

MEET AET VOLUNTEER

Dr. Sandra E. Clifton



Level of AET membership:

Board Certified

Type and location of practice: (City, State)

Scarsdale, New York

Leadership roles held in AET:

Webinar Committee, Ethics Panel, Conference Volunteer

How long have you been an educational therapist?

over 14 years

What brought you to educational therapy?

I had a "first life" as a high school English teacher and began tutoring in NYC after class each day to make ends meet--but fell in love with supporting students one-on-one. After meeting Susan Micari at a networking event in the city, I discovered educational therapy, began attending study groups...and never looked back!

Areas of expertise:

Social-emotional skills, school trauma, executive functioning, the twice-exceptional individual, highly sensitive students, giftedness/multipotentiality, courageous parenting--

What is the best career advice you can give to new ETs?

Attend study groups--as many different kinds as possible--and any that are meeting in person!

Describe a challenge you have faced as an educational therapist:

Helping parents to "stay the course" with the inner work of resilience vs. the outer game of achievement...

Describe a highlight of your educational therapy career:

I remember throwing a holiday party one year at the Clifton Corner in Park Slope, Brooklyn, and the whole room was filled with families who were sparkling--not from wine but from heart-felt happiness, community, and connection...

What do you think the future of the educational therapy profession will look like?

I have great hope that our organization will lead the way to support schools in the effort to offer opportunities of authentic learning for all students to discover their multifaceted gifts...It has never been more important to model a strengths-based approach in education, as our youth are the key to future innovation/s. Recognizing the eclectic value and unique vision of our multi-exceptional students is an exciting responsibility for leaders in the field of educational therapy.

How have you benefited from your membership in AET?

I cannot begin to express what being a member of AET has meant for me--being an educational therapist is my true professional passion, and I am so grateful to each individual in this organization!

Hobbies/Leisure Activities:

yoga & pilates, gluten-free cooking, farmer/flea markets, live concerts, coffee shops, travel, writing, savoring laughter with friends & family

