

# INSPIRE

**2021 AOTA & AOTF**

## Awards & Recognitions



# Congratulations!

**E**ach year, AOTA and AOTF recognize and honor colleagues who have made significant contributions to the profession of occupational therapy. Each organization's respective committee is responsible for reviewing nominations and making final selections from each of the outstanding candidates. This tradition is a source of pride within the profession. Additionally, it provides an opportunity to increase public awareness and focus attention on the contributions of individuals, and of the profession as a whole.

## **AOTA Volunteer Leadership Development Committee**

**Chairperson,** Jaclyn Schwartz, PhD, OTR/L

Moira Bushell, OTD, MEd, OTR/L

Michael Lopez, MOT, OTR/L

Amy Mahle, MHA, COTA/L, ROH

Susan S. McDonald, EdD, OTR/L

Adrianne Smiley, EdD, OTD, OTR/L

Bill Wong, OTD, OTR/L

## **AOTF Awards and Recognition Committee**

**Chairperson,** Ellen S. Cohn, ScD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Charlotte E. Exner, PhD, OT/L, FAOTA

Donald J. Fogelberg, PhD, OTR/L

Susan R. Magasi, PhD, MS, BScOT

Mary Ellen Stoykov, PhD, OTR/L

# 2021 AOTA & AOTF Awards & Recognitions

*Presented at AOTA INSPIRE*  
**Monday, April 26 7:00 pm**

## AOTA Awards & Recognitions

**Wendy C. Hildenbrand, PhD, MPH, OTR/L, FAOTA**  
President, AOTA

**Jaclyn Schwartz, PhD, OTR/L, Chairperson Volunteer**  
Leadership Development Committee

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**Mary Jane Mulcahey, Chair, AOTF**

**Ellen S. Cohn, Chair, AOTF Awards and Recognition Committee**

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## AOTA Award of Merit



**Ben Atchison**, PhD, OTRL, FAOTA  
Western Michigan University  
Kalamazoo, Michigan

### **Outstanding Contribution to Scholarship and Innovative Programs**

Dr. Ben Atchison, Professor and Chair Emeritus of Occupational Therapy at Western Michigan University, has established a rich legacy over four decades as an educator, clinician, scholar, and innovator of interprofessional programs. As co-founder of the Southwest Michigan Children's Trauma Assessment Center, his leadership resulted in implementation of a nationally acclaimed program for trauma-exposed children. Since 1999, significant grant funding enabled services for more than 5,000 children, professional development training for thousands of professionals, and intensive fieldwork education for more than 400 clinical interns. In addition to a model for trauma assessment, a trauma-responsive school-based program was implemented and shared with teams across the country.

Dr. Atchison is also co-founder of the Sammons Center for Innovation and Research, founding member of the Brain Research and Interprofessional Neuroscience Lab, and Managing Editor of the *Open Journal of Occupational Therapy*. He was appointed to the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) Council; elected Chairperson of the AOTA Physical Disabilities Special Interest Section; and served in many national, state, and local organizations.

Dr. Atchison's expertise has been shared through many publications, including *Conditions in Occupational Therapy (6th Ed.)*, which he co-edited, and through international and national presentations advocating for the role of occupational therapy in child trauma.

## Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lectureship Award



**Kristie Patten**, PhD, OT/L, FAOTA  
New York University  
New York, New York

### **Strength-Based and Client-Directed Occupational Therapy Practice**

Dr. Kristie Patten is Vice Dean of Academic Affairs at NYU Steinhardt, and Associate Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy. Dr. Patten's research focuses on

utilizing a strength-based paradigm, in partnership with stakeholders, to understand the impact of these issues on quality of life and well-being with a focus on interventions in inclusive settings. Dr. Patten is the Principal Investigator (PI) of the NYU Steinhardt's ASD Nest Program, an inclusive program for children and adolescents with autism in the New York City Department of Education, the largest inclusion program in the country, grounded in strength-based practices. She is co-PI of a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant entitled, "Developing Abilities and Knowledge for Careers in Design and Engineering for Students on the Autism Spectrum by Scaling Up Making Experiences." This is an expansion of an earlier NSF grant entitled, "IDEAS: Inventing, Designing, and Engineering on the Autism Spectrum." These projects leverage the strengths and interests of 5th through 12th grade students on the spectrum to develop social competence and potential career pathways. Dr. Patten has published and presented nationally and internationally on topics related to examining the efficacy of public school interventions and viewing autism from a strength-based or abilities-based model.

## Lindy Boggs Award



**Alyson Stover**, MOT, JD, OTR/L, BCP  
University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

### **Fierce Advocacy Leading to Far-Reaching Change**

Dr. Alyson Stover is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy. Dr. Stover obtained her juris doctorate in law with a post-graduate certificate in health law from the University of Pittsburgh. Her areas of practice expertise include pediatrics, trauma-informed occupational therapy, and holistic approaches to substance use disorder, and she holds AOTA Board Certification in Pediatrics. She owns a private, outpatient pediatric practice in rural western Pennsylvania, and she co-founded a nonprofit organization that uses occupation to address community, societal, and population needs. Dr. Stover's interests include using occupational therapy as a powerful driving force for larger health care change, advancing occupational therapy's national and global relevance, and occupational therapy's role in leading policy development and implementation. Dr. Stover has transformed the way occupational therapy is recognized and valued as a solution to community and societal challenges in her work with elected and appointed officials. She is a zealous advocate for the occupational therapy profession, fostering access and advancing the profession. Integrating her legal training with master clinical skills, Dr. Stover has developed a uniquely multimodal and individualized approach to advocacy that has led to policy changes at the state and national levels.

## AOTA Roster of Fellows



**Diversity Champion and Occupational Therapy Change Agent**  
**Arameh Anvarizadeh**, OTD, OTR/L



**Exceptional Leadership in School-Based Practice**  
**Julie Bissell**, OTD, OTR/L, ATP



**Servant Leader in Service, Education, and Scholarship**  
**Jessica J. Bolduc**, DrOT, MS, OTR/L



**Exemplary Advocacy, Teaching, Mentorship, and Scholarship**  
**Ann Chapleau**, DHS, OTR/L



**Exemplary Leadership Through Service, Teaching, Advocacy, Mentorship**  
**Megan Elizabeth Edwards Collins**, PhD, OTR/L, CAPS, CFP



**Active Professional Contribution, Authentic Mentorship, Academic Enthusiasm**  
**Elizabeth A. Fain**, EdD, MLD, CDT, OTR/L



**Unifying our Profession Through Advocacy, Leadership, Education**  
**Becky Finni**, DHS, OTR/L, RAC-CT



**Change Leader of Professional Advocacy and Inclusion**  
**Victoria Garcia Wilburn**, DHSc, OTR, CLT



**Leading Innovation, Excellence, and Scholarship in Education**  
**Amanda K. Giles**, OTD, OTR/L



**Innovative Interdisciplinary Science Advancing Motor Performance Skills**  
**Simone V. Gill**, PhD, OTR/L



**Fierce Advocate: OT Services, Policies, and Practice**  
**Karen J. Hefler**, OT, OTR



**Ethical Leadership: Innovative Practitioner, Educator, and Researcher**  
**Brenda S. Howard**, DHSc, OTR



**Bold Servant Leader and Occupational Therapy Advocate**  
**Heather J. Kitching**, MA, OTD, OTR/L



**Promoting Wellness and Leadership Through Meaningful Involvement**  
**Cynthia Lau**, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, C/NDT



**Servant Leader, Dedicated Educator, and Passionate Mentor**  
**Diane Long**, EdD, MOTR/L



**Bold Leadership, Unwavering Advocacy of Occupational Therapy**  
**Denise M. Miller**, MBA, OTR/L



**Scholar, Mentor, Community Advocate, and Educator**  
**Claire M. Mulry**, OTD, OTR/L, CAPS



**Exemplary Leadership: Early Childhood and Interprofessional Education**  
**Christine Myers**, PhD, OTR/L



**Dedication and Extraordinary Leadership in Occupational Therapy**  
**Sarah Nielsen**, PhD, OTR/L



**Occupational Justice Through Action, Research, Education, Practice**  
**Janet Njelesani**, PhD, OTR/L



**Outstanding Impact Through Leadership, Mentorship, and Education**  
**Bridgett Piernik-Yoder**, PhD, OTR



**Leadership, Advocacy, and Women's Health Occupational Therapy**  
**Mara Podvey**, PhD, OTR, PMH-C



**Consummate Practitioner-Scholar, Tenacious Advocate, Empowering Mentor**  
**Sharon A. Ray**, ScD, OTR/L



**Vision-Inspired Thought Leadership in Environmental Modifications**  
**Carolyn Sithong**, MS, OTR/L, SCEM, CAPS



**Consistent and Sustained Contributions to the Profession**  
**Jeanne Sowers**, OTD, MA, OTR



**An Indefatigably Zealous Advocate for OT**  
**Pam Stephenson**, OTD, OTR/L



**Committed Leader Expanding Occupational Therapy's Impact**  
**Lisa A. Test**, OTD, OTR/L

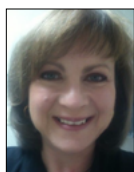


**Breaking Global Silence Addressing Sexuality and Intimacy**  
**Beth Ann Walker**, PhD, MS, OTR, QIDP

## Terry Brittell OTA/OT Partnership Award



**Kristi Emerson, OTA/L**  
Columbia, Tennessee



**LeeAnn Holt, OTD, OT/L**  
Columbia State Community College  
Columbia, Tennessee

### *Leading Collaboratively With Integrity, Ethics, and Compassion*

Ms. Kristi Emerson and Dr. LeeAnn Holt represent the importance of an OTA/OT collaborative partnership. Together, they worked closely with the United States Government to put a spotlight on fraud and ethical violations within the health care industry. They have provided education on ethics to students and practicing therapists via in-person lectures as well as video conferencing. Along with ethics, they emphasize the importance of accountability and collaboration between the OTA/OT team when caring for clients. They created a social media page to provide therapists from multiple disciplines with a venue to discuss current ethical challenges.

Ms. Emerson graduated from the OTA program at Wallace State Community College in 1998 and has worked predominantly in the skilled nursing facility (SNF) setting. She was also a clinical fieldwork supervisor for Level I and Level II students for many years.

Dr. Holt graduated in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in OT from Western Michigan University. She received her doctorate in OT in 2012. She has predominantly worked in the SNF setting in many capacities, including Regional Rehab Director.

## Recognition of Achievement Award



**Jana Cason, DHSc, OTR/L, FAOTA**  
Spalding University  
Louisville, Kentucky

### *Advancement of Telehealth for Occupational Therapy Practice*

Dr. Jana Cason is a professor in the Auerbach School of Occupational Therapy at Spalding University. Her sustained leadership over the past decade, strategic partnerships and initiatives, and development of telehealth standards and guidelines provided a foundation for occupational therapy's rapid transition to telehealth in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Cason served as Chairperson of the American Telemedicine Association's Telerehabilitation Special Interest Group and Chairperson of AOTA's Technology Special Interest Section, among other volunteer leadership positions. In addition, she has made significant contributions to the telehealth literature. She serves as Senior Associate Editor of the *International Journal of Telerehabilitation*, an open-access, peer-reviewed, Pub-Med and Scopus indexed journal with readership representing 130 countries. In partnership with Dr. Melanie Criss, Dr. Cason launched TelehealthShare with the mission to empower practitioners with the tools and knowledge to confidently implement meaningful, engaging, and effective telehealth sessions. Both the TelehealthShare website and YouTube channel have been instrumental in assisting therapists' transition to telehealth in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Cason's pioneering efforts have advanced telehealth in OT, provided many notable contributions to the profession and its consumers, and left a lasting impact on the profession of occupational therapy.



**Deborah Yarett Slater, OT, MSOT, FAOTA**  
Boston, Massachusetts

### *Ethics Educator, Role Model, Mentor, Author, Consultant*

Deborah Yarett Slater's career has spanned more than 46 years in diverse clinical and organizational management roles. Most recently, she served as the Ethics Program Manager and Governance Liaison to the Ethics Commission (EC), the Special Interest Sections, and the Representative Assembly at AOTA. Ms. Slater led the EC through multiple revisions of the *Occupational Therapy Code of Ethics* and its *Enforcement Procedures*. She educated practitioners and stakeholders in applications

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of ethical principles across practice settings, consistently instructing, modeling, mentoring, consulting, and advocating for decisions that upheld these principles and values, even when these decisions were difficult or unpopular. Ms. Slater has authored or co-authored more than 30 articles, book chapters, online courses, and professional guidelines on applied ethics and practice management. Moreover, she has advanced the profession through numerous presentations to local, state, and national audiences, and through teaching ethics in OT educational programs.

Ms. Slater is an AOTA Roster of Fellows recipient and received numerous Service Awards for volunteer leadership positions over her career. In 2002, she received the Herbert Hall Award for Outstanding Service to the Occupational Therapy Profession from the Massachusetts Association for Occupational Therapy. In 2005, she received the Distinguished Alumna Award from Columbia University in New York.

## Outstanding Mentor Award



**Gloria Frolek Clark, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA**  
Gloria Frolek Clark, LLC  
Adel, Iowa

### *Inspirational Researcher, Clinician, Educator, and Mentor*

Dr. Gloria Frolek Clark has been active in education, research, and policy, but practice with children and their caregivers has been the heart of her work for more than 40 years. Within two years of graduation from the University of North Dakota in 1977, she began working in early intervention and school practice. For 15 years, she also worked part time as a consultant for the Iowa Department of Education. In 2010, she graduated with a PhD from Iowa State University and began a private practice, providing national presentations, focused consultations to school districts, and services to children and families. Over the span of 40 years, Dr. Frolek Clark has held leadership and mentor roles at her work as well as state and national professional organizations, including service as an AOTA Board Director. She has authored several articles and chapters, and co-edited several books including: *Best Practices for Occupational Therapy in Schools (2nd ed.)*; *Best Practices for Documentation in Schools*; *Best Practices for Occupational Therapy in Early Childhood*; and *Occupational Therapy Practice Guidelines for Early Childhood: Birth–5 Years (2nd ed.)*.

## Health Advocate Award



**Leonard Matheson, PhD, CVE, CRC**  
EPIC Neurorehabilitation & Psychology  
Services, Inc.  
Chico, California

### *Work-Oriented Neurorehabilitation Pioneer, Educator, and Policy Advocate*

Dr. Leonard Matheson is a neurorehabilitation psychologist and inventor who has published more than 60 peer-reviewed papers and 100 invited papers and chapters in occupational rehabilitation. He was the originator of *Work Hardening and Work Capacity Evaluation* and authored the chapters on *Functional Capacity Evaluation* in the American Medical Association's Disability Evaluation textbooks. He continues to develop innovative methods and tools to facilitate the work of occupational therapists. He helped to establish and served as an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation* and is on the editorial board of *Work: A Journal of Prevention, Assessment & Rehabilitation*. He retired after 15 years as an Associate Professor of Neurology and an Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. He maintains an active consulting, psychotherapy, and online education practice to help people who have physical, neurological, and psychological disabilities that stem from severe trauma exposure in both civilian and military activities.

## Emerging & Innovative Practice Award



**Adam Cisroe Pearson, OTD, OTR/L**  
Peter & Paul Community Services  
St. Louis, Missouri

### *Exemplary Leadership in Housing and Homeless Services*

Dr. Adam Cisroe Pearson is the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Peter & Paul Community Services (PPCS). He has held several social services and academic roles in his career, with the primary aims of assisting members of the community who are homeless and have disabilities, and building the research and social policy framework for assisting them. In his present role at PPCS he leads a division of more than 50 staff members; and oversees all services, programs, facilities, and strategic planning for the agency.

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Prior to serving as the COO, he served as the first Program Director of Garfield Place Apartments at PPCS. In that role he helped to facilitate the renovation of a housing development designed for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. In addition to leveraging his skills as a clinician to build the program and hire all of the staff, he navigated the world of tax credits, housing vouchers, and special needs housing policy to successfully launch the program.

Dr. Pearson hopes to use his leadership skillset and his occupational therapy lens to be an integral part of solving homelessness in the St. Louis region.

## Distinguished Fieldwork Educator Award



**Janice D. Hinds, MS, OTR/L, BCMH**  
Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan  
Denver, Colorado

### *Outstanding Fieldwork Educator: Compassionate, Authentic, Collaborative Advocate*

Janice Hinds is an occupational therapist at the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan in Denver. In this capacity, she provides an abundance of clinical education opportunities collaborating with an interprofessional team to partner with clients with complex severe persistent mental illness (SPMI) on their journeys of recovery. Her person-centered, occupation-based OT perspective encompasses trauma-informed care, OT Intervention Process Model constructs, clinical reasoning, functional cognition, compassion, holding hope, and finding joy. She served as a founding OTA Program Director, and she seeks opportunities to mentor new practitioners in leadership roles. Ms. Hinds is a long-standing, active member of the Occupational Therapy Association of Colorado, having served in multiple leadership roles, and of AOTA, currently serving in the role of Recorder for the Representative Assembly.

## Cordelia Myers AJOT Best Article Award



**Sharon A. Gutman, PhD, OTR, FAOTA**  
Columbia University  
New York, New York



**Sheetala Balasubramanian, OTR/L**  
Sensory Freeway Therapy Services  
New York, New York



**Maya Herzog, OTR/L**  
The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.  
Seattle, Washington



**Elizabeth Kim Liu, OTR/L**  
El Camino Hospital  
Los Gatos, California



**Hannah Swirnow, OTR/L**  
NYU Langone Health Rusk Rehabilitation  
New York, New York



**Yudis Retig, MS, OTR**  
NYC Department of Education  
New York, New York



**Samantha Wolff, MS, OTR/L**  
AHRC New York City  
Brooklyn, New York

Gutman, S. A., Balasubramanian, S., Herzog, M., Kim, E., Swirnow, H., Retig, Y., & Wolff, S. (2020). Effectiveness of a tailored intervention for women with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and ADHD symptoms: A randomized controlled study. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 74, 7401205010. <https://doi.org/10.5014/ajot.2020.033316>

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a condition that can affect an individual's ability to succeed across multiple occupational areas, including in employ-

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ment, school, parenting, and spousal roles. Research examining interventions specifically for women with ADHD is lacking. To address this gap, the authors manualized and tested the effects of a 7-week intervention that focused on (1) establishing routines, (2) organizing personal physical environments, (3) enhancing time management skills, (4) monitoring and regulating sensory stimulation, and (5) developing effective stress management skills. A randomized controlled design was used with 23 women assigned to either an intervention or a control group. The intervention group showed significantly greater gains in areas of perceived stress and ADHD symptoms, as well as performance and satisfaction with desired roles and activities as measured by the Canadian Occupational Performance Measure (COPM). This intervention provides an occupation-based, nonpharmacological intervention option for women with ADHD symptoms.

## Jeanette Bair Writer's Award



**Lynn Gitlow**, PhD, OTR/L, ATP, FAOTA  
Ithaca College  
Ithaca, New York



**David M. Merlo**, MS, COTA/L, CPRP, ROH  
Bryant & Stratton College  
Rochester, New York

Gitlow, L., & Merlo, D. (2020). Technology interventions for individuals with mental health conditions. *OT Practice*, 25(1), 10–13.

The largest group of students with disabilities on campuses today are students who experience mental health conditions; yet applying adaptive and everyday technology solutions to these populations is complicated by a dearth of research, practice guidelines, and models to guide clinical reasoning.

Often, occupational therapy practitioners who work with individuals who have serious mental health conditions are not accustomed to using technology solutions to address these clients' occupational needs. Likewise, practitioners who specialize in applying technology solutions often do not have extensive experience working with individuals with several mental health conditions. This article attempts to bridge these gaps by referencing research, guidelines, and models to support effective clinical reasoning and solutions.

## Special Interest Section Quarterly Excellence in Writing Award



**Anne V. Kirby**, PhD, OTR/L  
University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, Utah



**Jarrett Henderson**, OTR/L  
University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, Utah



**Ariel Schwartz**, PhD, OTR/L  
Boston University Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation  
Boston, Massachusetts



**Jessica Kramer**, PhD, OTR/L  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, Florida



**Brandi N. Whitaker**, PhD  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
Little Rock, Arkansas



**Alexandra L. Terrill**, PhD  
University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Kirby, A. V., Henderson, J., Schwartz, A., Kramer, J., Whitaker, B. N., & Terrill, A. L. (2020). Youth suicide prevention and occupational therapy: What can we do? *SIS Quarterly Practice Connections*, 5(3), 6–8.

Youth suicide is a growing concern. Despite occupational therapy practitioners' historical emphasis on mental health, those working with children and youth often do not believe they are prepared to address youth suicide. This article provides specific recommendations for pediatric occupational therapy providers and examples of suicide prevention training resources. Occupational therapy practitioners have frequent interactions with youth who may be at risk for suicide, and therefore have a responsibility to be prepared to assess for and know how to respond to suicidality.

## AOTF Leadership Service Commendation



**Wendy J. Coster**, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA  
Boston University  
Boston, Massachusetts

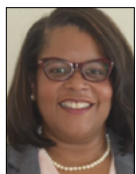
Dr. Wendy Coster has served on the AOTF Scientific Advisory Council since 2012 and became the Chair in 2018. Her scientific knowledge, expertise, and experience have added greatly to committee deliberations related to discussions of health care possibilities involving occupational therapy. She has devoted hundreds of hours to the Council. During her tenure, she has contributed to Board and staff reports that summarize the state of the science in occupational therapy, research priorities for advancing knowledge and building research capacity, and their recommendations for Foundation goals and strategic initiatives. She has given generously of her time and personal resources.



**M. Pollie Price**, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA  
The University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dr. Pollie Price has served on the AOTF Scholarship Selection Committee since 2014, became the Vice Chair in 2018, then Chair in 2019. After serving two terms on the Committee, she has devoted countless hours of her time and expertise to reviewing scholarship applications. With more than 15 years in academia, she has a keen understanding of and commitment to the scholarship process, recommending candidates to receive scholarships through AOTF and its scholarship program partners.

## AOTF Meritorious Service Award



**Tara C. Alexander**, OTR/L, CPC  
North Texas Veterans Affairs Medical Center  
Dallas, Texas

Tara Alexander has served with distinction as a Trustee of AOTF since 2018. She is currently the Mental Health Team Leader for inpatient and outpatient occupational therapy and kinesiology therapy services for the North Texas Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Ms. Alexander served as a member of the AOTF Audit Committee where she reviewed and provided oversight and accuracy of the Foundation's

financial statements for the annual audit. She also ensured adequacy of the organization's risk management methodology and internal controls. Ms. Alexander served as a member of the AOTF Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force, which has created a new standing committee STRIDE (Standing for Research Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity) dedicated to promoting diversity & belonging, combatting racism, healing trauma, and achieving equity and social justice. She will continue as a member of the AOTF STRIDE Committee. Her tenure on the Board is valued as she continues to volunteer her time to committee activities at the Foundation.



**Roger I. Ideishi**, JD, OT/L, FAOTA  
George Washington University  
Washington, District of Columbia

Roger Ideishi is the Director of Occupational Therapy and Professor of Health, Human Function & Rehabilitation Sciences at George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences. He has served with distinction as Trustee of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation since 2018. Mr. Ideishi is currently the Chair of the AOTF Development Council. He has supported the Foundation's overall fundraising efforts, continues to make efforts in donor engagement, and promotes AOTF to both the profession and the public. Mr. Ideishi will also continue to volunteer his time as a member of the newly created AOTF standing committee STRIDE (Standing for Research Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity) to assist in identifying and addressing any barriers in the OT community to full inclusion. Mr. Ideishi's involvement with the Foundation is valued and respected.



**Mary Lawlor**, ScD, OTR/L, FAOTA  
University of Southern California  
Los Angeles, California

Dr. Mary Lawlor is the Associate Chair of Research and Professor, joint appointment with the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California, Department of Pediatrics. She has served, with distinction, as Trustee of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation since 2017, becoming the Chair of the Board in 2018. Dr. Lawlor is known for her work in the areas of pediatric occupational therapy, maternal and child health, family-centered care, interdisciplinary models of service delivery, and ethnographic research. During her tenure as Chair, she has been involved in committee activities and has dedicated

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her time to attending and hosting cultivation events, leading various discussions during AOTF events at AOTA's Annual Conference, and building partnerships with friends and stakeholders of the Foundation. Dr. Lawlor led the establishment of the new AOTF standing committee STRIDE (Standing for Research Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity). Her commitment to the Foundation is valued and greatly appreciated.

## AOTF Fred Sammons Volunteer Recognition Award



**Patricia Booth, MAT**  
Chicago, Illinois

Patricia (Pat) Booth received her BA from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and her MAT from Radcliffe College/Harvard Graduate School of Education, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She worked at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC) for 20 years in progressive areas of administrative responsibility and retired as Assistant Administrator of the hospital. During her time there she worked with many OTs, which is how she came to learn and love the practice. She is a strong advocate for both OT and evidence-based practice. Ms. Booth has served with distinction as a public Board Member of AOTF from 2007 to 2011 and Secretary of the AOTF Board of Trustees from 2012 to 2015. Ms. Booth was the Founding Chair of the AOTF Development Council and continued to serve as its Chair from 2010 to 2015. In 2017, she became the Chair of the AOTF Audit Committee and continues in that role. Her insightful perspective as a public member contributed greatly to Board deliberations, Board development, governance, strategic planning, and decision-making. Her knowledge and experience added greatly to discussions of 21st century health care possibilities involving occupational therapy.

Ms. Booth has donated to AOTF since 2007 to support research grants, the Kielhofner fund, and areas of greatest need. She is very happy to support AOTF given the limited resources for OT research and has been excited to see AOTF grow to support three important research grants: the Intervention Research Grant, the Health Services Research Grant, and the Implementation Research Grant. Ms. Booth has given generously of her time and other personal resources to advance the aims of the Foundation.

## AOTF A. Jean Ayres Award



**Leah Stein Duker, PhD, OTR/L**  
University of Southern California  
Los Angeles, California

Dr. Leah Stein Duker's work capitalizes on occupational therapy's unique ability to integrate providers' and clients' needs. She seeks to understand environmental barriers and facilitators in order to develop tailored modifications to enhance clients' participation in needed and desired activities. Her research focuses on identifying sensory, social, and physical factors and developing strategies to reduce stress and anxiety.

Dr. Duker's research has improved health encounters for clinical and typical populations in dentistry, primary care, oncology, and emergency care, expanding the role of occupational therapy. Dr. Duker is the leading researcher to describe sensory issues related to oral care in children with autism.



**Scott D. Tomchek, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**  
University of Louisville  
Louisville, Kentucky

Dr. Scott Tomchek is Professor, Assistant Director, and Chief Occupational Therapist in the Weisskopf Center in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Louisville School of Medicine. His research has included highly cited studies in sensory processing, AOTA-sponsored practice guidelines, and numerous book chapters. Additionally, he was one of the first to link sensory processing to behaviors associated with autism. He frequently speaks at both OT and interdisciplinary national conferences and is a recognized expert in sensory processing and autism research. Dr. Tomchek is a state-wide and national leader in OT and autism research communities.

## AOTF Virginia Scardina Award of Excellence



**Aimee Piller, PhD, OTR/L, BCP**  
Piller Child Development, LLC  
Phoenix, Arizona

Dr. Aimee Piller has made significant contributions to the field of occupational therapy in the areas of sensory integration and evidence-based practice. She owns and operates

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a multisite, multidiscipline therapy clinic with specialization in sensory integration. She engages in research in practice to examine the effectiveness of sensory-related interventions, trains and mentors therapists, and develops treatment modules focused on sensory-based interventions. She has many publications and presentations supporting the importance of sensory-based interventions in improving outcomes for children with sensory processing differences.

## AOTF Early Career Research Excellence Award



**Chih-Ying (Cynthia) Li, PhD, OTR/L**  
University of Texas Medical Branch  
Galveston, Texas

Dr. Chih-Ying (Cynthia) Li is an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) and a National Institutes of Health (NIH)-supported career development award (K01) recipient from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research. Dr. Li conducts health services research and comparative effectiveness research with a focus on rehabilitation outcomes and standardized functional measurement. Dr. Li is the principal investigator of the 2017 UTMB Claude Pepper Older Americans Independence Center Pilot Award funded by NIH/National Institute on Aging, and the 2020 Health Services Research Grant funded by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation. She is also a Select Scholar of the 2019 NIH-funded Training in Grantsmanship for Rehabilitation Research (TIGRR) fellowship.

## AOTF Mid-Career Research Excellence Award



**Jessica Kramer, PhD, OTR/L**  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, Florida

Dr. Jessica Kramer is nationally and internationally known for her scholarly work in development and evaluation of assessments and interventions to empower participation of youth and young adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD). She has successfully integrated participatory research methodologies with youth and young adults with I/DD into rigorous, best practice methods for assessment and intervention development and evaluation.

Moreover, Dr. Kramer utilized a conceptual framework to design cognitively accessible Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs), leading to developing the Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory-Patient Reported Outcome (PEDI-PRO), as well as other PROMs adopted worldwide, including the PEDI-CAT, PEDI-CAT (ASD), and others.

## AOTF Academy of Research



**Kathleen Doyle Lyons, ScD, OTR/L**  
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health, Geisel  
School of Medicine at Dartmouth College  
Lebanon, New Hampshire

Dr. Kathleen Lyons is a rehabilitation scientist focused on building the evidence base for occupational therapists working in oncology. She is trained in experimental design, mixed methods, and implementation science. Her research program is designed to answer the following question: *How can we support people living with cancer to fully participate in meaningful activities, life roles, and society through theory-driven and evidence-based rehabilitation?* She designs and tests pragmatic interventions that blend occupational therapy with behavioral therapies. Her research is primarily community-based, as she has developed both telehealth and home-based interventions.



**Shawn C. Roll, PhD, OTR/L, RMSKS, FAOTA, FAIUM**  
University of Southern California  
Los Angeles, California

Dr. Shawn Roll is an Associate Professor at the University of Southern California's Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, where he also directs the PhD in Occupational Science program. Dr. Roll is a licensed occupational therapist, registered sonographer, and occupational scientist who studies the relationships between musculoskeletal conditions of the arms and hands, people's ability to perform activities, and their health outcomes within the workplace. His specialties include using ultrasound to study carpal tunnel syndrome, which affects an estimated 10 million Americans with annual health care costs of \$2 billion. He also studies holistic approaches for improving the experience and results of hand therapy. His largest current project, funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, is designing the next generation of intelligent "smart desks" that can automatically learn from, adapt to, and respond to users' habits and preferences to improve their health at work.

## 2021 AOTA Retired Educators Award

The following individuals are being acknowledged for their exceptional leadership and commitment to the advancement of occupational therapy education.

**Barbara Brockevelt**, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

**Ann Burkhardt**, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA

**Susan L. Cheng**, MS, OTR/L

**Phyllis A. Clements**, MAEd, OTRL

**Albert E. Copolillo**, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

**Jeanenne Dallas**, MA, OTR/L, FAOTA

**Carole Dennis**, ScD, OTR/L

**Cindy Kief**, ND, COTA/L, ROH

**Christine Moser**, PhD, OTR, FAOTA

**Victoria Schindler**, PhD, OTR, FAOTA

**Erica B. Stern**, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

## 2021 AOTA Service Commendations

**Barbara Abbott**, OTD, OTR/L, BCP, SCSS

Co-author, *The Role of Occupational Therapy in Postsecondary Transition Planning*, 2020

**Elaine Craddy Adams**, MPPA, OTR, FAOTA

AOTA Advisor, Coding & Payment Policy, 2020

AOTA Advisor, Skilled Nursing Facility Policy, 2020

**Robin Akselrud**, OTD, OTR/L

Leadership and Management Coordinator, Home & Community Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Katie Alexander**, OTD, MS, OTR/L

Co-author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Opportunities, Enhancing Services for Autistic Individuals*, 2020

**Corinne Allen**, MSOT, OTR/L

ASD Representative, Volunteer Leadership Development Committee, 2019–2021

Student Representative to the Volunteer Leadership Development Committee, Assembly of Student Delegates Steering Committee, 2019–2021

**Kayleigh Allen**, OTD, OTR/L

AOTA Advocate, Pediatric Practice, 2020

**Jennifer Allison**, OTD, OTR/L, BCMH, CCAP

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Patricia Alt**, PhD

Public Member, Disciplinary Council, 2017–2020

**Judy Anderson**, OTR/L

Ohio Representative, Representative Assembly, 2018–2021

**Evelyn Andersson**, PhD, OTR/L, RYT

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Arameh Anvarizadeh**, OTD, OTR/L

Credentials Review and Accountability Committee Chairperson, Representative Assembly, 2018–2021

**Paul Arthur**, PhD, OTR/L, OTA

Director, Board of Directors, 2018–2021

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

**Rachel Ashcraft**, MS, OTR/L

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

Policy Advisor, Early Intervention, Private Practice, 2020

**Heidi Baist**, OTD, MEd, OTR/L

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2018–2021

**Tanya Bay**, OTD, OTR/L, BCP, BCMH

Member, Disciplinary Council, 2017–2020

**Roxanna Bendixen**, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

OT Advocate, Disability and Rehabilitation Research Coalition Meetings at National Institutes of Health, 2019

**Leslie Bennett**, OTD, OTR/L

Member-at-Large, Ethics Commission, 2019–2021

**David Benthall**, MS, OTR/L

North Carolina Representative, Representative Assembly, 2018–2021

**Tara Boehne**, OTD, OTR/L

Member, Commission on Continuing Competence and Professional Development, 2015–2021

**Tiffany Bolton**, OTD, MOT, OTR/L

Communications Coordinator, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

Member, OT Curriculum Design Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Richard Bookwalter**, MS, OTR/L

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

**Cheryl Boop**, MS, OTR/L

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

**Alfred Bracciano**, EdD, MSA, OTR/L, FAOTA

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

*continued*

**Ellenmarie Brady, OTD, OTR/L, RN**

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2018–2021

**Brent Braveman, OTR, PhD, FAOTA**

Advisor, Merit-Based Incentive Payment System Cost Measure, 2020–2021

Representative, National Quality Forum Cancer Portfolio Standing Committee, 2020

Representative, National Quality Forum Co-Design Patient-Centered Health Systems Committee, 2020

**Catherine Brennan, MA, OTR, FAOTA**

Contributor, Pediatric Billing and Coding Education, 2020

**Lacey Bukoskey, MS, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2017–2020

**Harriett Bynum, MS, OTR/L**

Member, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 2015–2021

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2012–2015

**Susan Cahill, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

**Madeline Carbery, BS**

Associate Editor, *OT Student Pulse*, 2020–2021

**Laura Caron-Parker, OTR/L**

Volunteer, Virtual CarFit Curriculum, July–December 2020

**Theresa Carroll, OTD, OTR/L**

Co-author, *The Role of Occupational Therapy in Postsecondary Transition Planning*, 2020

Co-Facilitator, Transitions Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Nancy Carson, PhD, OTR/L, FNAP, FAOTA**

Member, Addressing Cultural Awareness & Humility Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Jana Cason, DHSc, OTR/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Telehealth Advocacy, 2020

**Monique Chabot, OTD, OTR/L, CLIPP, CAPS, CLA**

Young Professionals Coordinator, Home & Community Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Sapna Chakraborty, OTD, OTR/L**

Member, Addressing Cultural Awareness & Humility Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

Member, Educator Resource Task Force, Commission on Education, 2020

**Felicia Chew, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2020

**Elizabeth Chiariello, PhD, MS, OTR/L**

Member, Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures Committee, 2020–2021

**Kim Clairry, OTR/L**

Podcast Speaker, Supporting Autism Across the Lifespan, 01/13/2020

**Robin Clearman, OTR, CLT**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2017–2020

**Dennis Cleary, MS, OTD, OTR/L**

Member, OT Curriculum Design Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Erin Clemens, OTR/L, BCP, CIMI**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2018–2021

**Megan Colletti, MS, OTR/L**

Policy Advisor, Pain and Substance Use Disorder, 2020

**Megan Collins, PhD, OTR/L**

Member, Educator Resource Task Force, Commission on Education, 2020

**Shaun Conway, OTR**

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

Member, OT Licensure Compact Drafting Team, 2020

**Carol Conway, MS, OTR/L**

Policy Advisor, School-Based Practice, 2020

**Jennifer Coyne, MS, OTR/L**

Policy Advisor, Early Intervention, Private Practice, 2020

**Jeffrey Crabtree, OTD, MS, FAOTA**

Member, Disciplinary Council, 2017–2020

**Jeanenne Dallas, MA, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

**Missy Dappen, MS, OTR/L**

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2018–2021

*continued*



**Leslie Davidson, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Coding and Payment Policy, 2020

**Charlotte Davis, MS, OTR/L**

Assembly of Student Delegates Liaison to Commission on Practice, 2019–2021

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

Student Representative to the Commission on Practice, Assembly of Student Delegates Steering Committee, 2019–2021

**Marguerite Deforge, OTD, OTR/L**

Member, Addressing Cultural Awareness & Humility Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Sonja Deshon-Buchanan, OTR/L, CPAM**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2018–2020

**Brigitte Desport, DPS, OTR/L, BCP, ATP**

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Pamela DiPasquale-Lehnerz, MS, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2020

**Carol Doehler, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2016–2020

**Regina Doherty, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA, FNAP**

Member, Interprofessional Education Task Force, Commission on Education, 2020

**Dorene Doi, OTR/L**

Contributor, OT Telehealth Backgrounder Provided to Congress, 2019

**Joy Doll, OTD, OTR/L, FNAP**

AOTA Advisor, Quality Advisory Group, 2020

Author, *Role of Occupational Therapy in Primary Care*, 2020

Member, Interprofessional Education Task Force, Commission on Education, 2020

**Julie Dorsey, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA, CEAS**

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

Chairperson, Commission on Practice, 2020–2021

COP Chairperson, Representative Assembly, 2020–2021

**Ronald Drummond, OTD**

Chairperson, Assembly of Student Delegates Steering Committee, 2019–2021

**Kathryn Eberhardt, MAEd, COTA/L, ROH**

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

Member, OT Licensure Compact Drafting Team, 2020

**Jessica Engman, OTR/L**

Policy Advisor, Pain and Substance Use Disorder, 2020

**Nicole Ernat, OTR/L**

Co-Facilitator, Homelessness Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Sarah Fabrizi, PhD, OTR/L**

Co-Facilitator, Early Childhood Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Ann Marie Feretti, EdD, OTR/L, CHT**

AOTA Advisor, Quality Advisory Group, 2020

**Claudette Fette, PhD, OTR, CRC**

Advocacy and Policy Coordinator, Mental Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Rebecca Finni, DHS, OTR/L, RAC-CT**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Thomas F. Fisher, PhD, OTR, CCM, FAOTA**

Indiana AOTPA Ambassador for Outstanding Service, 2020

**Erin Foster, PhD, OTD, OTR/L**

Representative, American Academy of Neurology Movement Disorders Measure Workgroup, 2020

**Mary Foto, CCM, FAOTA, OT**

AOTA Advisor, Coding and Payment Policy, 2020

**Leah Furguele, OTR/L**

Young Professionals Coordinator, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2020–2021

**Jessica Gaffney, MS, OTR/L**

Chief Editor, *OT Student Pulse*, 2020–2021

**Victoria Garcia Wilburn, DHS, OTR, CLT**

Chairperson, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2018–2021

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

*continued*

**Mindy Garfinkel, OTD, ATP, OTR/L**

Co-Facilitator, School-Based Community of Practice, 2020–2021

Technology Coordinator, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Jamie Geraci, MS, OTR/L**

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2017–2020

**Amy Gerney, OTD, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Tippi Geron, OTR/L**

AOTA Advisor, Coding & Payment Policy, 2020

**Varleisha Gibbs, PhD, OTD, OTR/L**

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

Member, Commission on Practice, 2018–2020

**Kim Gilbert, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Amanda Giles, OTD, OTR/L**

Member, OT Curriculum Design Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Gordon Giles, PhD, DIP COT, OTR/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Quality Advisory Group, 2020

**Marian Gillard, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2012–2021

**Lynn Gitlow, PhD, OTR/L, ATP, FAOTA**

Technology Coordinator, Mental Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Bryden Giving, MOT, OTR/L**

Contributor, Pediatric Billing and Coding Education, 2020

**Lynnae Glascock, MOT, OTR/L, BCP**

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Tara Glennon, EdD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Coding & Payment Policy, 2020

Contributor, Pediatric Billing and Coding Education, 2020

**Kathleen Golisz, OTD, OTR, FAOTA**

Volunteer, Virtual CarFit Curriculum, July–December 2020

**Susan Goszewski, MSM, OTR**

Policy Advisor, Pain and Substance Use Disorder, 2020

**Lenin Grajo, EdM, PhD, OTR**

Member, Addressing Cultural Awareness & Humility Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Meredith Gronski, OTD, OTR/L, CLA**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Clarice Grote, MS, OTR/L**

Advocacy and Policy Coordinator, Home & Community Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

AOTA Advisor, Home Health Policy, 2020

Missouri AOTPA Ambassador for Outstanding Service, 2020

**Nicola Grun, MOTR/L**

Quarterly Editor, Home & Community Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Kerrin Gullison, MS, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Florence Hannes, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Kimberly Hartmann, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, OT Curriculum Design Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Karen Hefler, OT, OTR**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**M. Bill Hellyer, MS, OTR/L**

Co-author, *The Role of Occupational Therapy in Postsecondary Transition Planning*, 2020

**Brian Herr, MOT, OTR/L**

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

**James Hill, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2018–2020

**Robert Hobbs, MPH, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2020

**Lindsey Hoffman, MSOT, OTR/L**

Mentor, *OT Student Pulse*, 2020

**Lauren Holahan, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Policy Advisor, School System Practice, 2020

*continued*

**Jan Hollenbeck, OTD, OTR/L**

Co-author, *The Role of Occupational Therapy in Postsecondary Transition Planning*, 2020

Co-Facilitator, State Leaders in Department of Education Community of Practice, 2020–2021

Policy Advisor, School System Practice, 2020

**Timothy Holmes, OTD, OTR/L, COMS**

Vice Speaker, Representative Assembly, 2018–2021

**Donna Homenko, PhD, RDH**

Member, Disciplinary Council, 2017–2020

**Catherine Hoyt, OTD, PhD, OTR/L**

Author, *Occupational Therapy's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*, 2020

**Monica Hubbert, MOT, OTR/L, CLT-LANA**

Member, Commission on Continuing Competence and Professional Development, 2018–2021

**Cheranne Hunter-Bennett, MS, OTR/L**

Author, *Occupational Therapy's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*, 2020

**Emily Idemoto, OT/S**

Co-author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Opportunities, Enhancing Services for Autistic Individuals*, 2020

**Moses Ikiugu, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Delegate, World Federation of Occupational Therapists, 2019–2021

**Douglene Jackson, PhD, OTR/L, LMT, ATP**

Member, Addressing Cultural Awareness & Humility Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Celeste Januszewski, OTD, OTR/L, CPRP**

Quarterly Editor, Mental Health Special Interest Section, 2019–2021

**Gavin Jenkins, PhD, OTR/L, ATP**

OT-Academic Leadership Council Chairperson, Commission on Education, 2018–2021

**Vanessa Jewell, PhD, OTR/L**

Research Coordinator, Home & Community Health Special Interest Section, 2019–2021

**Stephanie Johnston, OTD, MA, OTR, FAOTA**

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

**Katie Jordan, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Coding & Payment Policy, 2020

AOTA Advisor, Telehealth Advocacy, 2020

Contributor, Pediatric Billing and Coding Education, 2020

National Quality Forum, Opioid Use Disorder Technical Expert Panel, 2020

**Mary Beth Kadlec, ScD, OTR/L**

Co-author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Opportunities, Enhancing Services for Autistic Individuals*, 2020

**Melisa Kaye, EdD, OTR/L**

Leadership and Management Coordinator, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Kimberly Kearney, COTA/L**

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

**Pauline Kelly, OTD, OTR/L**

Co-Facilitator, School-Based Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Mindy King, MOT, OTR/L**

Member, Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures Committee, 2020–2021

**Kathleen Kniepmann, EdM, OTD, OTR/L, MPH, CHES**

Member, Addressing Cultural Awareness & Humility Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Brenda Kornblit Kennell, MA, OTR/L**

Education Representative, Ethics Commission, 2018–2021

**Emmilie Kosiba, MOT**

Mentor, *OT Student Pulse*, 2020

**Brenda Koverman, MBA, MS, OTR/L**

AOTA Advisor, Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Policy, 2020

**Christine Kroll, OTD, MS, OTR, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Skilled Nursing Facility Policy, 2020

**Nancy Krusen, PhD, OTR/L**

Member, Educator Resource Task Force, Commission on Education, 2020

**Carol Lambdin-Pattavina, OTD, OTR/L**

Communications Coordinator, Mental Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Stephanie Lambers, MEd, OTR/L**

Volunteer, Virtual CarFit Curriculum, July–December 2020

*continued*



**Rebecca Langbein, OTD**

Associate Editor, *OT Student Pulse*, 2020–2021

**Elizabeth “Liz” Lannigan, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

SIS Liaison, Commission on Practice, 2018–2021

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process*, 4th Edition, 2020

Chairperson, Mental Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Patricia Laverdure, OTD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA**

Policy Advisor, School System Practice, 2020

AOTA Advisor, Coding and Payment Policy, 2020

**Lindsey Lawrence, BGS, COTA/L, ROH**

Member, Disciplinary Council, 2017–2020

**Katherine Lawson, PhD, LMSSW, OTR**

Member, Disciplinary Council, 2017–2020

**Su Jin Lee, OTR/L**

Technology Coordinator, Home & Community Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Natalie Leland, PhD, OTR/L, BCG, FAOTA, FGSA**

AOTA Advisor, Quality Advisory Group, 2020

AOTA Advisor, Skilled Nursing Facility Policy, 2020

Panelist, CMS Unified Payment for Post-Acute Care Technical Expert Panel, 2020

**Kimberly Lenington, OTD, OTR/L**

Advisor, Merit-based Incentive Payment System Cost Measure, 2020–2021

**Shannon Levandowski, OTD, OTR, BCP, SCSS**

Academic Fieldwork Coordinators-Academic Leadership Council Chairperson, Commission on Education, 2018–2021

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Michael Lopez, MOT, OTR/L**

Member, Volunteer Leadership Development Committee, 2018–2021

**Lisa Lowery, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Brenda Lyman, OTD, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Amy Lynch, PhD, SCFES, OTR/L**

Co-Facilitator, School Mental Health Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Kathleen Lyons, ScD, OTR/L**

Member, PCPI Cancer Technical Expert Panel, 2020

**Christene Maas, MA, OTR**

Co-author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Opportunities, Enhancing Services for Autistic Individuals*, 2020

Co-Facilitator, Autism Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Kelly Mahler, MS, OTR/L**

Podcast Speaker, Supporting Autism Across the Lifespan, 01/13/2020

**Karen Majeski, OTD, OTR/L**

Co-author, *The Role of Occupational Therapy in Postsecondary Transition Planning*, 2020

**Trudy Mallinson, PhD, OTR/L, NZROT, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Quality Advisory Group, 2020

Representative, National Quality Forum Measure Applications Partnership Clinician Workgroup, 2020

**Elizabeth Marfeo, PhD, MPH, OTR/L**

AOTA Advisor, Quality Advisory Group, 2020

**Kristen Masci, MS, OTR/L**

Policy Advisor, Early Intervention, Private Practice, 2020

**Sabrena McCarley, MBA-SL, OTR/L, CLIPP, RAC-CT, QCP, FAOTA**

Advisor, Merit-based Incentive Payment System Cost Measure, 2020–2021

AOTA Advisor, Skilled Nursing Facility Policy, 2020

**Mark McDavid, OTR, RAC-CT, CHC**

AOTA Advisor, Skilled Nursing Facility Policy, 2020

**Susan McDonald, EdD, OTR/L, BCP**

Member, Volunteer Leadership Development Committee, 2018–2021

**Jacqueline McGlamery, OTD**

Communications Coordinator, Home & Community Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Mary McGuire, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Coding and Payment Policy, 2020

**Sarah McKinnon, OTD, OTR/L, BCPR, MPA**

Secretary and Region I Director, AOTPA Board of Directors, 2018–2020

*continued*

**Julie McLaughlin Gray, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, Addressing Cultural Awareness & Humility Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

Member, OT Curriculum Design Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Lizabeth Metzger, MS, OTR/L**

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

Member, Commission on Practice, 2018–2021

**Elizabeth Miller, OTR/L, CHT**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Julie Miller, MOT, OTR/L, SWC**

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

**Brian Mills, MOTR/L, IFE, CEAS, CHT**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Carey Minard, OTD, OTR/L**

Professional Development Coordinator, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2019–2021

**Clarissa Mireau, MA, OTR/L, TPS**

Policy Advisor, Pain and Substance Use Disorder, 2020

**Tracy Mroz, PhD, OTR/L**

AOTA Advisor, Home Health Policy, 2020

AOTA Advisor, Quality Advisory Group, 2020

**Adelaide Mueller, OTR/L**

Young Professionals Coordinator, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2019–2020

**Robert Mullaney, OTD, DBA, MBA-HAS, OTR/L**

Leadership and Management Coordinator, Mental Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2020

**Molly Nadeau, BS**

Associate Editor, *OT Student Pulse*, 2020–2021

**Steven Nakata, MBA, COTA**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2020

**An Thi Nguyen, OTD, OTR/L, ECHM**

Mentor, *OT Student Pulse*, 2020

**Susan Nickelson, OTR, OTD**

Co-Facilitator, Autism Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Laura Novak, OTR**

Chairperson, Home & Community Health Special Interest Section, 2019–2021

**Susan Noyes, PhD, OTR/L**

Research Coordinator, Mental Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Scott Orr, OTD, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Amy Owens, OTR**

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

**Grayson Owens, OTD, OTR/L**

Assembly of Student Delegates Communications & Advocacy Chair, *OT Student Pulse*, 2019–2021

**Rebecca Parks, MS, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA**

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Mary Patnaude, DHSc, OTR/L**

Member, OT Curriculum Design Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Kristie Patten, PhD, OT/L, FAOTA**

Policy Advisor, School-Based Practice, 2020

**Sandra Pelham-Foster, OTD, OTR/L, MPH**

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2017–2020

**Shawn Phipps, PhD, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA**

California Representative, Representative Assembly, 2018–2021

**Aimee Piller, PhD, OTR/L, BCP**

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Sheri Purdy, OTR/L, CLT**

Member, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 2015–2021

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2012–2015

**Linda Queen Rudd, MEd, OTR/L**

Co-author, *The Role of Occupational Therapy in Postsecondary Transition Planning*, 2020

**Ketki Raina, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 2015–2021

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2011–2015

*continued*

**Sue Ram, OTD, OTR/L**

Secretary, Assembly of Student Delegates Steering Committee, 2019–2021

**Sharon Reitz, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Author, *Occupational Therapy in the Promotion of Health and Well-Being*, 2020

**Linda Riccio, OT/L**

AOTA Advisor, Skilled Nursing Facility Policy, 2020

**Nancy Richman, OTR/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Skilled Nursing Facility Policy, 2020

**Tammy Richmond, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Telehealth Advocacy, 2020

**Krysta Rives, MBA, COTA/L, CKTP**

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

**Amanda Roberts, MS, OTR/L**

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Pamela Roberts, PhD, OTR/L, SCFES, FAOTA, CPHQ, FNAP, FACRM**

AOTA Advisor, Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Policy, 2020

AOTA Advisor, Quality Advisory Group, 2020

Chairperson, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 2015–2021

Chairperson-Elect, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 2014–2015

Member, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 2008–2011

Representative, National Quality Forum Measure Applications Partnership Post-Acute Care Workgroup, 2020

Vice Chairperson, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 2011–2014

**Marla Robinson, MSc, OTR/L, BCPR, BT-C, FAOTA**

Policy Advisor, Pain and Substance Use Disorder, 2020

Representative, National Quality Forum Patient Reported Outcomes Technical Expert Panel, 2020

**Oaklee Rogers, OTD, OTR/L**

Policy Advisor, Pain and Substance Use Disorder, 2020

**Sara Rohde, OTR/L, BCP**

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Niccole Rowe, BA, COTA/L**

Policy Advisor, Pain and Substance Use Disorder, 2020

**Teri Rupp, MOT, OTR/L, C/NDT**

Co-Facilitator, School-Based Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Marjorie Scaffa, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Author, *Occupational Therapy in the Promotion of Health and Well-Being*, 2020

**Winifred Schultz-Krohn, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA**

Chairperson, Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures Committee, 2020–2021

**Deborah Schwind, DHSc, OTRL, BCP, SCSS**

Co-author, *The Role of Occupational Therapy in Postsecondary Transition Planning*, 2020

**Fonda Scott, MA, COTA/L**

Member, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 2015–2021

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2012–2015

**Christel Seeberger, BSOT, OTR, OT(c)**

Volunteer, Virtual CarFit Curriculum, July–December 2020

**Carol Siebert, OTD, OT/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Home and Community Health Policy, 2020

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

Member, OT Licensure Compact Drafting Team, 2020

**C. Douglas Simmons, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 2018–2021

Member, Roster of Accreditation Evaluators, 2011–2018

**Elizabeth Skidmore, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, FACRM**

AOTA Advisor, Quality Advisory Group, 2020

**Camille Skubik-Peplaski, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2018–2020

**Joshua Skuller, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, ATP**

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Jaime Smiley, MSOT, OTR/L**

AOTA Advisor, Skilled Nursing Facility Policy, 2020

**Cristina Reyes Smith, OTD, OTR/L**

Author, *Occupational Therapy's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*, 2020

*continued*



**Pamela Stephenson, OTD, OTR/L**

Chairperson, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

Co-Facilitator, School-Based Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Teresa Stock, OTD, MS, OTR/L, MBA**

Co-author, *The Role of Occupational Therapy in Postsecondary Transition Planning*, 2020

**Ashley Stoffel, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Co-Facilitator, Early Childhood Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Alyson Stover, MOT, JD, OTR/L, BCP**

Contributor, Pediatric Billing and Coding Education, 2020  
Director, Board of Directors, 2018–2021

**Cheryl Strickland, OTR/L**

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

**Michelle Suarez, PhD, OTR/L**

Research Coordinator, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Caitlin Synovec, OTD, OTR/L, BCMH**

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

Member, Commission on Practice, 2020–2021

**Kyrstin Szewczyk, CBIS, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2020

**Steven Taff, PhD, OTR/L, FNAP, FAOTA**

Member, Addressing Cultural Awareness & Humility Task Group, Commission on Education, 2020

**Vaishnavi Tallury, MA, OTR/L**

Co-Facilitator, State Leaders in Department of Education Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Kari Thompson, OTD, OTR/L, BCP, CAS, SWC, CLE**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2018–2020

**Paula Thompson-Costello, OTD, OTR/L**

Quarterly Editor, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Carlyn Tillage, OTD, OTR/L**

Chief Editor, *OT Student Pulse*, 2019–2020

**Melissa Tilton, BS, OTA, COTA, ROH**

AOTA Advisor, Skilled Nursing Facility Policy, 2020

**George Tomlin, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Policy Advisor, Diversity in Higher Education, 2020

**Susan Touchinsky, OTR/L, SCDPM, CDRS**

Volunteer, Virtual CarFit Curriculum, July–December 2020

**Christopher Trujillo, OTD, OTR/L, GCG, ATP**

Co-author, *The Role of Occupational Therapy in Postsecondary Transition Planning*, 2020

**Donna Tunnell, MS, OTR/L**

Professional Development Coordinator, Home & Community Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Quinn Tyminski, OTD, MSOT, OTR/L**

Co-Facilitator, Homelessness Community of Practice, 2020–2021

Young Professionals Coordinator, Mental Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Joseph Ungco, OTD, OTR/L**

Professional Development Coordinator, Productive Aging Special Interest Section, 2018–2020

**Sarah VanAlstine, OTR/L**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Karen Vance, BSOT**

AOTA Advisor, Home Health Policy, 2020

**Tracey Vause-Earland, PhD, OTR/L**

Author, *Role of Occupational Therapy in Primary Care*, 2020

**Victoria Vu, MA, OT/L, MBA, BCP, SWC, CNT**

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Anna Walls, MS, OTR/L**

Member, Educator Resource Task Force, Commission on Education, 2020

**Mary Walsh-Sterup, OTR/L, CHT**

AOTA Advisor, Coding and Payment Policy, 2020

Contributor, Pediatric Billing and Coding Education, 2020

**Kim Warchol, OTR/L**

AOTA Advisor, Coding and Payment Policy, 2020

continued

**Gretchen Ward, MS, OTR/L**

Advocacy and Policy Coordinator, Children & Youth Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Lindsay Warner, OTR/L, MBA, BCP**

Member, Pediatric Job Analysis Committee, 2020

**Zena Warren, OTR/L, CEIM**

Member, Affiliated State Association Presidents, 2019–2021

**Lindy Weaver, PhD, MOT, OTR/L**

Professional Development Coordinator, Mental Health Special Interest Section, 2018–2021

**Rebecca Weich, OTR/L**

South Dakota Representative, Representative Assembly, 2018–2021

**Roberta Whalen, OTD, OTR/L**

Co-Facilitator, School-Based Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Colleen Whiting, MS, OTR/L**

Co-Facilitator, School Mental Health Community of Practice, 2020–2021

**Jamieson Wilcox, OTD, MA**

Advisor, Merit-based Incentive Payment System Cost Measure, 2020–2021

**Stacy Wilson, MS, OTR/L**

Author, *Occupational Therapy's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*, 2020

**Wayne L. Winistorfer, MPA, OTR, FAOTA**

Author, *Guidelines for Supervision, Roles, and Responsibilities During the Delivery of Occupational Therapy Services*, 2020

Author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain & Process, 4th Edition*, 2020

Member, Commission on Practice, 2018–2021

Member, OT Licensure Compact Advisory Group, 2019–2020

Member, OT Licensure Compact Drafting Team, 2020

**Bill Wong, OTD, OTR/L**

Co-author, *Occupational Therapy Practice Opportunities, Enhancing Services for Autistic Individuals*, 2020

**Debra Young, MEd, OTR/L, SCEM, ATP, CAPS, FAOTA**

AOTA Vice President, Representative Assembly, 2018–2021

Vice President, Board of Directors, 2018–2021

**Missi Zahoransky, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

AOTA Advisor, Home Health Policy, 2020

**Debra Zelnick, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA**

Member, Disciplinary Council, 2017–2020

## DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS

The following is a list of the awards and recognition bestowed by AOTA and AOTF for which individuals may be nominated.

### Awards and Recognitions Offered by the American Occupational Therapy Association (in order of year established)

**AOTA Award of Merit (Est. 1950)** is the highest Association honor recognizing an occupational therapist (OT) who has demonstrated extensive leadership through sustained and significant contributions to the profession.

**Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lectureship Award (Est. 1954)** is an academic honor established as a memorial to Eleanor Clarke Slagle, one of the outstanding pioneers in the profession of occupational therapy. The purpose is to honor a member of AOTA who has creatively contributed to the development of the profession's body of knowledge through research, education, and/or clinical practice.

**AOTA Roster of Fellows (Est. 1973)** recognizes occupational therapist members of AOTA who, with their knowledge, expertise, leadership, advocacy, and/or guidance, have made a significant contribution over time to the profession with a measured impact on consumers of occupational therapy services and/or members of the Association.

**Award for Excellence in the Advancement of Occupational Therapy (Est. 1973)** expresses the appreciation of the Association for extraordinary contributions to the advancement of occupational therapy.

**OTA Award of Excellence (Est. 1976)** is the highest Association honor recognizing an occupational therapy assistant (OTA) who has demonstrated extensive leadership through sustained and significant contributions to the profession.

**AOTA Roster of Honor (Est. 1979)** recognizes occupational therapy assistant members of AOTA who, with their knowledge, expertise, leadership,

advocacy, and/or guidance have made a significant contribution over time to the profession with a measured impact on consumers of occupational therapy services and/or members of the Association.

**Cordelia Myers AJOT Best Article Award (Est. 1979)** recognizes a high-impact study that has particular relevance to a priority in occupational therapy or an established knowledge gap and is timely, is highly relevant, and addresses an urgent need for information in the field.

**Lindy Boggs Award (Est. 1982)** recognizes the significant contributions by an occupational therapist (OT) or occupational therapy assistant (OTA) in promoting occupational therapy in the political arena by increasing recognition of occupational therapy in federal or state legislation, regulation, and/or policy or by increasing appreciation and understanding of occupational therapy by elected or appointed officials.

**AOTA Service Commendation (Est. 1983)** recognizes individual members of AOTA who have provided service to the Association and profession through time- or task-limited activities.

**Health Advocate Award (Est. 1983)** expresses the appreciation of AOTA for extraordinary contributions of national significance that led to the advancement of health promotion and/or health care.

**Retired Educators Award (Est. 1983)** acknowledges exceptional leadership and commitment to the advancement of occupational therapy education.

**Terry Brittell OTA/OT Partnership Award (Est. 1991)** recognizes an occupational therapy assistant and an occupational therapist who, through their collaborative efforts to promote the profession of occupational therapy, exemplify the professional partnership.

**Recognition of Achievement Award (Est. 1996)** recognizes occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants who have made notable contributions to the profession and its consumers in a focused area of occupational therapy practice.

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**Jeannette Bair Writer's Award (Est. 2001)** recognizes the author(s) of a feature article in *OT Practice* that inspires occupational therapy practitioners to use their management and leadership skills to improve access to services and promote the profession.

**Special Interest Section Quarterly Excellence in Writing Award (Est. 2010)** recognizes contributor(s) to the *Quarterly* newsletter by rewarding excellence in writing that also demonstrates the use of research and/or best practice to advance the profession of occupational therapy.

**Gary Kielhofner Emerging Leader Award (Est. 2011)** recognizes an occupational therapy practitioner (clinician, educator, or researcher) who has demonstrated emerging leadership and/or extraordinary service early in his or her occupational therapy career.

**Outstanding Mentor Award (Est. 2011)** recognizes occupational therapy practitioners (clinician, educator, or researcher) who have demonstrated outstanding mentoring of a student, colleague, or employee in a sustained partnership in practice, academic, or research contexts, wherein mutual respect, guidance, and knowledge are shared.

**Emerging & Innovative Practice Award (Est. 2015)** recognizes occupational therapy practitioners (clinicians, educators, or researchers) who have developed innovative and/or nontraditional occupational therapy practices for underserved populations or utilized the expertise of occupational therapy in new/visionary ways to achieve significant client outcomes to keep the profession relevant and responsive to changes occurring in health care.

**Outstanding Student Advocate Award (Est. 2015)** recognizes one occupational therapy or occupational therapy assistant student or student group who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to advocacy for the profession and raised awareness of occupational therapy in new and innovative ways.

**Distinguished Fieldwork Educator Award (Est. 2015)** recognizes an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant who has demonstrated excellence in clinical education as a fieldwork

educator in Level I or Level II fieldwork experiences for occupational therapy or occupational therapy assistant students.

**International Service Award (Est. 2015)** recognizes occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants who demonstrate a sustained and outstanding commitment to international service; promote and advance occupational therapy abroad in underserved countries to promote a globally connected community; and provide incentive to extend international relationships and contributions to address global health issues.

**Interprofessional Collaboration Award (Est. 2015)** recognizes occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants who demonstrate exemplary interprofessional collaboration in order to provide client-centered care, provide innovation in health professional education, or improve health outcomes through research.

**Distinguished OT/OTA Educator Award (Est. 2018)** recognizes educators who have demonstrated excellence in teaching and learning and who have a commitment to evidence-based practice. This award also honors educators who are making a difference in the lives of students and their communities.

**Choosing Wisely Champion Recognition Award (Est. 2019)** is an initiative to recognize practitioners, educators, or teams of practitioners/educators who are leading efforts to provide appropriate care based on the Choosing Wisely® recommendations, and encourage others to follow their lead. In partnership with the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), as part of their Choosing Wisely program, AOTA has developed and published five recommendations that practitioners and clients should question. The recommendations provide guidance to ensure that occupational therapy interventions and assessments are supported by evidence, not duplicative of other tests or procedures already received, free from harm, and truly necessary.

### Awards and Recognitions Offered by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation

**AOTF Fred Sammons Volunteer Recognition Award (Est. 2017)** honors Fred Sammons' career-long commitment to volunteerism by recognizing the dedication of volunteers who support and advance the mission of the Foundation.

**AOTF Academy of Research (Est. 1983)** recognizes occupational therapists whose exemplary contributions through research have served to advance the knowledge base of the profession.

**AOTF Early Career Research Excellence Award (Est. 2019)** recognizes and supports investigators who are contributing to and have promise to advance knowledge in the field of occupational therapy.

**AOTF Mid-Career Research Excellence Award (Est. 2018)** recognizes and supports individuals who have contributed to advancing knowledge in the field of occupational therapy.

**AOTF A. Jean Ayres Award (Est. 1998)** recognizes up to two occupational therapy clinicians, educators, and researchers each year who have demonstrated sustained commitment to the application, dissemination, development, or testing of theory in occupational therapy.

**AOTF Virginia Scardina Award of Excellence (Est. 2004)** recognizes an occupational therapy clinician who has demonstrated sustained commitment, excellence, and/or innovation in sensory integration and brain-behavior relationships in the practice of occupational therapy.

**AOTF Meritorious Service Award (Est. 1984)** recognizes retiring and incumbent members of the AOTF Board of Trustees who have made sustained and exemplary contributions in support of the Foundation's mission.

**AOTF Certificate of Appreciation (Est. 1979)** recognizes the outstanding service of volunteer members of the Foundation's committees or councils who are in good standing with the Foundation and have contributed significantly to the fulfillment of the Foundation's mission, goals, and objectives.

**AOTF Leadership Service Commendation (Est. 1999)** recognizes the service of Honorary Life Members or Chairs of the Foundation's committees or councils who are in good standing with the Foundation and have contributed their time, energies, and support to the fulfillment of the Foundation's mission, goals, and objectives.

**AOTF PTE Mary J. Bridle First Research Award (Est. 1994)** recognizes and fosters scholarship in the occupational therapy community. The \$750 annual award, established in 1993 by Pi Theta Epsilon, honors the best manuscript for a completed research study that is initiated while the principal investigator is an occupational therapy student.

### Award and Recognition offered by both the American Occupational Therapy Association and the American Occupational Therapy Foundation

**AOTA/AOTF Presidents' Commendation in Honor of Wilma L. West (Est. 1990)** honors a respected leader of the profession who has made sustained contributions to occupational therapy over a lifetime of service.

# **Congratulations to the 2021 AOTA & AOTF Award Recipients**





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