

# AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2020

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose. (See the *Interest Networks Leadership Manual* for the purpose of the Interest Networks.

## Interest Network:

Creative Arts

## Lead Contact Person:

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## Annual Report

For the year that **just ended** (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used.

### Objectives:

- a) Continue to expand membership and network member involvement
- b) Increase network visibility and collaboration
- c) Increase awareness of the critical role of creativity to promote inclusion and belonging for all people

### Activities Completed:

- a) Continue to expand membership and network member involvement
  - a. Membership
    - i. 25 SIG members;
    - ii. 11 on SIG Steering Committee members;
    - iii. 24 community partners
  - b. Host monthly network steering committee meeting to plan and execute details of network activities
- b) Increase network visibility and collaboration
- c) Increase awareness of the critical role of creativity to promote inclusion and belonging for all people
  - a. Social Media (connection)
    - i. Facebook (78 members)
    - ii. Instagram (77 followers)
  - b. Affiliated website "Creativity: Pathways to Belonging" is developed: <https://aaidcreativearts.wordpress.com/>
    - i. Posted videos, submitted to our "Creativity: Pathways to Belonging Project" by our community partners
    - ii. Media safety related activities:
      1. Posted online resources
      2. Planned to develop instructional or example videos with our affiliated members to be posted but we have not received products yet.
  - c. Submitted and accepted for a symposium on technology and creative arts for the AAIDD annual conference:  
*Promoting Creative Opportunities through Technology: Advancing Connections, Collaborations, and Recognition for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental*

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### *Disabilities.*

Due to the COVID pandemic, we developed video presentations, highlighting technology use in our network, and a prospective related study:

*Promoting Creative Opportunities through Technology: Advancing Connections, Collaborations, and Recognition for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD)*

- d. Updated the leadership team.
  - i. Added the Research Chair position, as we plan to conduct collaborative research projects involving the members and affiliated organizations.
    1. Our former treasurer, Tamara Shetron, became the research chair and we selected Samantha Brophy, as our new treasurer.
- e. Continued to discuss future action items.
  - i. Hosting a national "Arts Day" to coincide with existing national organizations and activities (e.g., Disability Awareness month, Airport Art Show, America for the Arts, Creative Therapy Associations)
  - ii. Clarification of Recreational Arts, Professional Arts vs. Art Therapies
  - iii. Solicit members' art for future AAIDD conference brochures;
  - iv. Hosting a large collaborative arts activity at a future AAIDD conference
  - v. Influencing policy (i.e., HCBS' and how arts & creativity fit into both community work and community recreation areas)

### **Annual Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies**

For the **coming year** (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.

#### **Objectives**

We will continue our objectives in the coming year:

- a) Expand membership and network member involvement
- b) Increase network visibility and collaboration
- c) Increase awareness of the critical role of creativity to promote inclusion and belonging for all people

#### **Activities**

- a) Conduct a mixed methodology survey-based study on exploring technology use in creative communities for individuals with ID/DD and COVID pandemic impact.
- b) Host a symposium at the annual meeting, based on the survey results and example presentations by the collaborators. We hope to find a local partner (artists or art organizations) to be part of the presentation panel.
- c) Propose co-hosting a presentation together for the annual conference with the AAIDD Religiosity and Spirituality Special Interest Network.
- d) Collaborate with the AAIDD board and administrative team to create opportunities for our partners and members' art product to be used for some of the AAIDD products.
- e) Develop policies/procedures and summary guide document for our media related activities.

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- f) Selection for the new network leadership at the 2021 annual meeting.
- g) Continue to collect/adapt/develop social media safety tip tools for individual artists with IDD who utilize social media as a career promotion opportunity.

### Strategies

- a) Host a monthly steering committee meeting to prioritize and assign tasks to complete our activities, as well as have continued discussion on our topics of interest raised in our past meetings.
  - i. Hosting a national “Arts Day” to coincide with existing national organizations and activities (e.g., Disability Awareness month, Airport Art Show, America for the Arts, Creative Therapy Associations)
  - ii. Clarification of Recreational Arts, Professional Art vs. Art Therapies
  - iii. Solicit members’ arts for the future AAIDD conference brochures;
  - iv. Hosting a large collaborative arts activity at a future AAIDD conference
- b) Develop and send out quarterly reports to all members to update progress on our activities, and expand steering committee members.