

President's Message



Dear Colleagues in Horticultural Therapy,

Welcome to the September edition of AHTA's newsletter where we share updates and information from AHTA and the profession of horticultural therapy.

And just like that September is here! Warm days and cool nights for most, beginnings of Fall color in the trees, harvesting, preparing Fall beds, and celebrating the Autumn Equinox. AHTA continues to celebrate its 50th year anniversary and we look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming virtual conference, "[AHTA 2023: 50 Years of Cultivating Horticultural Therapy](#)" on **October 20-21, 2023**.

At the August board meeting, we continued our exam development discussion, worked on finalizing the credential for Therapeutic Horticulture Practitioner (THP) and more. We hope to announce all the movement forward at the [Annual Membership meeting](#) on **October 24** and will update in this newsletter as well.

I would like to give a "shout out" to the Regional Groups who on a local level provide connecting those interested in horticultural therapy and therapeutic horticulture to expand the interest and practice of these modalities. For the novice and experienced practitioners in horticultural therapy and therapeutic horticulture and for those interested in learning more locally, check out [Regional Groups](#) on our website.

Join us in harvesting the growth of AHTA by [becoming a member](#), joining a [work team](#) or the [Board of Directors](#). We look forward to connecting with you all through social media, webinars, community meetings and conferences.

May the Autumn season find you well,

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

News and Events

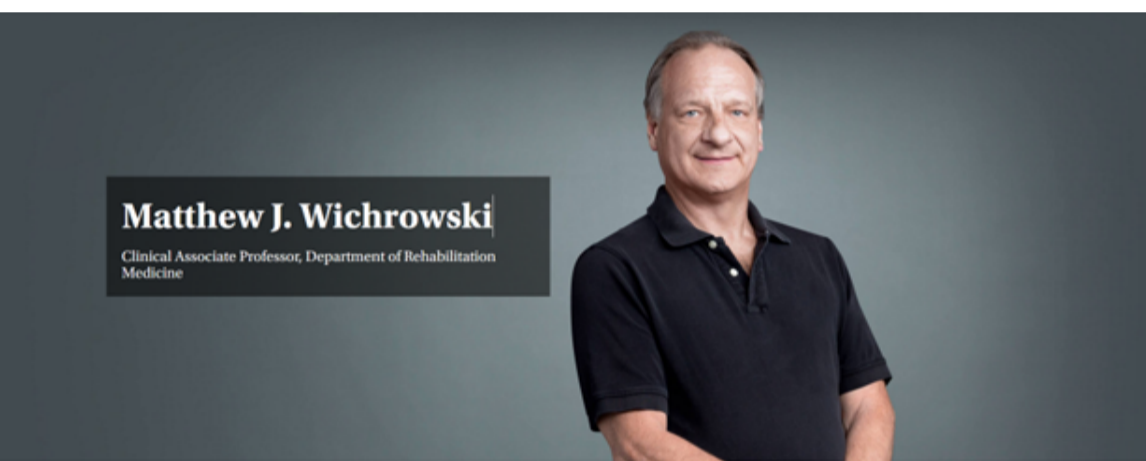


AHTA 2023: 50 Years of Cultivating Horticultural Therapy

The [AHTA 2023: 50 Years of Cultivating Horticultural Therapy](#) will be virtual on **October 20–21, 2023**! "Going virtual" will allow our association's conference to reach a wider audience, all at different stages in their career. Attendees will have access to the event recordings 60 days post-conference.

[Register today!](#) Right now, students can register for just \$25!

Speaker Highlight: Matthew J. Wichrowski MSW, HTR



Matthew J. Wichrowski MSW, HTR has been practicing horticultural therapy at Rusk Rehabilitation NYU-Langone Medical Center for almost 30 years and is currently Clinical Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Medicine. He is also Editor-in-Chief of the AHTA's Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture.

At this year's conference, Matt will present on the experience of awe as a result from experiencing the wonders of nature. New research supports physiological and psychosocial benefits from this experience. This session covers definitions, characteristics, and applications of awe in clinical practice. In a separate presentation, Matt will explore the publication process and offer advice on how to publish in the Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture.

Register Now

2023 AHTA Sponsorship Opportunities

Are you interested in receiving valuable exposure for your organization's brand? Consider taking advantage of AHTA's [sponsorship opportunities](#) for 2023. By partnering with AHTA in 2023, you can build your network with horticultural professionals, and promote educational programs or products and services through the AHTA website, targeted emails, social media, AHTA magazine, and the annual conference.

Through our diverse and expanding professional network (5,500 Community Outreach, 500+ International Organization Members), horticultural therapists continue to increase their reach. Your sponsorship is an excellent way to connect your company, services, and products to our allied professionals. Also, it supports the growth and well-being of the populations we serve, including healthcare organizations, older adult communities, wellness groups, psychology & human services, veterans, educational institutions, vocational programs, and more!

To learn more about AHTA and our initiatives, resources, and benefits, please [explore our website](#) and view our [2023 sponsorship opportunities](#).

Learn More

2023 AHTA Annual Meeting

[AHTA](#) invites you to attend the [2023 Annual Membership Virtual Meeting](#).

Join us to hear about:

- AHTA's progress this past year
- Future goals of AHTA
- Financials
- Membership
- and More!

Register

September Community Meeting

Register today for the [September Community Meeting](#) during which we will discuss the book, "Braiding Sweetgrass." Have you read the book? Are you finished, halfway through, put it down, or still deciding if you want to read it or not? Come join our community meeting on **September 28, 2023, at 7:30 PM ET** and participate in an exciting discussion about this best-seller!

Learn More & Register

Read the Latest AHTA Magazine: Summer 2023 Edition

Issue Features:

- Opening the Eyes of Youth to the Fascinating Power of Plants
- HTR Profile: Rich Matteo
- Hope Gardens of Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- Introducing the GrowTH Community
- 2023 Upcoming AHTA Conference
- Digital Tools to Connect With Nature
- And More!

Log In & Download

New AHTA HTR Database Search Option

The [Horticultural Therapist-Registered \(HTR\) Directory](#) feature on our website is now live! This feature allows companies or the general public to search for HTRs near them. The benefits for HTRs may include employment, consultation work, presentation/information sharing opportunities, advocacy for the profession of horticultural therapy and more! **Any HTR member has the opportunity to opt-in or opt-out of the database.** We request that HTR members update their profile with this indication.

To update:

1. Log into the [Member Center](#)
2. Select "My Profile"
3. Select "Edit Profile"
4. Check "Opt-in" or "Opt-out"

We would like to use this as a reminder for all members to refresh their profiles with any other updates as well.

Visit the Member Center

AHTA Job Board

Looking for a job or interested in posting a job? Find your next job using [AHTA's Job Board](#). To access the job board, you must be an AHTA member.

Visit Job Board

Become a Member

Not a member of AHTA? [Join today!](#) AHTA's membership is comprised of individuals who are passionate about the unique benefits of horticultural therapy as a therapeutic modality. Members are committed to the growth of the profession. Membership in the AHTA will keep you up to date on the latest in horticultural therapy news, as well as give you access to outstanding educational and networking opportunities.

Join Today