

Clients, Staff, and Artists

Appreciate TAO Programs in FY 2014

- Client comment: "I want to do it again!"
- Staff comment: "They realized they didn't have to be artists to create beautiful art."
- Client Comment: "(The best thing about this program was) his Christopher Jay's personality, variety of music & interaction with us. Memories, singing, dancing (moving my feet, clapping), and laughing!"
- Staff Comment: "Clients were smiling and singing to all of the songs. He gave some great and useful history on each song."
- Client comment: "I thoroughly enjoyed the skill and artistry of the performer. He seemed truly "into" each song he rendered! His dexterity on the keyboard is phenomenal! I LOVED him and his song selection. Perfect for our generation. I hope he'll come back soon!"
- Staff comment: "The dancers were wonderful. We would love to have them back. The children had an excellent time."
- Staff comment from a letter she was inspired to write after the program: "TAO has been providing entertainers for the Newport News Nursing and Rehab Center for the past 8 1/2 years, lifting spirits and improving the moods of our residents with a great variety of musical programs...Our new all-time favorite Entertainer Eddie Sal presented a program this past September 12 that was SO AWESOME I could not adequately describe it on your short survey form. The residents in attendance (all but two in wheelchairs) were absolutely enthralled with Eddie's "lively" presentations...his selection of old time musical favorites from by-gone entertainers, with crazy hats and wigs...his never-ending smiles and energy...his beautiful voice...and moving around to interact with each resident. Our residents always enjoy musical programs, but I have never seen them so animated during an entire program...moving their bodies...clapping and stomping their feet with the music...and constant smiles that continued through the afternoon and evening. We also had a number of family visitors and staff personnel stop outside the program doors and react the same way as our residents. Eddie Sal is a decided asset to TAO and the Hampton Roads community! Tidewater Arts Outreach is to be commended for its growth and dedication to bringing musical sunshine and joy, and educational art programs, to seniors, youths and patient-care facilities throughout Hampton Roads. THANK YOU!!! I personally was so taken by Eddie's program, and its reminder of how much I appreciate TAO, that I have to enclose my annual donation early this year."

- Staff comment: "This was excellent, very engaging! The kids really enjoyed it!"
- Client comment: "The drums were so much fun. I loved it!"
- Comment from special visitor (funder) Debra Burrell of the Norfolk Arts Commission: "It was a great program; thank you for letting me attend. You were right, he is excellent. It was fun to see the kids participate, make noise, and develop a little discipline, too. There were a couple of times when he led us all in some rhythms and said, Stop! And we all stopped. Just like that. The children thanked him without being prodded, and questions about the instruments, and of course wanted to say something."
- Staff comment: (The best thing about the program was) "the way residents connected with the teachers and shared their life stories freely and comfortably. Please return!"
- Staff comment: "She was magical and mesmerizing. The residents loved her. She was amazingly talented and personable. Everyone loved the music. She attracted more residents and staff."
- Client comment: (The best part was) "being taught to express without boundaries. (I learned) how important it is to express myself on the outside and not keep it in"
- Client comment: "Best program I have seen since my admission 6 months ago."
- Staff comment: "Yes, the program was great. I enjoyed meeting Karen. She did a WONDERFUL job, both as a very talented harpist and as a TAO presenter. She kept the 20 residents listening to every pluck! She played songs from movies and told them which movies the songs came from with little stories between each selection. Some of the residents sang quietly along, some closed their eyes with smiles on their faces and listened. Karen answered questions about the harp after the program and we were all interested. Everyone loved it."
- Client comment: "I was able to really express myself. I wish to be involved with this program more. I loved it just as it is"
- Staff comment: "We absolutely loved Ms. Stowe and would love to have her back!"
- Client comment: "The entire experience was 'out of this world' and 'great!'"
- Client comment: "Several asked if he will come back again and several requested an autograph. The best thing was 'dancing and singing with my friends!'"
- Client comment: "Each of the band members was so professional and competent in their own right. Extremely talented!"

- Staff comment: "Linda was able to present a wonderful visual arts session to 5 adults attending a center-based day program that serves adults with cognitive impairments and developmental delays. This is the first in a six session series over six months and Linda was well prepared, genuinely interested in getting to know the individuals, and showed great respect for our protocols, professionalism and extensive technical knowledge. This program is presented as an activity that relates to goals of increased involvement in the community, increased leisure development, and actively using skills of fine motor/cognitive/social interaction."
- Client comment: "Each was so good they could have carried the entire hour! (I) definitely feel happier. (I) loved the band!"
- Staff comment: "This was amazing for our new programs for varied cognition degrees program.. such a personable showman of great ability with the elderly."
- Client comment: "The Beatles was good. Oh he was wonderful, loved him singing to me"
- Client comment: (The best thing about this program was) "I got to dance. It was very good, very good, very good."
- Staff comment: "My residents and I enjoyed Karen Stowe and her beautiful harp music. Carol, her assistant was very supportive and even helped the activity department transport residents to the program. Thumbs up!"
- Staff comment: "Excellent, excellent work! Please email the recorded song to me!"
- Client comment: "It was terrific."
- Staff comment: "Outstanding as usual. New costumes and dances. Our residents love them!"
- Staff comment: "Excellent! Did a great job getting residents involved."
- Client comment: "Fabulous! I have never seen Hawaiian dancing."