Education & Careers

About

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Events

April 2025 Newsletter

growing our reach and showing the world what we're about.

Membership

What's included in this month's newsletter					
President's Message	News & Events	Webinars	<u>Sponsorship</u>	HT Activity	Membership

Professional Registration

President's Message

Dear AHTA Community, With spring in full swing as of April, 2025, we're surrounded by nature's promise of fresh starts and vibrant

Home

growth—a perfect parallel to the work we do in horticultural therapy. Just as sap rises to nourish budding trees, our efforts continue to fuel healing and connection through plants, and it's inspiring to see our field thriving. This season reminds us that our strength lies in our 50+ years of deep shared roots and collective passion. The past month has shown how our community's energy is sprouting in new directions, from raising

awareness to deepening collaborations. Your work—whether tending to clients, sparking innovative projects, or sharing expertise—keeps pushing horticultural therapy into exciting new territory. Take National Horticultural Therapy Week last month, March 16-22: your enthusiasm lit up our social media campaign! The posts, pictures, and clips you shared brought the magic of our profession to life-think touching stories of client breakthroughs and stunning shots of gardens in bloom. Every post was a seed,

Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture, attend a webinar, or a community meeting, or pitch a story for the magazine. Every little bud of effort helps our field flourish and climb higher on the trellis of therapeutic practice. Thanks for pouring your heart into this work. With your commitment to networking with the AHTA, together

we're not just planting seeds for the future, we're growing a forest of impact for the people and places we touch. And you know what they say about trees and networking, they have all the best branches. Matthew Janson CTRS, HTR,

AHTA President

News and Events



to connect, learn, and grow together!

October 9-11, 2025 Save the Date for the 2025 AHTA Annual Conference! Mark your calendars for *October 9–11, 2025*, as we gather in celebration of this year's theme: **Nurturing** Community: Planting the Seeds of Our Future. With over 60 outstanding submissions—including

AHTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025

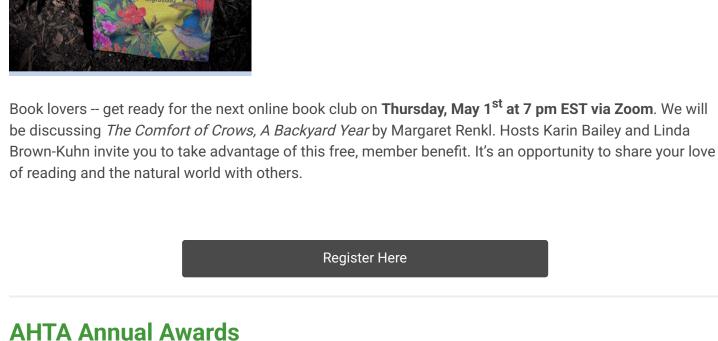
Nurturing Community:

Planting the Seeds of our Future

Exciting New Additions This Year! We're introducing Consultation Groups (Communities of Practice)—peer-led discussions tailored to your unique area of expertise. Whether you work in healthcare, education, elder care, or other specialized

settings, these groups are designed to build community and foster collaborative learning. Don't miss the Spotlight on HT/TH Programs, highlighting impactful work from around the globe, and our Educational Programs Showcase, where you can explore academic offerings in horticultural therapy. Learn more at here.

AHTA Virtual Book Club Meets in May- Members Only



Keep the nominations coming! We have so much to learn from one another, and each nomination helps us grow as a professional community. Please consider submitting nominations for the following annual awards to recognize and celebrate outstanding contributions in the field: Rhea McCandliss Professional Service Award

Nominations will be accepted until May 1, 2025! Let's grow the spirit of excellence in our community!

AHTA continues to accept nominations for the 2025 Annual Awards. Thank you to those who are highlighting impactful programs and practitioners within the AHTA community for their contributions. Recognizing individuals or organizations for their important work not only honors their dedication to the profession, but also strengthens the AHTA community by showcasing impactful HT practices and inspiring

others. Your nominations help celebrate excellence and drive continued innovation in the field.

Register Here

Learn More Here

Alice Burlingame Humanitarian Service Award

John Walker Community Service Award

AHTA Therapeutic Garden Design Award

Ann Lane Mavromatis Scholarship

- AHTA WEBINAR SERIES
- **Growing Wellness: Using Indoor Gardens in Horticultural Therapy**

2025 Spring Webinars

Join us for an enlightening **Growing Wellness:** presentation on how horticultural **Using Indoor Gardens** therapists are harnessing the power of in Horticultural Therapy

grow lights to cultivate thriving indoor gardens. Growing Wellness: Using

Indoor Gardens in Horticultural

other environments where natural

sunlight is limited.

Better

volunteering!

leaders.

Therapy will explore how artificial lighting solutions can support plant · Free for AHTA members, • \$35 for non members growth in various settings, making TAMMY BRENNER

Here

7 PM EST, 4PM PST

TUESDAY APRIL 29TH

Program Mgr of the Plant

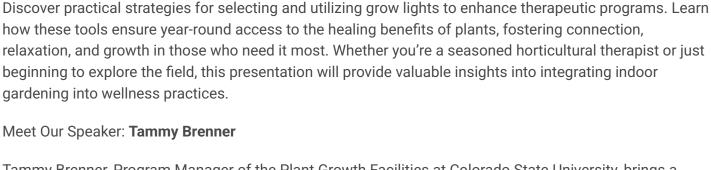
Growth Facilities at CSU

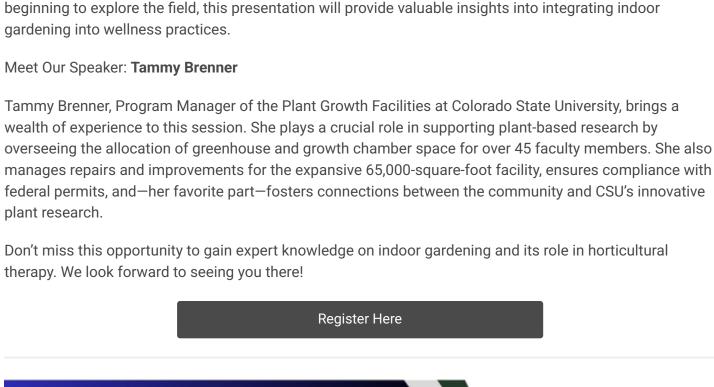
KRISTIN KROKOWSKI

Professor, University

of Wisconsin Madison Division of Extension

horticultural therapy accessible in Register hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and





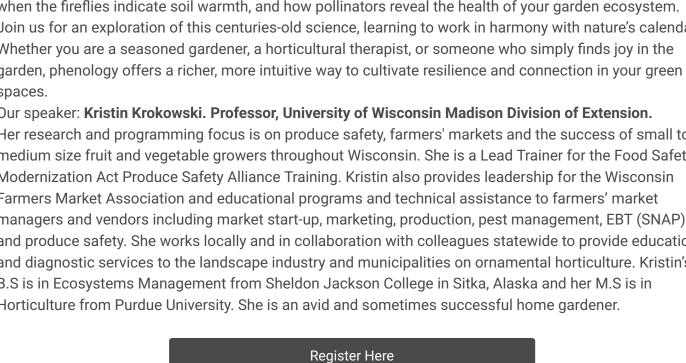
AHTA WEBINAR SERIES A Different Way of Knowing:



A Different Way of Knowing: Using Phenology to Garden Better

Using Phenology to Garden

TUESDAY MAY 27TH



Nominations for AHTA Board of Directors are now open!

AHTA is a member-driven organization, and we need those with a passion for our field to help grow AHTA into the next 50 years! We value your rooted expertise in areas like marketing, social media, sponsorship and partnership development, magazine editing, webinar development, membership growth, conference planning, and exam development. Help plant the seeds for the future of AHTA and the profession by

Nominations will be open until May 1, 2025. Let's sprout new ideas and cultivate success together!

Nominate Here

AHTA 'Growing Impact' Campaign: Advancing Youth Wellness Through Horticulture Phase 1: Sowing Seeds! AHTA is grateful for the incredible turnout and enthusiastic participation in the 'Growing Impact' Youth Wellness Campaign Webinar Series! The depth of expertise shared by our first two webinar presenters — Dr. Andrew Zeiger and Dr. Charlie Hall - truly enriched the conversation and sparked meaningful dialogue. Follow-up resources from the first two webinars will be shared with attendees soon, for ongoing engagement and deeper learning. We are inspired by the new initiatives and collaborations already taking root as a result of the shared learning. AHTA is looking forward to building on this momentum and seeing you at the next webinar in the Youth Wellness Campaign Series:

Free Webinar Brought to You by Ball Horticultural Company. More partners and sponsors to follow! Please direct any questions to sponsorship@ahta.org.

creator of B.Nature, Author of Mindfulness for a Better Mind, Life and World.

Game: Gathering Nature's Treasures

By Lesley Fleming, HTR & Maureen Bethel, BA, BEd, CAE

reduce anxiety, improve self-regulation, and offer safe spaces for children to explore their physical world. Using the game in TH sessions with parent/family-child participants, the game can incorporate therapeutic goals related to fostering attachment, introducing the concept and need for risky play (leading children and parents to develop problem solving skills). This demonstrates the TH activity's versatility with populations like parents/family groups. Step by step instructions are available in THAD (here). Materials: baskets or

staying within eyesight, will help younger participants.

(more detail in **THAD**).

Tips for Practice

THAD activity.

Lesley Fleming, HTR leads the Nova Scotia and the Florida Horticulture for Health Networks. Her recent work has included leading the collaborative THAD project, FLHHN's Resource Hub, and 2024 Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture articles on TH Goals co-authored with Elizabeth Diehl and Kathryn Grimes and Positive Impacts from COVID-19 on Gardening and HT.

Updates from AHTA The <u>AHTA Code of Ethics</u> was updated to align with professional standards effective March 1, 2025! For more information **Here** • The <u>THP Verification of Work Experience</u> form has been updated expanding the direct client services to include direct client hours, documentation, program planning/preparation, client meetings, supervision meetings and non-supervision meetings! The <u>HTR Verification of Work Experience</u> has been updated to requiring the equivalent of 1,500

Maureen Bethel, BA, BEd, CAE is Manager of Daybreak Parent Child Centre, Community and Parent Programs in St. John's, Newfoundland. Her background in the field of community capacity building with focus on early learning and complex needs of families using strengths- based holistic programs, along with education and training in education/adult education, horticulture and horticultural therapy inform her work.

Therapeutic Horticulture Practitioner is intended for practitioners who provide services aligned with the AHTA definition of therapeutic horticulture. Visit the **THP webpage** to find out more information regarding eligibility and the process of applying.

and worldwide.

Option

Supporting AHTA a more tailored and impactful collaboration. Sign up to become a sponsor today! Your support fuels our

Learn More Here

now available for applications! The

The American Horticultural Therapy Association The AHTA Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture had recognizes the practice of Therapeutic been approved for the OpenAccess Model and is Horticulture is becoming a widely accepted and now available on Google Scholar. Did you know important component in healthcare, that you can access the copies of the AHTA rehabilitation, residential programs, and Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture by going community settings. The AHTA is pleased to to Google Scholar, putting in the "AHTA Journal of announce that the new professional credential -Therapeutic Horticulture" in the search window **Therapeutic Horticulture Practitioner, THP** - is and to narrow down your search add the volume

number from the AHTA list of Journal.

there is no charge for the Article

Click **HERE** to learn more. While considering

publishing in the AHTA Journal of Therapeutic

Horticulture consider that as members of AHTA

Processing Charge (APC) while nonmembers pay

\$300. Another great way to become a member! Hoping to see more submissions that will go out

Your generous support makes it possible for our organization to grow and thrive. Your contributions help keep us going, including helping with the expenses of our annual conference, increasing our ability to work toward credentialing, offsetting the cost of our journal and other outreach publications, and connecting to colleges and universities, facilities, prisons, hospitals, and agencies that support the profession of horticultural therapy. Our 2025 Partnership Guide is now available! In keeping with the forward growth of AHTA, we have redesigned our **2025 Partnership Guide** to include new "á la carte" sponsorship opportunities! These options can be selected independently of AHTA sponsorship packages or added to enhance them. The goal is to offer sponsors greater flexibility in shaping their partnership opportunities to better align with their specific needs and objectives, resulting in

/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"

AHTA HTR Database Search

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.

Select "EditProfile"

Ways to Support AHTA New 2025 Partnership Guide

mission to continue advancing the development of horticultural therapy and making an impact nationally

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. Did you know? AHTA members benefits include free webinars and free article processing fees for the AHTA Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture! Another two

Become a Member

new reasons to join!

Join Today

powered by **MemberClicks**

My Profile **Member Center AHTA Magazine** The Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture **AHTA Store Job Board AHTA News** Calendar **AHTA Newsletter HTR Directory Upcoming Events** Thu Oct 9, 2025 2025 AHTA Annual Conference

Become a Member

Publications

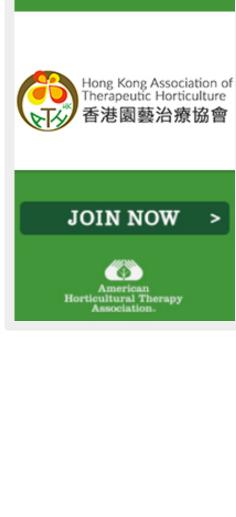
Quick Links

Sponsor

Fri Oct 10, 2025 2025 AHTA Annual Conference Category: AHTA Events Sat Oct 11, 2025 2025 AHTA Annual Conference Category: AHTA Events **Featured Affiliate Member** Featured Affiliate

Member

Category: AHTA Events



Looking forward, let's keep this momentum blooming. Dive in however you can, maybe pen a piece for our

featuring thought-provoking sessions and amazing presenters. Stay tuned for more details, and get ready

4/24/2025 <u>Healing People Heal the Planet: Becoming Eco-Aware</u>.

Experience the power of mindfulness, storytelling, and connection with Nature. Hear inspiring testimonials from vulnerable communities most affected by climate change, who found healing in natural spaces and emerged as dedicated stewards of both their environment and community. Let their journeys motivate you to explore the vital relationship between personal well-being and ecological care. Special emphasis will be placed on developing our next generation, empowering youth with important tools that (1) nurture the dimensions of their health, and (2) inspire the development of thoughtful, environmentally aware of

Knellee Bisram, CEO/Founder and Lead NGO Representative to the United Nations, AHAM Education, Inc., and Piero Falci, Board Member, AHAM Education. Mindfulness Meditation and Mindful Living Teacher, Co-

From Nova Scotia Horticulture for Health Network Participants play a game finding items from nature to be shared with others - show and tell. Originally used with young children ages 3-6, this game can be adapted for all ages and abilities. Partnering with volunteers or older students as mentors for example, can provide safe parameters of knowing plants to avoid, sharp

pinecones or paths that are too steep. Clearly defining the search/game area, possibly using the concept of

pails for collecting items, access to nature area with pinecones, flowers etc., whistle, gloves, wipes. SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS: Facilitators are responsible for knowing poisonous and toxic plants and plant parts

been affected, and people with developmental disabilities. Appropriate supervision is required and will vary by individuals and populations. Game rules can be adapted to increase physical activity, focus on specific physical challenges and appropriate for participants. An indoor application of the nature's bounty game can accommodate people with mobility issues who are more comfortable indoors moving on smooth surfaces, or other reasons. THAD identifies relevant goals in five health domains for this, and each

Young children: The game can promote a sense of exploration, independence and curiosity, all of which address cognitive, social-emotional and physical development in a child. Nature-based play can also help

Applications for other populations with physical therapeutic goals can target wide-ranging challenges like sedentary behaviors, sense of touch, bending and kneeling practice, and time outdoors breathing fresh air. These can be appropriate for different populations including people with nature deficit disorder, stroke recovery patients, recently diagnosed medical conditions where confidence in going outside has

hours work experience as an employee or independent contractor, supervised by either a HTR or general supervisor who can validate the horticultural therapy services provided. Announcing the THP, **AHTA Journal of Therapeutic Therapeutic Horticulture Horticulture Practitioner!**

to all!

Not a member of AHTA? Join today! AHTA's membership is comprised of Individuals who AHTA HTR Database Search Option AHTA has a Horticultural Therapist-Registered(HTR) Directory feature on our website. This feature allows companies or the general public to search for HTRs near them. The benefits for HTRs may include employment, consultation work, presentation

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