

Career: Art Therapy

Art Therapy is a field that uses art as a tool for providing mental and physical health services to a variety of populations. Art Therapists can be responsible for creating and implementing expressive therapies, case management, charting progress and community building activities. A master's degree is usually required. Pratt has one of the oldest and strongest graduate programs for this field. Art Therapists can be found providing services in state and private hospitals, schools, community centers, correctional facilities, hospice centers or in private practice. This is a field that overlaps with psychology, social work, art education and fine art and it can be a good fit for creative people with an interest in direct social service. Art Therapy is also a growing and developing field. Legislation has recently passed in New York to require a state licensure process and to implement state regulation.

Some Employers of Pratt Alumni

Beth Israel Medical Center

Goodwill Industries

Maimonides Medical Center

Metropolitan Hospital Center

NYC Child Study Center

Woodhull

Genesis

HeartShare Human Services

Jacobi Medical Center

Namaste

Interfaith Medical Center

Profile of a Successful Graduate

After graduating from Pratt, Amy started out with a job as an Art Therapist at a residence for mentally ill and formerly homeless women in Brooklyn. She ran Art Therapy groups, organized recreation and trips, provided some case management and assisted with medication monitoring. There were many senior citizens at the residence, and she decided that she wanted to gain more experience with this population, so she took a position as Activities Coordinator at a Senior Center in Manhattan where she planned and facilitated trips, parties and events. She recently started an Arts & Crafts class at the Center.

When Jen first graduated she worked in a small art museum as a museum educator. She created programs using her knowledge in art history and art therapy by creating interactive art activities for elementary and high school students. The next job she held was not art related but it allowed her to devote most of her free time to her artwork and she began exhibiting locally. She then found some great part time jobs. She currently works three days a week as an art therapist in an alternative high school for troubled adolescents and two days a week as an adjunct professor at a college where she teaches Psychology and Sociology.

Bottom Line

Starting Salary Range:

MPS: \$37,000 - \$54,000

Special Characteristics:

This field has many types of employers from large hospitals to small community centers. It can also offer the

flexibility of freelance work or private practice.

The Career Services office lists over 4000 jobs annually.

We offer career counseling and job referrals for those entering their professional field as well as general art-related jobs for those still developing portfolios.

In addition, a number of companies come each year to interview students for internships and permanent positions.

East Hall 1

E-mail: career@pratt.edu

Phone: 718-636-3506

Fax: 718-636-3547

www.pratt.edu/career

Pratt