



April 1, 2008

Dear Members of Congress:

The American Dance Therapy Association (ADTA) is proud to be a National Co-Sponsor of the National Arts Advocacy Day. The ADTA has approximately 1,100 members worldwide. Dance/Movement Therapy is the psychotherapeutic use of dance and movement to further the emotional, cognitive, physical, and social integration of the individual. Dance/Movement therapists use nonverbal communication for assessment and intervention with clients. They are employed in a variety of mental and physical health care settings. They provide individual and group therapy for children, adolescents, adults, and the elderly. In addition to clinical work, they are active in publishing, research, supervision, professional development training and teaching.

The ADTA is a member of the National Alliance of Pupil Service Organizations (NAPSO) which provides a variety of school-based prevention and intervention services to assist students in becoming effective learners. The ADTA is also a member of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) which advocates for national public policy that ensures the integration of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society. The ADTA is affiliated with the National Board of Certified Counselors and the National Coalition of Creative Arts Therapies (NCCATA).

We ask you to support the Reducing Barriers to Learning Act of 2007 (H.R. 3419). This legislation takes necessary steps toward increasing better access to school services that address the non-academic needs of students. These services are provided by specialized instructional support personnel.

We ask you to support the Mental Health in Schools Act of 2007 (S. 1332) which provides schools with the flexible use of funds to expand their current mental health programs.

We ask you to support the Alzheimer's Breakthrough Act (S 898/HR 1560) which seeks a \$125 million increase in funding for Alzheimer's research and care programs.

We ask you to support the Medicare Access to Rehabilitative Services Act (S .450) which removes the Medicare therapy caps. We respectfully request you support the Medicare coverage of Licensed Professional Counselors, the parity of insurance coverage for mental health and substance abuse treatment and the inclusion of disability priorities in the Medicare package.

Capitalizing on the healing power of the arts is essential to the work of Dance/Movement Therapists. We believe the arts promote positive growth and healing for all your constituents. Thank you for supporting the significant recent increase in funding for the NEA!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robyn Flaum Cruz". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Robyn Flaum Cruz, Ph.D., ADTR
President

Robyne Stone Davis, MA, ADTR, LPC
Government Affairs Chair