

Call for Papers

Special Issue on Occupational Perspectives in Arts-Based Approaches to Research and Practice

The experience of life is often complex and difficult to express using words or text. The use of art can enable communication of thoughts, feelings, and ideas in a way that extends traditional forms of oral or written communication. Arts-based methods are growing in popularity in both research and practice contexts to enable exploration of topics that might be difficult to explore otherwise. Such methods have been found to decrease power imbalances that can be inherent in research or practice with diverse populations and, in particular, with vulnerable or marginalized populations. Furthermore, collaborative arts-based methods align with non-western approaches to practice and knowledge creation in ways that valorize local art forms and artists, and position clients and participants as valuable contributors to practice or the process of inquiry. The use of the arts in occupational therapy is gaining traction; however, the evolution of methods and their application from an occupational perspective has not yet been explored in much depth in occupational therapy.

This Special Issue will include manuscripts covering a range of topics pertaining to arts-based methods that can inform and enhance occupational therapy practice and research. We invite contributions from occupational therapy scholars and clinicians that advance knowledge relevant to the design or use of arts-based methods that explore topics from an occupational perspective.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- Research that builds and/or extends the theory and use of arts-based methods
- Reviews of the use of arts-based methods in occupational therapy
- Occupational therapy research in which data is generated using arts-based methods
- Discussions that address issues of ethics, challenges, current innovations, and future directions in using arts-based methods
- Research exploring the use of arts-based methods to discuss difficult topics with vulnerable or marginalized populations

Submission Deadline	December 2020
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We welcome high-resolution images (300 dpi) in cases of visual research or for depicting the use of the arts in practice.

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