



ANNUAL REPORT JULY 2022-JUNE 2023

SUBMITTED & CREATED BY:

**NOTA PRESIDENT
LINDSAY TUXHORN, OTD, OTR/L**

**NOTA VP OF POLICY AND ADVOCACY
MELISSA KIMMERLING, EDD, OTR/L**

**NOTA ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
KRISTIN GZEHOVIK**

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Passion. Purpose. Progress. Potential.

When I think back on the past few years and what NOTA has accomplished, these words seemed like a fitting description. During my time as a NOTA Board Member, I have seen the passion of our members and especially our Board Members grow as they have spent many volunteer hours putting together conferences, meeting with senators and insurance companies, and testifying at hearings for bills that impact our profession. Our purpose to advocate for occupational therapy and promote health and wellness for all we serve is strong thanks to our passionate volunteers.

As I enter my final year of being the President of NOTA, I start to think of all we have yet to accomplish, however when I look back at how far we've come, the progress is amazing. My first involvement was as a new practitioner when a friend invited me to meetings. At that time NOTA had very little presence with less than 100 members and a small or even non-existent voice in advocacy efforts. Now our membership has grown and we have very strong collaboration with our PT and speech counterparts as well as robust advocacy efforts, whether it be presenting bills or educating insurance companies on ways their policies impact practitioners and patients.

The potential of NOTA is great as we continue to gain members and build momentum on issues that are important to our profession. I'm excited to see what NOTA can do in this next year, especially as we plan to go through the process to update our scope of practice. For those of you who have been long time members, thank you for your support and dedication as you've watched the organization grow. For those of you who are newer members, we are so happy to have you and hope you will share the excitement of NOTA with friends and colleagues as our passion for OT continues to support our purpose, drive our progress, and help us reach our potential!

Lindsay Tuxhorn, OTD, OTR/L
NOTA President

NOTA'S GUIDING DOCUMENTS

CLICK ON EACH LINK TO READ MORE

- [BYLAWS](#)
- [JOB DESCRIPTIONS](#)
- [EXECUTIVE BOARD FLOW CHART](#)

Did you know that NOTA has guiding documents to outline how the organization operates? These documents also aid in easy transition when new Board Members are elected. Please check them out to learn more about NOTA!

Our Mission

The mission of the Nebraska Occupational Therapy Association is to advance the occupational therapy profession in Nebraska through advocacy, policy, and professional development. We strive to build a membership of occupational therapy practitioners who take actionable steps to promote the highest standards of evidence-based care. Our aim is to develop impactful leaders in the profession, in order to benefit our consumers and stakeholders, across all practice settings, populations, and geographical locations in Nebraska.

Our Vision

We envision the Nebraska Occupational Therapy Association as a collaborative community of occupational therapy leaders who emphasize the distinct value of occupational therapy in maximizing quality of life through participation in meaningful occupations that promote recovery, rehabilitation, and wellness.

THE BENEFITS OF YOUR NOTA MEMBERSHIP

- Reduced rates for continuing education, including our Annual Conference and other CEU opportunities!
- Zoom access for all meetings is available for practitioners throughout the state to participate in regular meetings.
- FREE CEUS on Aspire OT!
- Annual conference with affordable CEUs and access to all recorded sessions on Aspire OT.
- Networking! NOTA brings therapists throughout our state together to share ideas and work to make occupational therapy practice in Nebraska great.
- Monthly email updates and biannual newsletters to keep you informed on what occupational therapy is doing in Nebraska and beyond.
- Access to a Lobbyist to keep you up to date on legislation and regulations impacting OT and how you can make an advocacy difference for OT in Nebraska.
- Leadership opportunities available in all areas of the state. Help make a difference for practitioners in your local area and statewide by joining NOTA!
- A group of 13 Board Members and many other volunteers who work behind the scenes to advance and protect the OT profession in Nebraska.

NOTA MEMBERSHIP

- Did you know there are a total of 1793 licensed Occupational Therapy Practitioners in Nebraska?
- NOTA's current membership is 250 members.
- That means only 14% of practitioners in Nebraska are members
- Tell your friends and colleagues about the importance and benefits of membership!
- Help us increase membership by 5% this year!

14%



NOTA BY THE NUMBERS

250 Current Members

4th Annual Elections Held and
Voted on by Membership

1000+ Estimated collective
volunteer hours by Board members

100% of Board Positions Filled

36 Attendees at Lobby Day

Annual Conference Held In Person

1 ASAP Award at the AOTA Inspire
Conference

All Conference Sessions Available
on Aspire OT Post Conference

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



- In Person at Creighton University- Mike & Josie Harper Center
- Over 90 attendees present
- Friday included: Free Student Session, 2 unopposed Pre-Institute Sessions, 1 keynote
- Saturday participants attended one of 3 morning sessions and one of 3 afternoon sessions
- Gold Sponsor-SaRA Health, 2 Silver Sponsors, 3 Bronze Sponsors, 8 Friend Sponsors
- Sessions are now LIVE for purchase on Aspire OT!

POLICY AND ADVOCACY WINS

- LB 430, which aims to prevent the application of the Multiple Procedure Payment Reduction strategy to private insurance, advanced out of committee during a tumultuous legislative session
- NOTA worked with the Applied Behavioral Analysis practice act establishment to ensure clarity of roles between OT and ABA, as well as to comment on recommendations for supervision of RBTs
- Despite significant and collaborative effort, Nebraska's helmet law was repealed, and modified to allow riders over the age of 21 to choose not to wear a helmet.
- 50+ meetings with senators, representatives, payer groups, and associations occurred

NOTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

THANK YOU to all of the outgoing Executive Board members who have made an immense impact on the occupational therapy profession in Nebraska. Your work, both known and behind the scenes, has helped advance and protect the work of OTPs across the state.

Congratulations to our incoming Board Members!

Voting Executive Board Positions		2022-2023 Board Members	2023-2024 Board Members
1	President	Lindsay Tuxhorn	Lindsay Tuxhorn
2	Vice President of Academia	Hannah Wieger	Tara Ruppert
3	Vice President of Acute Care	Latisha Rankin	Latisha Rankin
4	Vice President of Hands & Orthopedics	Lauren Erickson	Lauren Erickson
5	Vice President of Mental Health & Wellness	Kylie Widhelm	Kylie Widhelm
6	Vice President of Neuro-Rehabilitation	Melissa Anderson	Rebecca Kinnison
7	Vice President of Pediatrics	Emmilie Kosiba	Emmilie Kosiba
8	Vice President of Policy & Advocacy	Melissa Kimmerling	Candice Mullendore
9	Vice President of Rural Health & Community Services	Justin Young	Justin Young
10	Vice President of School-Based Practice	Erin Westover	Amy Schnacker
11	Vice President of Skilled Care, LTC, & Home Health	Nicole Chipy	Nicole Chipy
12	Secretary	Brooke Spence	Erin Westover
13	Treasurer	Miranda Little	Miranda Little

Non-Voting Officers		2022-2023 Board Members	2023-2024 Board Members
14	Past President	Lindsay Tuxhorn	Lindsay Tuxhorn
15	Administrative Assistant (Contracted)	Kristin Gzehoviak	Kristin Gzehoviak
16	Lobbyist (Contracted)	Julie Erickson	Julie Erickson
17	AOTA RA Rep (AOTA Vote)	Whitney Rubin	Amanda Wise
18	Conference Chair 1 (Appointed)	Jena Roeber	
19	Conference Chair 2 (Appointed)	Erin Reinhart	

THANK YOU!

for being a NOTA member!

Your membership and
hundreds of volunteer
hours make NOTA
possible!

Follow Us on Social Media!
@nebraskaOT on Instagram
Nebraska Occupational Therapy
Association on Facebook

Need to renew your membership or tell a friend to join? Go to <https://www.notaonline.org/join-now->