



# American Horticultural Therapy Association.

## Annual Awards Criteria

### **The American Horticultural Therapy Association awards:**

- I. Charles A. Lewis Excellence in Research Award
  - II. Publication Award
  - III. Rhea McCandliss Professional Service Award
  - IV. Alice W. Burlingame Humanitarian Service Award
  - V. John Walker Community Service Award
  - VI. Therapeutic Garden Design Awards
  - VII. Ann Lane Mavromatis Scholarship
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**I. Charles A. Lewis Excellence in Research Award.** To honor Charles A. Lewis, a pioneer in the field of people-plant interaction and innovative horticultural programs throughout the community. Given to recognize research scientists who have published outstanding horticultural therapy research in a horticultural or medical journal. This award is to provide an incentive to contribute evidence-based research that demonstrates the effectiveness of horticultural therapy and to increase the awareness of research-based findings supporting the health benefits offered through horticulture. The author(s) and article must meet the following:

- The author(s) have written at least one research paper that has been published in a peer-reviewed horticultural science or medical journal within the last two years.
- The article must be in reference of applied horticultural therapy research or the broader area of people- plant interaction.
- The research design must use a statistical measure.
- Review articles, philosophy and theory articles, program descriptions, and other non-research articles are not accepted for this award, even if the article was published in a referred journal.

**II. Publication Award.** Given in recognition of an outstanding book, paper, or research authored or co-authored by members of AHTA who have conceived, designed, evaluated, or reported innovative or significant developments in horticultural therapy. “Research” as applied to this award is to be broadly interpreted to include any area of inquiry related to horticultural therapy. Upon award, nominees must submit an abstract of the publication and one original copy for AHTA’s permanent archives.

**III. Rhea McCandliss Professional Service Award.** Given to a registered member (HTM, HTR, or HTA) of AHTA in recognition of their significant contribution to the field of Horticultural Therapy. The person to be recognized shall be distinguished by their:

- Length of service in horticultural therapy as an instructor, supervisor, director, administrator, or in some other related capacity.
- Distinctive service in the promotion, organization, and development of horticultural therapy programs or for an original or unusual contribution which has affected the philosophy practice of horticultural therapy. (Service to the profession is not necessarily limited to those in a position as a Horticultural Therapist, but may be through allied fields such as arts and crafts, science, psychology, rehabilitation, recreation, or education.)
- Public relations efforts on behalf of horticultural therapy through public appearances, or authoring of articles, books, or research.

**IV. Alice W. Burlingame Humanitarian Service Award.** Given to an organization or individual who has given freely of their time, talent, and energy with special significance for horticultural therapy on a local, state or national level. Outstanding voluntary contribution to an organization or program need not necessarily be made in the year in which the nomination is made. The person or organization to be recognized shall have:

- Influenced the thinking and attitude of the general public in a positive manner regarding horticultural therapy.
- Assisted in the furtherance of the goals and objectives of AHTA through their service.
- Significantly involved others in work associated with horticultural therapy.
- Made an impact in the furtherance of horticultural therapy programming and services.

**V. John Walker Community Service Award.** Given in recognition of significant contribution in horticultural therapy in the area of program services provided to a community. Programs to be recognized shall be distinguished by their leadership in the field for:

- Effective programming for population served.
- Innovative patterns for service delivery in program and community.
- Optimum and imaginative utilization of staff knowledge and skills.
- Establishment of an evaluation process for measuring client progress and program success.
- Effective public relations.
- Involvement with and benefit to the community.

**VI. Therapeutic Garden Design Awards.** Given for the purpose of identifying and publicizing excellence in therapeutic design and programming to existing gardens and landscapes that were designed and are maintained for therapeutic purposes. Recognized designs should reflect the following characteristics:

- Scheduled and programmed activities, including horticultural therapy programming and events and activities intended to encourage the participation of special populations.
- Improved accessibility through modified features and the availability of adapted equipment and tools.
- Well-defined perimeters to direct visitors to garden displays.
- The inclusion of intensive plantings and open environments, benignly designed to enhance people-plant interactions, social interchange, and a sense of safety.
- Universally designed for all people, regardless of age and ability.
- An intensified recognition of the opportunity to experience comfort, sensory stimulation, and independence within the designed garden or landscape.

**VII. Ann Lane Mavromatis Scholarship.** This \$500 scholarship is awarded to recognize academic achievement and to promote growth of professionalism in the field of Horticultural Therapy. The scholarship recipient's registration fees for the annual meeting will be waived by the AHTA and she/he will be granted two nights lodging for the annual meeting. The student who is awarded the scholarship shall have:

- A declared major in the field of Horticultural Therapy or a related field with course work supporting the field of Horticultural Therapy.
- Membership in AHTA.
- A high level of academic achievement.
- Evidence of financial need.
- Personal involvement in horticultural therapy through the contribution to the development of the horticultural therapy program at their college or university or through participation in extracurricular horticultural therapy activities with a local, state, or national Horticultural Therapy organization.