitalizing Horticultural Therapy*, was held in Kansas City on September 9-10, 2022, and was a huge success. Attendees were thrilled to be back together in-person. We had 91 people in attendance for the conference, and 50 attendees took part in the conference pre-tours.

Our pre-conference tours visited Cornerstones of Care, Ozanam and KC Farm School at Gibbs Road. [Cornerstones of Care](#) is a trauma-informed organization that provide education, mental & behavioral health, foster care and adoption, youth support, family support, and community trainings. The facility at Ozanam provides services to students who are unable to take part in traditional school settings. Megan Sperry, HTR, led the attendees through a tour of their horticultural therapy program and greenhouse.

[KC Farm School-Gibbs Road](#) provided a fresh harvest lunch for attendees, as well as a tour. The farm's main goals are to "empower individuals of all ages, ancestries, and abilities through on-farm, hands-on experiences and vocational education connecting them to the land and soil, food, community, and opportunity."

The annual AHTA member meeting was also held during our conference on Friday, September, 9. The minutes from the member meeting will be posted in the member section of the website in November. [Watch a recorded version](#) of the member meeting closing comments by our Immediate Past President, Derrick Stowell.

We also premiered our new promotional video at this year's conference. Check out our [new video](#) and be sure to like, comment, share and subscribe to AHTA's [YouTube channel](#). Our marketing work team has provided a list of tips to promote the video and market to your social media contacts.



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New AHTA Promotional Video

We premiered our new marketing video at the 2022 Annual Conference. Be sure to view, like, share, and subscribe to help spread the word. The marketing work team has created a [list of suggestions for sharing the video on your social media accounts](#). The marketing work team will be

sharing additional ways to use and market the video in the weeks to come. To help promote this video, the preference is to [share the link](#) and watch it online.

This will help increase our presence online and get the word out to more people about AHTA and the profession. Don't hesitate to use the video to promote you and your work as a horticultural therapist. You can even use the video when you are reaching out to new possible employers, clients, or news outlets. The more we share, the more awareness we can create. Let's make this video go viral.



Member Spotlight: Meet the 2022-2023 Board

2022-2023 Officers:

AHTA President, Lana Dreyfuss, LPCC, LCADC, SEP, HTR

Secretary, P.J. Snodgrass, PhD

Treasurer, Rebecca Pulliam Francis, EdD, HTM

Immediate Past President, Derrick R. Stowell, PhD, CTRS, HTR

Board Members:

Linda Brown-Kuhn, HTR

Debra Edwards, HTR

Nicole Giron, MPH, CTRS, HTR

Matthew Janson, CTRS

R. Nicole Magor, M.S

Sara Rodriguez, LMFT

Laura Rumpf, HTR

Binxia Xue, PhD, HTR

We would like to extend a special thank you to our 2021-2022 Board Members who have rotated off for this year. We appreciate your time and service to the mission of AHTA.

Former Board Members:

Past-President, Erin Backus, CRC, HTR
Secretary, Ciri Malamud, MA, HTR
Treasurer, Gary Altman, MS, CRC, HTR
Richard Slayton, RLA
Lynn Zeltman, HTR

Upcoming Events

Community Meeting

Join us for our October Community Meeting on October 13, 2022, from 7:30–8:30 p.m. ET. This meeting is for members and interested members on the introduction to horticultural therapy and educational requirements for professional registration.

[Register for the Community Meeting](#)

October Affiliate Member Spotlights




American Horticultural
Therapy Association.

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