

# GW SOTA Newsletter

The George Washington University's Student Occupational Therapy Association

July 2024 Issue

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## YOU'RE A FIREWORK

Written by: **Marisa D'Imperio**

Do you ever feel like a plastic bag, drifting through the wind, wanting to start again? Well Katy Perry has recommended the best places in DC to see fireworks for the 4th of July!

- National Mall
  - Washington Monument
  - Jefferson Memorial
  - Lincoln Memorial
- U.S .Marine Corps Memorial (Iwo Jima Memorial)
- Fireworks cruise along the Potomac River
  - Embark DC Boat Tours
  - City Cruises
  - Sea Suite Cruises
- Mount Vernon Trail
  - Unlimited Biking
  - Capital Bikeshare

# GUESS THE TRAVELER

The person who reports back the most correct answers to SOTA Newsletter Chair will win a small prize!

## Traveler #1:

This traveler's favorite vacation was going to Hawaii and they really enjoyed spending time with their family.

- A) Vincent Walters
- B) Brianne Shust
- C) Kanya Syllien
- D) Jenny Kim

## Traveler #2:

This traveler's best travel spot was Italy where they ate so much amazing pizza and pasta.

- A) Rebecca Warren
- B) Alicia Alleyene
- C) Maya Chavez
- D) Claudia Carey

## Traveler #3:

Our last traveler had the opportunity of going to Thailand and got to visit an elephant sanctuary.

- A) Rachel Metts
- B) Katie Jewett
- C) Abby Grace Buchanan
- D) Celia Accardi

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JILLIAN MEISSNER

Jill is a general member of SOTA who was led to the field of OT by its holistic nature and the creativity embedded into the profession. "OT blends my passion for helping others with my love for coming up with imaginative solutions." Her favorite event over the past year was the Valentine's Day card making activity due to seeing everyone in the cohort supporting each other and offering kind words. Her hobbies include exercise, painting, and attending live music concerts. She is open to any practice setting, but currently has an interest in emerging areas such as animal-assisted therapy and women's health. Jill is constantly uplifting others in SOTA and is especially hard-working in her coursework. Our cohort is lucky to have you!



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MARISA MANSUETO

Marisa is the newest addition to GW's OTD program in her role as Associate Program Director for Clinical Education. She is returning to GW and previously worked here from 2016-2022. She is excited to be back and to have a refreshing change from other settings she worked in. When asked what brought her to this program she said "working for the PT and OT programs seems like a great opportunity to support students who are preparing for and participating in their clinical and fieldwork experiences." Her favorite aspect of being a faculty member thus far is the open communication and how friendly everyone in the department has been. Marisa's advice for students is to take things one step at a time and no matter how overwhelming it seems, you will get through it! Welcome Marisa!



# ASD/AOTA NEWS

## Written by ASD Rep

Check out the ASD Recap titled ‘Key Takeaways From Experienced Practitioners at the ASD Spring 2024 Tri-Annual’

- <https://www.aota.org/publications/student-articles/student-leadership-advocacy/asd-spring-2024-recap>

There are quite a few of enriching webinars and livestreams available through AOTA which are coming up! Visit the link below to see the full list.

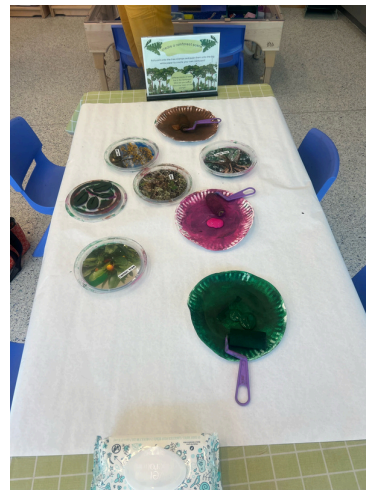
- <https://www.aota.org/events/calendar#sort=%40eventz32xstartz32xdate%20ascending>



# RECENT EVENTS WITH SOTA

## Autism Morning at the Museum

The accessibility team at the Smithsonian hosted another Morning at the Museum event for individuals with autism and their families. This took place at the National Zoo and was offered in the Bird House. The event featured crafts and activities and sensory equipment was also offered to participants before going into the atriums which contained the free-flying birds.



## Farmer's Market Cognitive Screening

Students helped perform cognitive assessments on community members at the Foggy Bottom Farmer's Market in collaboration with GW's Brain Health Month. The event aimed to raise awareness for brain health and the struggles that individuals with memory loss face on a day-to-day basis.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Check back each month to see what's up and coming this month in SOTA! Don't forget to review event details on the next page.

# JULY CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1	2	3	4 Autism Speaks Potomac 5K 7-9:30 am	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
-----FIELDWORK-----						
14	15	16 All Member Meeting 12-1pm	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 E-Board Member Meeting 12-1 pm	1	2	3

## JULY EVENT DETAILS:

**Thursday, July 4 @ 7:00-9:30 am:** Autism Speaks Potomac 5k

- Details:
  - Location: Potomac, MD
  - Link to register: [https://act.autismspeaks.org/site/TR/TeamUp/TeamUp?pg=entry&fr\\_id=7572](https://act.autismspeaks.org/site/TR/TeamUp/TeamUp?pg=entry&fr_id=7572)

**Tuesday, July 16 @ 12:00-1:00 pm:** All Member Meeting

- Details:
  - Location: Watergate Suite
  - Zoom link: <https://gwu-edu.zoom.us/j/92086681512>

**Wednesday, July 31 @ 12:00-1:00 pm:** E-Board Member Meeting

- Details:
  - Location: Watergate Suite
  - For all members of the SOTA executive board

