



## Editor-in-Chief International Journal of Art Therapy

- Part-time honorary role, 8 hours per week
- Fixed term for three years starting April 2027 with possible renewal for a second three-year term
- Starting as Editor-in-Chief-Designate from June 2026, or earliest from this date
- An honorarium of £5,000 per annum is awarded as Editor-in-Chief and an honorarium of £1,000 pro-rata per annum whilst in the designate role.

We are looking to appoint a new Editor-in-Chief (EiC) of the International Journal of Art Therapy (IJAT) starting as EiC-Designate from June 2026 (or earliest from this date), to commence full responsibilities as EiC in April 2027 for a three-year term.

IJAT is our official journal and is a leading publication of international art therapy literature. The journal has over 180K downloads per year and is ranked in the top 25% of journals in its CiteScore subject category.

Under the current **Editor-in-Chief, Dr Zoe Moula**, the journal has seen considerable success over the past years, significantly increasing its academic standing and readership. Zoe's term of office comes to an end in April 2027, and we are now looking to recruit to enable the new incumbent a period of handover. We are open to considering this role on a job share basis.

We are looking to appoint a new EiC to continue to build the journal's international academic standing. The successful candidate will have a proven track record of academic writing, experience of being on an editorial board of a similar journal and/or demonstrate a strong knowledge of research and academic literature around art therapy. They will need to be a full or associate member of the British Association of Art Therapists.

Members interested on this role should apply by submitting their Curriculum Vitae (including their academic publication record) along with a short (1000-word max)



statement outlining why they are interested in the role, the skills and experience they would bring, and what they would like to achieve in their three-year tenure if they were appointed.

For an informal conversation about the role, prior to submitting a formal application, contact BAAT Chair, Claire Louise Vaculik by email at [cvaculik@baat.org](mailto:cvaculik@baat.org).

Applications to be submitted by email to BAAT Chair, Claire Louise Vaculik at [cvaculik@baat.org](mailto:cvaculik@baat.org), by close 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026. Shortlisted candidates will be assessed by an appointment panel, which will include the Chair and Chief Executive of the British Association of Art Therapists. These will take place in the last week of May or early June 2026

We welcome applications from all sections of the community. We are committed to equality of opportunity and to supporting the creation of a fair, inclusive, and diverse community, where all are free from prejudice and have the support they need to achieve their full potential. For these reasons, we are open to considering this role on a job share basis.

Given the nature of the role, it is a requirement that the post holder will be a full or associate member of the British Association of Art Therapists.

## Job description

Reporting to the Council of the British Association of Art Therapists (through the Chair of Council), the editor in Chief (EiC) is responsible for the overall editorial standards and content of the journal and working with our publishers ensure the publication of four edition of the journal each year.

### Editorial

1. The British Association of Art Therapists sets high standards of quality for its journal. The EiC will uphold these standards in the development and selection of content. We will review acceptance rates, usage, and citation statistics as indirect indicators of quality for the journal.

2. Maintaining and strengthening the British Association of Art Therapists' reputation in the scientific and scholarly community is an important goal. Visibility, site activity and downloads are important measures of success and reputation. While there are no established guidelines for minimum levels of usage, the EiC will be expected to maintain a string overall positive trend.
3. EiCs should have a clear vision of the field and the role of the publication within it. The EiC will ensure the content of the journal is balanced, accurately representing the full spectrum of high-quality work ongoing in the field. It should not be a forum for the EiC's own viewpoint, though it is customary for the EiC to publish editorials that may highlight that EiCs own singular opinion on topics or issues.
4. EiCs should be proactive in adapting the publication to changes in the field, working with the Editorial Board to adjust the aims and scope of the journal when necessary.
5. The ability of a publication to attract and select high quality content is also a function of the quality of its Editorial Board. The EiC will work with the Associate Editors who have high stature and respect in the community.
6. The EiC will ensure the number and technical breadth of the Associate Editors is sufficient to manage the publication's workload, and the editorial board reflects the diversity of the research community with respect to geography, gender, and types of institutions represented.
7. The EiC will ensure the journal has appropriate and well-defined procedures for peer review, which are fair, unbiased, and faithfully executed.

## **Operational**

1. The British Association of Art Therapists has a responsibility to deliver the publication to subscribers according to the contracted schedule. It is the responsibility of the EiC to ensure delivery of editorial content in accordance with this schedule.
2. EiCs should take appropriate action to deal with backlogs of accepted papers that are either too large or too small.
3. EiCs should ensure that manuscripts are given a timely review, and which produces understandable and (whenever possible) actionable feedback.

4. The British Association of Art Therapists has ensured that an online submission system is available for IJAT, which provides the convenience of uniformity and stability for authors, reviewers, and editors, and is important for facilitating transitions between successive EiCs. In addition, it provides the Editorial Board and the British Association of Art Therapists with the ability to track the status of all publications. EiCs should ensure that these electronic submission systems are used in their operations and that the records maintained within it are accurate.
5. IJAT has an entry on the Taylor and Francis website which provides essential information for its authors, reviewers, and readers. This information includes the publication's aims and scope, lists the Editorial Board, provides information for authors, information for reviewers, and lists of forthcoming papers. EiCs are responsible for ensuring that this information is up-to-date.

If the Editor-in-Chief role is a job share, we would also expect the following:

1. Both editors must trust each other's judgement and be accountable for their shared responsibilities.
2. Frequent and clear communication (verbal and documented) to avoid overlaps or gaps in work.
3. Documenting ongoing tasks, key contacts, and project updates to ensure smooth transitions between shifts.
4. Both individuals should share equally in the responsibilities, challenges and the successes of the role, avoiding competition.
5. Both editors should be flexible to cover for each other when needed and adapt to changing demands.

## **Relationships**

1. EiCs should work to ensure that authors have a satisfactory experience in their interactions with the journal. Concerns and complaints of authors should be handled in a timely, courteous, and fair manner.
2. EiCs should work to ensure that reviewers have a satisfactory experience in their interactions with the publication.
3. EiCs should work to handle unusual cases, such as violations of policy during submission and review in a timely, effective, and fair manner.

## **Innovations**

The EiCs will need to be proactive in developing innovations consistent with the overall goals of the journal and the wider objects of the association, Examples of the general nature of such innovations follow.

1. Innovations in generating content and reaching out to new constituencies, such as special issues.
2. Innovative and effective use of electronic media in providing supplemental content, such as electronic appendices, archived data, software, and multimedia.
3. Innovations that improve operations, providing a more satisfactory experience for authors, reviewers, and editors.

## **Person specification**

- Prior experience of editing a journal – as an assistant or associate editor or being a member of an editorial board of a journal or comparable publication
- Published academic author with strong and demonstrable knowledge of academic literature and research around art therapy
- To have a coherent vision of the journal and its role and be able to work with our publishers Taylor and Francis, to develop the journal
- To be able to personally edit copy to a high standard and to supervise associate editors editing
- Able to organise the workflow of the journal to meet production deadlines and organise the work of the editorial board, including organising and chairing editorial board meetings
- Able to delegate tasks appropriately, set and to work to timescales and deadlines, and plan workload but also respond to unforeseen demands
- Able to make decisions in complex situations, consulting others as appropriate
- Able to communicate clearly and sensitively about complex and sensitive matters
- An understanding of and commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion
- A commitment to the values and ethos of the British Association of Art Therapists



- A full or associate member of British Association of Art Therapists

**British Association of Art Therapists**  
**April 2026**