AATA Featured Member for Jan. 6, 2016

Louvenia Jackson, MFT, ATR, is a part-time instructor and Art Therapy PhD candidate at Notre Dame de Namur University (NDNU). For the past 10 years, she has worked at the residential facility Canyon Oaks Youth Center as a Creative Arts Therapist and has developed specific research interest based on acquiring new knowledge through art self-exploration and collective journaling to enhance cultural humility. Of her first experience attending the American Art Therapy Association annual conference, Louvenia says, “The highlight of my experience was meeting the amazing black women pioneers who offered their guidance and inquiry of my research that open perspective, re-evaluation and validation. AATA has members that have exerted energy to make advancements in multicultural art therapy practice that has moved the association forward, while encouraging the organization to continue growing in the multicultural arena. Without the AATA’s multicultural committee and the ethics standards that have been developed, it would be difficult for me to do the work that I am doing today.” Early on, she became drawn to art therapy after realizing that something was missing from her master’s in fine arts education. Her search eventually brought her to the steps of NDNU and to then-director Dr. Doris Arrington. Louvenia’s longing for that missing piece would end with the discovery of the field of art therapy.

"Beginning Contemplation" by Louvenia Jackson.