



WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE MID-ATLANTIC REGION

As President of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to welcome you to the 2017 MAR-AMTA Conference.

We are pleased to announce that MAR-AMTA has been **APPROVED** by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Mental Health Practitioners as an acceptable provider of continuing education for licensed creative arts therapists, #CAT-0021, effective February 1, 2017.

We are offering a number of CMTE courses at the conference that are acceptable to NYSED as CE for LCATs, including the Pre-Conference GIM Level-1 training, the Pre-Conference Institute, and most of our CMTEs.

This is my final conference as President of the MAR and I want to personally thank each and every one of you for your involvement in furthering the mission of the MAR.

And lastly a HUGE thanks to all involved in conference planning. We at the MAR are lucky to have wonderful conferences, year after year. Thank you for all of your hard work, conference committee members!

Enjoy your conference, everyone! Welcome to Rochester!

Sincerely,
Gabby Ritter, MMT, MT-BC
President, MAR-AMTA



Welcome to the 2017 MAR-AMTA's 64th Conference! We are excited to have you here in Rochester -- home to a vibrant music therapy community. The "Flower City" has a rich history and arts community -- not to mention it's a hub for stellar musicians. Thank you for visiting our great city as part of expanding your professional knowledge of music therapy.

We have an exciting conference program in store for you this year. It is an honor to welcome Gaelynn Lea to our conference as our opening session speaker and performer. Gaelynn Lea was named the winner of the NPR Music's second Tiny Desk Contest. This opening session will set the tone for an amazing line up of 13 concurrent sessions! In addition, the opportunities to further ourselves professionally and personally abound, with a variety of CMTEs and a Pre-Conference Institute entitled "Trauma-informed Practice for Music Therapists: Understanding Our Clients and Ourselves".

We are pleased to announce several firsts that are taking place here in Rochester. The Student Service Project has now become the Student Leadership Academy. In this redesigned experience, students will go into the community on Thursday morning to learn from music therapists working in private practice. Students will have the opportunity to tour local businesses, ask questions of, and network with, professionals, and more. This year we are trying out a different approach to the Exhibit Hall Spectacular with a new time on Friday afternoon. Come enjoy a dynamic local jazz duo while you peruse a variety of vendors and silent auction items. Our Advocacy Breakfast is looking at a record turnout. A key feature of this year's breakfast centers around moving toward an authentic music therapy license in New York State.

Join us for the MAR-AMTA debut of a Staircase Sing on Friday evening, as we let our voices ring in this acoustically rich environment to show our love and pride for music therapy. We are excited to offer two morning yoga sessions as well as a "Nightlight Yoga" class, all of which will incorporate live music with the theme "Rhythm of the Breath". And when you kick back and relax for the night, we hope you enjoy the newly renovated hotel rooms. We are thrilled to offer another MAR-AMTA first... Food Trucks! On Friday afternoon, take a step outside the Convention Center between 12pm and 2pm and enjoy a unique taste of Rochester.



Your local committee is continuing the efforts to 'go green' by reusing the name badges from Harrisburg. Last year, we were able to collect over 350 for reuse in Rochester. We have been able to solicit the remaining amount and hope that, with your help in turning in the name badges, we can continue to reduce the carbon footprint that an event like this generates.

We would like to acknowledge and thank our amazingly talented and resourceful local committee. Their hard work and immense dedication were an integral force in making this conference possible. It has been our pleasure to provide you with, what we anticipate to be, a unique conference experience. We hope you enjoy our home city as much as we do!

Chris Gold
Liz Hedger
Joy Kaminski
Laurie Keough
Betsey King

Sarah Kliman
Adrienne Meyer
Donna Polen
Molly Pow
Missy Reed

Sara Rogers
Megan Smith
Mike Stavoli
Jason Willey

Amanda Dimino, Lauren Faggiano, and Melinda Kurowski
Your Local Co-Chairs for the 2017 AMTA-MAR Conference



Conference Schedule Overview

Wednesday, March 15

7:30am – 12:00pm	Registration open
9:00am – 5:00pm	Pre-Conference Institute: Trauma Informed Practice
4:30pm – 5:30pm	MARAMTS Executive Board Meeting
5:00pm – 8:00pm	Registration open
6:00pm – 10:00pm	MAR Executive Board Meeting & Dinner
7:30pm – 10:00pm	MARAMTS Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, March 16

6:30am – 12:00pm	Registration open
7:15am – 12:15pm	CMTEs A, B & C
8:00am – 12:00pm	CMTE D
9:00am- 12:00pm	Student Leadership Academy
<i>9:00am – 2:00pm</i>	<i>Exhibitor Setup</i>
9:00am – 11:00am	MAR Executive Board Meeting
12:00pm – 6:00pm	Visit Rochester Info Booth



1:00pm – 2:30pm	Opening Ceremony
1:30pm – 5:00pm	Registration open
3:00pm – 7:00pm	Exhibit Hall Open
2:45pm – 3:35pm	<u>Concurrent Sessions #1</u>
4:00pm – 4:50pm	<u>Concurrent Sessions #2</u>
5:00pm – 6:00pm	MAR Business Meeting
5:00pm – 6:00pm	MARAMTS Business Meeting
7:00pm- 10:00pm	CMTE E & F
9:00pm –10:00pm	Nightlight Yoga
9:00pm – 12:00am	Jam Room

Friday, March 17

7:00am – 7:45am	Yoga
7:30am-11:00am	Registration open
8:00am- 6:00pm	Visit Rochester Info Booth
8:00am – 9:30am	Advocacy Breakfast
8:00am-10:30am	Jenny Shinn Interviews
8:00am – 8:50am	<u>Concurrent Sessions #3</u>
9:00am – 2:00pm	Exhibit Hall Open
9:05am-10:45am	<u>Concurrent Sessions #4</u>



2017 *Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association*
Music Therapy Conference
 March 15th - 18th, Rochester, NY

11:00am-12:00pm	MAR Business Meeting II
11:00am-12:00pm	MARAMTS Business Meeting II
12:00pm-2:00pm	Exhibit Hall Spectacular
12:00pm-2:00pm	Silent Auction
12:15pm-1:45pm	Networking Lunch: Clinical Practice, Employment Settings, and Stakeholder Interests
12:15pm-1:15pm	Internship Smorgasbord
12:30pm-3:30pm	Registration Open
2:00pm-2:50pm	Master's Level Entry
3:00pm - 4:40pm	<u>Concurrent Session #5</u>
4:00pm - 8:00pm	Exhibit Hall Open
4:50pm - 5:40pm	State Meetings
4:50pm - 5:40pm	Student Swap Shop
5:40-6:00pm	Staircase Sing
6:15pm-7:45pm	Awards/Recognition Ceremony
9:00pm-10:00pm	Drum Circle
9:00pm-12:00am	Jam Room



Saturday, March 18

7:00am – 7:45am	Yoga
7:30am – 1:00pm	Registration Open
8:00am - 12:00pm	Exhibit Hall Open
8:00am – 9:40am	Conference Committee Transition Meeting
8:00am – 9:40am	<u>Concurrent Session #6</u>
9:55am – 10:45am	<u>Concurrent Session #7</u>
11:00am-11:50am	<u>Concurrent Session #8</u>
11:55am- 12:00pm	Conference Farewell
1:00pm – 4:00pm	CMTE H
1:00pm – 6:00pm	CMTE I



Detailed Conference Schedule

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

8:00am – 12:00pm	Registration Open	Coats
Ongoing:	Mothers Lounge	Aqueduct C/D
9:00am – 5:30pm	Pre-Conference Institute	L. C. Carson (Hyatt)

**The David Ott Pre-Conference Institute:
Trauma-informed Practice for Music Therapists: Understanding
Our Clients and Ourselves
(8 CMTE credits; 7 CE Contact Hours for LCATs)**

Presenters/Instructors: Megan Smith, MA, LCAT, MT-BC; Sarah Kliman, LMSW, MT-BC; Leigh Kirby, MS, MT-BC; Sarah Fitzgibbons, LMHC, MT-BC

Self-reflection is integral to trauma-informed practice. Trauma is often defined broadly with limited exploration of the manifestation of trauma symptoms. Clear working definitions of trauma, symptomology, and neurobiological impact are paramount for informed practice, as well as ongoing engagement in reflective supervision to explore personal trauma history, privilege, and bias. Creative arts, specifically music therapy, have an integral role in trauma work with regard to supporting somatic regulation, expression of thoughts and feelings surrounding traumatic experiences, non-verbal access to trauma narrative, and development of secure relationships damaged by complex trauma.

In this Pre-Conference Institute, music therapists working with trauma will discuss types and manifestations of trauma, including neurobiological implications for the use of Creative Arts Therapies. Music therapy within crisis intervention for children and families impacted by trauma will be explored through case study examples.



Presenters will guide participants in self-reflection through music-based mindfulness experientials and a collaborative demonstration of constructivist supervision via the Fish Bowl group supervision method. Break-out groups will explore implications for specific music therapy populations and the role of culture and individual bias in music therapy practice. Upon conclusion, participants will be able to concretely define trauma and label symptoms for a wide variety of populations, utilize developed tools for effective self-reflective practice, and conceptualize music therapy within a trauma-informed framework.

Complimentary lunch will be available to all registered participants.

12:50pm – 2:00pm	Buffet Lunch	Regency AB (Hyatt)
4:30pm- 5:30pm	MARAMTS Executive Board Meeting	Regency C (Hyatt)
5:00pm – 8:00pm	Registration Open	Coats
6:00pm – 10:00pm	MAR Executive Board Dinner	Regency AB (Hyatt)
	MAR Executive Board Meeting	L. C. Carson (Hyatt)
7:30pm – 10:00pm	MARAMTS Executive Board Meeting	Regency C (Hyatt)

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

6:30am – 12:00pm	Registration Open	Coats
Ongoing:	Mothers Lounge	Aqueduct C/D
	Quiet, comfortable space to meet the needs of mothers	



Music Therapy Continuing Education (CMTE)

*The following CMTE courses are approved by the CBMT for **5 and 3 CMTE credits** (unless otherwise specified) to be awarded upon completion. Unless otherwise specified, pre-registration and fee are required. Credits awarded are accepted by the NBCC. The MAR-AMTA (#P-065) maintains responsibility for program quality adherence to CBMT policies and criteria. There will be two 10-minute breaks during the CMTE courses.*

7:15am - 12:15pm 5 Hour CMTE's

CMTE A: What to do when you're stuck and nothing seems to be working: A group supervision experience for new professionals

*0 contact hours for LCAT's

Presenter: Roia Rafieyan, MA, MT-BC

Highland A

Being a new music therapist can sometimes feel overwhelming. Young clinicians may not yet have the access or financial means to pay for professional supervision. This CMTE will serve as a work group for participants to present challenging sessions and be provided with new ways of thinking about and processing their work. This CMTE will be capped at 15 registrants. Participants: please consider a specific clinical case (or 2!) to present/discuss during this CMTE.

CMTE B: Clinical Improvisation: A Developmental Approach to Teaching and Learning

*5 CE contact hours for LCAT's

Presenter: Suzanne Sorel, DA, LCAT, MT-BC

Highland E

This CMTE will focus on strategies for developing clinical improvisation skills primarily for voice and piano, both for use in direct work with clients and to facilitate improvisation skill development in other clinicians (students, interns, etc.). A developmental approach will be employed to engage participants in scaffolded learning experiences which emphasize full use of all musical elements, a philosophical framework of musicing, and the introduction of practicing and skill development tips. Practicing music therapists, educators, and practicum and internship supervisors are encouraged to attend.



CMTE C: Supervising the National Roster Music Therapy Intern

*0 CE contact hours for LCAT's

Presenter: Susan Glaspell, MT-BC

Highland B

A comprehensive overview of clinical supervision topics specific to the internship experience, this course is FREE for current AMTA members and fulfills the training requirement for National Roster Internship Director applicants. Internship agreements, stages of internship, supervision models, competency-based training, ethics, multicultural awareness, and methods to address various challenges will be presented.

9:00am – 12:00pm

3 Hour CMTE

CMTE D: An Introduction to Psychodrama and Its Application Within Music Therapy Practice

*3 CE contact hours for LCAT's

Presenters: Amy Clarkson, MMT, MT-BC, CP, PAT, LCAT; Barbara McKechnie, MA, LPC, LCAT, RDT/BCT, CP, PAT

Highland F

This workshop will provide a foundational understanding of psychodrama, an action-oriented, depth therapy. Through a didactic and experiential process, participants will learn how the psychodrama concepts of enactment, doubling and role reversal can be integrated within a music therapy context to foster insight, emotional expression, and behavioral change.

9:00am – 12:00pm Student Leadership Academy

Highland C/H

Facilitators: Conio Loretto, Molly Pow, Adrienne Meyer

9:00am – 11:00am MAR Executive Board Meeting

L. C. Carson (Hyatt)

11:15am- 1200pm MCCC (Musical Performance)

**Galleria
(opposite of Registration/Coats)**

12:00pm – 6:00pm Visit Rochester Info Booth

**Galleria
(next to Registration/Coats)**



1:00pm – 2:30pm Opening Ceremonies: Gaelynn Lea
Grand Ballroom (Hyatt)

Music by 2016 NPR Tiny Desk Winner, Gaelynn Lea

1:30pm – 5:00pm Registration Open **Coats**

3:00pm- 7:00pm Exhibits/Displays Open **Lilac Ballroom/Exhibit Hall**

3:35pm- 4:00pm Hochstein (Musical Performance) **Galleria**
(opposite of Registration/Coats)

2:45pm – 3:35pm Concurrent Sessions #1: 50 minutes

Research Track: Research Networking Session **Aqueduct A/B**

Presenters: Joke Bradt, PhD, MT-BC, Gabby Ritter, MMT, MT-BC

The aim of this session is to bring together clinicians and researchers to explore opportunities for collaborative research in areas identified in MTR2025 as high need research areas, namely Autism Spectrum Disorders, Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia, and Acquired Brain Injury.

Resistances in Group Music Therapy With People in Recovery **Highland A**

Presenters: Susan Gardstrom, Ph.D., MT-BC; James Hiller, Ph.D., MT-BC

In this presentation, we explore client resistances in group music therapy with residents in a 28-day recovery program. We will present our frame of reference and detail our encounters with resistances. We will then offer suggestions for pre-empting and addressing such resistances, offering both nonmusical and musical strategies and techniques. *Entry Level Professionals*

Music Therapy and Pediatric Palliative Care: An Evolving Model of Care

Presenter: Kristen O'Grady, MA, LCAT, MT-BC **Highland B**

The term "palliative care" often carries the stigma of being synonymous with "end of life care". This stigma is even more prevalent when the word "pediatric" is added, creating more barriers for children in accessing palliative care. In meaning and in



practice, palliative care is both a philosophy and practice. While the practice should begin at diagnosis, the philosophy can guide us in how we work with children who have potentially life-limiting conditions. This presentation will explore the primary tenants of pediatric palliative care and examine the ways in which a palliative philosophy is exemplified through a music-centered approach. *Entry Level Professionals*

Ask a Professional

Highland C/H

Presenter: Conio Loretto, MS, LCAT, MT-BC

*Student focused

Watering the Roots: Working Within Relationships to Foster Social and Emotional Development in a Life Skills Program

Highland D

Presenters: Jill Mulholland, MS, MT-BC, LCAT; Laura De Gennaro, Psy.D.; Mike Kelliher, MT-BC

This presentation, conducted by a psychologist and 2 music therapists, will discuss a yearlong pilot program designed to assist neurodiverse high school students in their transition into adulthood. The weekly program consisted of joining a variety of different departments at Molloy College for job readiness and life skills, as well as time to reflect on challenging moments for each individual and between group members. Music therapy was also included as a portion of the program for processing and group collaboration. *Experienced Professionals*

Rural Life Realities: The Blessings and Challenges of being a Rural MT

Presenter: Tracy Wanamaker, MSed, MT-BC

Highland E

Providing music therapy services in a rural setting has both blessings and challenges. Together we'll explore ideas for developing a thriving practice, including effective advertising, finding appropriate venues, and garnering community support while also sharing the self-care survival skills I have learned as a rural MT. *Entry Level Professionals*



Neurodiversity & Music Therapy: Reconsidering Neurological Differences and Implications for Clinical Practice **Highland F**

Presenters: Jesse Asch, MS, MT-BC, NRMT; Matthew Brady, MS, MT-BC, NRMT; Rick Soshensky, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, NRMT

Since the 1990's, self-identified autistic self-advocates, among others, have developed and promoted a social movement towards embracing neurological differences, known as the neurodiversity movement. This presentation will examine the foundational concepts of this movement and its relationship to the field of music therapy. A panel of music therapists will offer perspectives and considerations for clinical practice. *Experienced Professionals*

Analytically informed group music psychotherapy helps incarcerated men transition into the community. **Highland G**

Presenter: Amanda MacRae, MMT, MT-BC

This presentation will report on a ten-week music psychotherapy program designed to address transition with a group of men who have developmental disabilities and co-occurring mental health challenges, and are pending release from a forensic setting. Analytical music psychotherapy and cognitive behavioral techniques were implemented throughout the program. *Experienced Professionals*

Possibilities in music therapy co-facilitation emerging from a collaborative arts based inquiry **Highland J**

Presenters: Bronwen Landless, MMT, MT-BC; Aaron K. Teague, MA, MT-BC, LPC, Fellow of the Association for Music and Imagery, Registered Expressive Arts Therapist

A re-analysis of the music and interpersonal qualities between two music therapists, within an improvisational interdisciplinary arts group, led to further exploration of the elements and qualities of co-facilitation. In this presentation we will discuss the possibilities that emerged for music therapy practice, training, and research. *Entry Level Professionals*



The Power of Affect: Orchestrating affective relationships during a music therapy internship experience **Highland K**

Presenters: John Carpente, Ph.D., MT-BC, LCAT; Michael Munoz, Music Therapy Intern, Rebecca Center for Music Therapy at Molloy College

During the music therapy internship experience, affect plays an essential role in how the intern develops and manages relationships between the clinical supervisor, music, client and self. This parallel process impacts learning, clinical supervision, and clinical processes experienced by the student, client, and supervisor. This presentation will explore the role of affect in the development of the music therapy intern with regard to intra and inter-personal/musical processes within the context of clinical work. Clinical video will be used to illustrate concepts. *Students*

Caregiver's use of music to improve orientation for people with dementia **Cascade A/B**

I-Hsuan, Tung, MA, OT

This presentation will focus on two areas: 1) the neuroscientific explanation of how music can improve orientation for PWD; and 2) detailed recommendations for music therapists to train caregivers in their use of music to improve orientation for the care receivers. *Experienced Professionals*

Historic, Momentous, and Nail-Biting Decisions: Lessons Learned from AMTA History **Cascade C/D**

Presenters: Andi Farbman, Ed.D.; Bryan Hunter, Ph.D., LCAT, MT-BC

Association leaders, including those in AMTA, are constantly challenged to make decisions that can impact the future of our profession for decades. The panel will review and analyze some past critical decisions, providing personal insights and discussing how those decisions might inform current and future generations of AMTA leaders. *Experienced Professionals*

Vocal improvisation when you're scared to sing **Cascade E/F**

Presenter: Alyssa Yeager MA, MT-BC

Using our voices can make even professionals like us nervous. How do we convince our clients to try? This workshop will explore how to make vocal improvisation non-



threatening, fun, and meaningful whether you are a singer or not. We will explore individual and group improvisation with hands on exercises. *Entry Level Professionals*

4:00pm – 4:50pm Concurrent Sessions #2: 50 minutes

Research Track: Clinical Notes as Research Data

Aqueduct A/B

Presenter: Deanna Hanson-Abromeit, Ph.D., MT-BC

Clinical notes can be great source of research data but thoughtful consideration of what data to gather is needed. This presentation will illustrate how clinicians can use clinical field notes and other clinical tools for research purposes.

Dreamers on Air: The Story of My Autism Journey

Highland A

Presenter: Lara Anat Grabois

My original compositions for voice and piano convey my life story on the Autism Spectrum from infancy to the point of discovering my dream to become a music therapist. I hope to provide inspiration to families of children with Autism, and an insight into positive effects of music on Autism. *Entry Level Professionals*

Learning Your Worth as a New Music Therapist: Setting Healthy Boundaries

Presenters: Alicia Hubbard, MT-BC; Kayla McNamara, MT-BC; Brianna Miller, MT-BC

Highland B

You passed your exam and landed your first job! Congratulations! Your first year as a professional can be daunting, overwhelming, and terrifying, but fear not! Let's discuss possible challenges you may face, ways to stay sane, and how to implement coping strategies to avoid burnout. *Entry Level Professionals*

Songwriting with an Individual Diagnosed with Autism Who Identifies as Transgender

Highland C/H

Presenter: Amara May

Passages Featured Presentation

Within this case study we will explore the use of song-writing as an expressive outlet for an individual diagnosed with Autism who identifies as transgender. A discussion will surround the appropriate ways of using pronouns and other



questions regarding the transgender community and where music therapy can play a role.

Global Music Therapy: An Innovative Approach to Sustainable Development
Presenter: Lore Businge, MPH, MT-BC **Highland D**

In 2016 the United Nations released the Sustainable Development Goals as a call to action for individuals worldwide to address global society's critical challenges. This session examines how music therapy compliments current priorities within global health and how it can be used globally to help achieve the SDGs. *Entry Level Professionals*

Relating Through Music: A Nordoff-Robbins Level 1 Case Presentation
Presenter: Michael Kelliher, MT-BC **Highland E**

This session will examine a case study initially presented as partial fulfillment of the requirements of Nordoff-Robbins Level 1 certification. The presentation will share a focus of clinical direction as well as personal growth within the training year. The individual case study will follow one year of music therapy with a young adult diagnosed with Persistent Depressive Disorder, illustrated by video excerpts and in-depth discussion. *Entry Level Professionals*

Technical Applications of Music Therapy in Hospice Care **Highland F**
Presenter: Dorian Campbell, MS, MT-BC, Hospice and Palliative Care Music Therapist

My presentation revolves around utilizing technology (specifically the iPad) in a hospice music therapy setting. I believe that technology is vital in music therapy practice, and plan to describe how I use technology in hospice sessions, how utilizing technology helps my patients, and how technology helps their families and legacy. I have examples of technological applications, including legacy projects, song sheets, and compositions. *Entry Level Professionals*



A Reason to Keep Pushing Forward: Bridging from Inpatient to Outpatient Care **Highland G**

Presenters: Joy Kaminski, MT-BC; Meg Jones, CTRS; Megan Resig, MT-BC LCAT; Molly Philips, MT-BC

Clients with mental illness often struggle with re-integrating back into their community after a long inpatient stay. Often money, stigma, and transportation options can be huge obstacles to community re-entry. This session will explore how music and recreation therapy were used to help clients access music therapy services upon discharge. *Entry Level Professionals*

From the Mouths of Internship Directors: The Ins and Outs of Student Professionalism **Highland J**

Presenters: Beth Deyermond, MA, MT-BC; Stacey Hensel, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, NRMT; Kristen O'Grady, MA, LCAT, MT-BC

The internship experience serves as a bridge between being a student and becoming a professional. Internship Directors expect interns to not only have solid clinical knowledge and musical skills, but also understand how to present themselves in a professional manner. This interactive presentation will take students through the process of applying for and starting internships from the viewpoint of three experienced internship directors. Students in attendance will leave with a better sense of what will be expected during the application process and the internship experience and how this has an impact on professional identity. *Students*

Spicing Up Your Guitar Skills: Therapeutic Implications for Blues, Rock, and Funk **Highland K**

Presenters: Sara Rogers, MT-BC; Meg Williams, MT-BC

Do you want to expand your use of guitar in sessions, but find yourself getting stuck in the same styles and chord progressions? This presentation will focus on making various styles accessible and authentic! New techniques, chord shapes, and basic soloing will be discussed. Bring your guitar! *Entry Level Professionals*



Music Therapy, Mindfulness and Interventions with the Mentally Ill
 Presenter: Lori L. De Rea-Kolb, MA, MT-BC, LPC, CPRP **Cascade A/B**

“Mindfulness” a popular term in the Mental Health field today. Learn more about what mindfulness is and how it relates to music therapy specifically with the moderately to severely mentally ill. Discussions will include considerations related to the population, as well as examples of interventions and experiential components. *Entry Level Professionals*

Dynamics of Personality: Understanding the introvert/ambivert/extrovert spectrum
 Presenters: Kate Shannon, MS, MT-BC; Leah Creary, MS, MT-BC **Cascade C/D**

This presentation will explore how one's position on the introvert-extrovert continuum might affect areas such as clinical presence, self-care, relationship dynamics, music therapy approach and style. The ideas explored in this presentation will also be beneficial to better understand and recognize introversion and extroversion in their clients. *Entry Level Professionals*

5:00pm – 6:00pm MAR Business Meeting **Riverside Court**
 Open meeting for all attendees.

5:00pm – 6:00pm MARAMTS Business Meeting **Highland C/H**
 Open meeting for students.

7:00pm- 10:00pm 3 Hour CMTE's

CMTE E: Legislative Advocacy for Music Therapy in NY **Cascade E/F**

*3 CE contact hours for LCAT's
 Presenters: Maria Hricko Fay, MSW/LSW, LCAT, MT-BC, Fellow of the Association for Music and Imagery; Members of National Government Relations Team; Dena Register, PhD, MT-BC; Judy Simpson, MT-BC

This **FREE CMTE** course will include a brief history of the license for Creative Arts Therapists and the current efforts to establish an authentic music therapy license in New York. In this course, participants will: (1) be advised of the current state of



advocacy for music therapy in New York and (2) learn the necessary skills to successfully communicate with various stake holders, including state legislators and agency staff. Attendees will learn strategies for communicating with state legislators, including written communication and in-person lobbying efforts. Attendees will participate in writing letters to their state representatives as well as role-playing lobbying scenarios. A wrap-up discussion will include a review of successful strategies and an outline of future advocacy tasks. Food will be provided.

CMTE F: Continuing the Conversations: Doing Race in Music Therapy

*3 CE contact hours for LCAT's

Presenters: Demeko Freeman, MT-BC; Marisol Norris, MA, MT-BC; Michael Viega, PhD, LCAT, MT-BC; Ming Yuan Low, MA, MT-BC; Susan Hadley, PhD, MT-BC

Highland K

Race is a social construct that refers to distinctions of difference based on phenotypical characteristics such as skin tone and hair texture. It is noted as one, among several, cultural identifiers that influence the client's and therapist's meaning construction. Music therapy multicultural competency calls for a contextual understanding of the multiple ways in which race plays a role in not only the larger societal structures that impact our clients lived experiences but the multiple ways it influences therapeutic processes. Yet race is not often enough discussed as a significant self-identifier in music therapy discourse. Many music therapists struggle with understanding and navigating the complexities of racial identities and narratives in therapeutic spaces. The process of constructively engaging in matters of race within the field demands an active critique of personal racial assumptions and the racial tension we encounter and embody in our daily practice. We contend that this necessitates courageous conversations that "engage, sustain, and deepen interracial dialogue" surrounding the impact of race on music therapy theory and praxis.

Drawing on critical theories of race, the presenters, comprised of a group of racially diverse music therapists, will embark on topics pertinent to race and music therapy discourse. Presenters will discuss their interest and investments in this conversation, personal experiences navigating race, various points of power, privilege, and oppression exhibited within the field. This will include discussion of microaggressions, musical prohibitions, cultural appropriation, the position of social justice aims within practice, and more. Additionally, presenters will provide a



working definition of race and explore the ways in which race impacts the music therapy environment. Experientials and small group discussions will be provided to facilitate the participants exploration of 1) their own personal racial identity, 2) the effects of racism in clinical settings, 3) racial tensions that arise in therapeutic encounters. In this session techniques that may be used to establish racially sensitive music therapy environments will be provided.

9:00pm- 10:00pm Nightlight Yoga **Highland C/H**

Local yoga instructor and musician, **Tyler Pearce**, will be leading this live music yoga class, based around the theme "Rhythm of the Breath." Attention to breath is essential for all musicians, and is the crux of yoga. Attendees will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of ways, including yoga, live music-making, and quiet reflection (you do not have to practice yoga to be a part of this class!). Join us as we connect with different rhythms of breathing through movement, music, and meditation. **Please bring your yoga mats! Some mats will be provided.*

9:00pm – 12:00am Jam Room **Highland E/F**

No alcohol permitted in the jam room space. If patrons are found to be in possession of alcohol they will be asked to leave the jam room.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

7:00am – 7:45am Yoga **Riverside Court**

Rise and Stretch with Tyler Pearce in the morning yoga session. Bring your own mat or grab a towel. No experience necessary. Everyone is welcome.

7:30am – 11:00am Registration Open **Coats**

Ongoing: Mothers Lounge **Aqueduct C/D**

8:00am-6:00pm Visit Rochester Booth Open **Galleria
(next to registration/coats)**



8:00am – 9:30am Advocacy Breakfast **Regency Ballroom (Hyatt)**
By invitation breakfast

8:00am – 10:30am Jenny Shinn Interviews **Eastman Boardroom (Hyatt)**

9:00am- 2:00pm Exhibits/Displays open **Lilac Ballroom/Exhibit Hall**

8:00am – 8:50am Concurrent Sessions #3: 50 minutes

Research Track: Ethical Issues for the Clinician-Researcher **Aqueduct A/B**
Presenter: Deanna Hanson-Abromeit, Ph.D., MT-BC

The AMTA research plan, MTR2025, promotes the role of the clinician as research which creates new ethical considerations. This presentation will identify several key areas for clinician-researcher to consider including human subjects protection, data storage, "therapeutic misconception," intervention monitoring, and the impact of clinical research on the client-clinician relationship.

StorySongs: Turning Children's Literature into Music **Highland A**
Presenters: Shelby Dahl, MT-BC; Jerad Lawson, MT

InternWorking with children and reading picture books go hand in hand, as should music. Why not take two things they love: music and pictures books, and combine them. There are books with precomposed music, but what about books without music? Learn the tools to turn your favorite stories into songs. *Entry Level Professionals*

Driving innovation in music therapy services for acute medical settings **Highland B**
Presenter: Helen Shoemark Ph.D, RMT

While music therapy research informs interventions in acute health, little attention is given to the development of an overall clinical service. This paper reports on a clinical project using a consensus team approach to purposefully develop services which are robust and responsive to rapid systems change. *Experienced Professionals*



The Struggle is Real: Four Interns, Four Perspectives **Highland C/H**

Presenters: Elizabeth Clough, MTI; Kramer Dahl, MTI; Louise Ly, MTI; Shayla McDermott, MTI

Passages Featured Presentation

Comparing and describing the strengths and opportunities for growth in their programs, and explaining the transition to a completely new city, four music therapy interns from different colleges, states and backgrounds explain their experiences working together in their internship at David Hochstein Memorial Music School.

Music therapy as an essential partner in chronic pain rehabilitation

Presenters: Joke Bradt, PhD, MT-BC; Ming Yuan Low, MA, MT-BC, Nordoff/Robbins Music Therapist **Highland D**

This session will present an integrative treatment model involving music therapy, dance/movement therapy and physical therapy for people with chronic pain. Results of a preliminary study examining the impact of this model on kinesiophobia, mobility, disability and neuro-inflammatory biomarkers will be presented. Video excerpts of actual sessions will be shared. *Experienced Professionals*

Music Reaches a Bright and Spirited Place: Brent and The Power of Musicing

Presenter: Suzanne Sorel, DA, LCAT, MT-BC **Highland E**

This presentation will share the story of Brent, an adolescent with intellectual disability and seizure disorder. Video excerpts will highlight how improvised music helped Brent find joy in relationships around him and more fully express himself. Highlights from Aigen's (1996) *Being In Music* will be shared to support and understand Brent's progress in music therapy. *Entry Level Professionals*

AIM - Targeting Cognitive Rehabilitation Through Music in an Interdisciplinary Approach

Highland F

Presenter: Ilene "Lee" Berger Morris, MM, LCAT, MT-BC

Brain injuries such as stroke and TBI can result in long-term cognitive disability. Applied Interdisciplinary Methods (AIM), a group program for neuro-rehabilitation inpatients, is co-facilitated by the hospital's music therapist and therapeutic recreation specialist, using music, exercises, and games to address cognitive goals.



The presenter will discuss the research basis, development and outcomes of the program. *Entry Level Professionals*

Millennials in Music Therapy - A New Era of Technology and Social Media

Presenters: Whitney Fairchild, MT-BC, Sara Rogers, MT-BC

Highland G

As students and professionals, we have the opportunity to use technology and social media to advocate, advertise, and advance our practice. WE do it through podcasting! Join two millennial music therapists as we explore the world of social media and discuss how to create and keep up with podcasting. *Entry Level Professionals*

Navigating Staff Relationships as a Music Therapy Intern

Highland J

Presenter: Amanda Zorzi, MT-BC

As a budding clinician at a residential developmental center, enriching encounters with staff were common. This experience report confronts the dynamic role of professional and direct-care staff in a clinical music therapy setting through shared experience, brief case examples, and group discussion. *Students*

Riches in Niches, How to Market Yourself as the Expert

Highland K

Presenter: Becky Watson, MBA, MT-BC

Learn strategies to position yourself as the “Expert” and “Authority” in a niche market. I’ll demonstrate how to market your unique Music Therapy qualifications for an older adult memory care niche. Not in private practice or work with older adults? No problem, I’ll share numerous techniques for any population. *Experienced Professionals*

Recording “Radio Shows” as a Vehicle for Mastery and Self-Expression

Presenter: Jennifer Goldhammer, MA, MT-BC

Cascade A/B

This presentation will introduce an approach for structuring a recorded music project using a “radio show” format. Case examples and recordings will be shared that illustrate how this structure evolved, and how creating a space for music, play, and drama to intersect contributed to clients’ experience of success and self-expression. *Experienced Professionals*



Lyric Analysis in Mental Health: Musical Therapy vs. Music Therapy

Presenters: Monica Torres, MT-BC; Wei Lo, MT-BC

Cascade C/D

How do we create music-centered experiences when using lyric analysis? Counseling literature and music therapy literature will be used to compare and contrast the use of lyric analysis by mental health professionals. We will further consider the impact of interdisciplinary treatment planning on clinical decisions in the use lyrics. *Entry Level Professionals*

Respecting Neurodiversity within a Developmental Relationship-based Model of Music Therapy

Cascade E/F

Presenter: Jill Mulholland, MS, LCAT, MT-BC

This presentation will discuss the paradigm shift towards neurodiversity and its correlation to a developmental and relationship-based model of music therapy. Understanding and respecting individual differences within the context of musical-play will be highlighted through case vignettes. Current trends in research that support developmental and relationship-based approaches will also be examined. *Experienced Professionals*

9:05am – 10:45am

Concurrent Sessions #4: 100 minutes

Research Track: Grant Writing for Small Scale Funding

Aqueduct A/B

Presenters: Joke Bradt; Andi Hunt

This session is aimed at clinicians, students, and new scholars who are interested in obtaining small-scale funding for research studies or clinical projects. The presenters will offer guidance and strategies for seeking foundation funding as well as funding offered by MAR and AMTA.

The Flow of Treatment Planning: Method Integrity when Utilizing Rap in Therapy

Highland A

Presenter: Michael Viega, Ph.D., MT-BC, LCAT

Music experiences utilizing rap can provide a powerful container for therapeutic change for people who identify with Hip Hop Culture. Treatment planning for the



use of rap in therapy requires cultural reflexivity, specific music competencies, and an understanding of levels of practice. This workshop will help students identify key issues in treatment planning using rap through experiential participation. *Students*

Hello Everybody! Benefits of a Music Together Training for Music Therapy Students and Professionals **Highland C/H**

Presenter: Tara O'Brien

Passages featured presentation

Music Together is a research-based, internationally recognized music program for children from birth through age seven. This presentation will explain the benefits of being trained as a Music Together teacher for both music therapy students and board-certified music therapists.

Negotiating Co-created Meaning: Music and Creative Arts in Therapeutic Communication Process **Highland E**

Presenter: Nancy Jackson, PhD, MT-BC

In order to understand each other's creative expressions, music therapist and client must negotiate meaning in their therapeutic exchanges. The complex nature of listening, expressing, and co-creating meaning, and how the expressive arts build mediators that allow individuals to understand and to be understood, will be explored. *Experienced Professionals*

Beyond the Basics: Designing Treatment Approaches to Impact Higher-Level Social Skills **Highland F**

Presenter: Wade Richards, LCAT, MT-BC

When developing interventions beyond initial social skills, it is vital to understand the sub-domain categories under social skills and the sequential skill strands in each area. Only then are we prepared with the right tools to assess, create music interventions, and measure success. Specific songs and programming for children, adolescents, and adults will be shared. *Entry Level Professionals*



GarageBand for Beginners

Highland G

Presenters: Colleen Bradfield, LCAT, MT-BC; Jennifer Carlenius, MMT, LCAT, MT-BC; Mary White, LCAT, MT-BC; Christopher Gold, MA, LCAT, MT-BC

GarageBand is a user friendly app designed to compose music. It is a motivational tool for clients to achieve a variety of goals. In this session participants will learn the basics of GarageBand for iPad in a step-by-step format. Participants will need to bring their own iPad with the GarageBand app. *Entry Level Professionals*

Expanding The Use of Electric Guitar in Music Therapy

Highland K

Presenter: Ariel Avissar, MA, MT-BC, LCAT

Time to make the music, though the electric guitar may bring to mind a plethora of potential music making icons, such as the likes of Jimi Hendrix, The Beatles, BB King, Various Popular Music, and Rock n' Roll, lets not forget that we can also use the electric guitar to produce music that stretches beyond it's bold, loud, ruckus reputation into exploring the sonic aspects that extend beyond the staple use in pop culture as in rock n' roll, reggae, latin, and blues and jazz. Through live music making whether its a community music therapy group on hospital unit, school, or outpatients in live performance out in the community - the electric guitar can open up avenues of creativity and offer great musical support when in a live musical interplay with a group or individual client. *Students*

Music from Around the World: A Multicultural Children's Repertoire Workshop

Cascade A/B

Presenter: Joseph Lee, MM, MTA, MT-BC

Having a multicultural repertoire is crucial for music therapists working in cities as culturally diverse as New York. Widely-known, quintessential children's songs in Spanish, Hebrew, Chinese, Korean, French, Bengali, and other languages will be taught to participants. Lead sheets and ideas to incorporate music therapy techniques will be provided. *Entry Level Professionals*

11:00am – 12:00pm

MAR Business Meeting II

Riverside Court

Open meeting for all attendees.



11:00am – 12:00pm **MARAMTS Business Meeting II** **Highland C/H**
 Open meeting for students.

12:00pm – 2:00pm ****Exhibit Hall Spectacular****
Lilac Ballroom/Exhibit Hall
 Come to the exhibit hall to browse the exhibits and take a chance at the silent auction. Light refreshments provided. All proceeds go to offset the cost of the conference! Entertainment by the Colin Gordon Duo.

12:15pm – 1:15pm **Internship Smorgasboard**
Lilac Ballroom/Exhibit Hall
 Are you a student starting to think about internship sites? Come to the Internship Smorgasboard!

12:15pm – 1:45pm **Networking Lunch: Clinical Practice, Employment Settings, and Stakeholder Interests**
Empire Lobby (Upstairs)
 Please join us for a discussion about working with specific clinical populations.

12:30pm – 1:00pm **BOCES (Steel Drum Ensemble - Musical Performance)**
Galleria (Opposite of Registration/Coats)

12:30pm – 3:30pm **Registration Open** **Coats**

2:00pm – 2:50pm **Master’s Level Entry Forum** **Highland C/H**

3:00pm – 4:40pm **Concurrent Sessions #5: 100 minutes**

Research Track: MAR RESEARCH AWARD FEATURE SESSION: Evaluating Arts-Based Research: Audience Perspectives **Aqueduct A/B**
 Presenter: Michael Viega, PhD, LCAT, MT-BC

This presentation will provide the results of a research project investigating aesthetic evaluation and audience perceptions of arts-based research performance. Current developments in arts-based research, including the salient role of axiology in designing and evaluating artistic inquiries and performance, will be discussed.



Sing Together! - Chants, Raps, and Vocal Improvisations **Highland A**
Presenters: Megan Resig, LCAT, MT-BC; Wade Richards, LCAT, MT-BC and special guests :)

Team members from Spectrum Creative Arts in Rochester, NY share songs and strategies for vocal expression and collaboration for a variety of ages and populations. Original songs, chants, raps, and vocal improvisation ideas will be shared along with vocal arrangements of popular songs. Be ready to sing, chant, rap, and gather new ideas for your clinical work. *Entry Level Professionals*

MAR State Task Force on Occupational Regulation **Highland B**
Presenters: Maria Hricko Fay, MSW/LSW, LCAT, MT-BC; Amy Rodgers Smith, MMT, MT-BC; AMTA National Team members

This concurrent session is for all members of the MAR State Task Forces. Task force members will share successes and challenges in their work in the past year and brainstorm ideas for their work in the upcoming year. Snacks will be provided.

The Role of Story-Telling and Fantasy Play in Music Therapy **Highland C/H**
Presenter: Jasmine Edwards, MT-BC

Passages featured presentation

This presentation examines existing literature on the use of stories and fantasy play in music therapy with children of varying diagnoses. The review of literature will analyze the variety of ways stories can evolve in the music therapy setting, the role of the music when working with stories, and how the use of fantasy addresses the specific needs and developmental level of each client.

Faculty Forum **Highland D**
Presenter: Brian Abrams, Ph. D, MT-BC

A forum for music therapy faculty to discuss a broad range of topics related to education and training. The forum connects with and builds upon the Faculty Forum held at the national conference in Sandusky, OH. Full-time, part-time, and adjunct faculty are all welcome to attend.



Music-centered and Developmentally Informed Practices for Group Music Therapy **Highland E**

Presenters: Zachary Kandler, MA, MT-BC, Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapist; Stacey Hensel, MA, MT-BC, LCAT, Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapist; Anne Dewan, MA, MT-BC, LCAT; Peter Galub, MA, MT-BC

This presentation will explore a range of music-centered, developmentally informed practices to support a large group of individuals with developmental differences. Case material (in the form of video examples) will highlight the flexible use of pre-composed songs, instrumental compositions, and spontaneous improvisation to address developmental needs and group dynamics. *Entry Level Professionals*

Psychodrama Techniques for Improvisational Music Therapy **Highland F**

Presenters: Amy Clarkson, MMT, MT-BC, CP, PAT, LCAT; Barbara McKechnie, MA, LPC, LCAT, RDT/BCT, CP, PAT

This workshop will provide a foundational understanding of psychodrama, an action-oriented, depth therapy. Through a didactic and experiential process, participants will learn how the psychodrama concepts of enactment, doubling and role reversal can be integrated within a music therapy context to foster insight, emotional expression, and behavioral change. *Experienced Professionals*

Internship Forum **Highland J**

Presenter: Susan Glaspell

Interactive Interventions for Intergenerational Music Therapy Programs **Highland K**

Presenter: Becky Watson, MBA, MT-BC

This session will present numerous ideas for working with intergenerational programs (18 months-5 years old and older adults) through music therapy. Ideas for utilizing percussion, singing, reading, songwriting, and movement will be presented that musically connect these generations. Practical tips for planning and incorporating interventions for both generations. *Entry Level Professionals*



Unlimited guitar accompaniment—From ingrained to intuitive Cascade A/B
 Presenter: Mark Ahola, MM, LCAT, MT-BC

Do you constantly strum the same syncopated patterns? Does your chord vocabulary limit you to basic harmonies? Do you avoid barres at all costs? In this experiential workshop, you will intuitively create novel accompaniment according to the music and client rather than replay your overlearned, habitual style. Guitars are not provided. *Entry Level Professionals*

Bands & Recording Studios: A Unique Music Therapy Program for Adult Mental Health Consumers Cascade E/F
 Presenter: Ariel Avissar, MA, MT-BC, LCAT

Whether making music in the moment, live, in the here-and-now or by taking a more introspective approach to methodically arrange ideas, and engage in a range of self-expression in a recording studio environment, the core techniques and methods open up new possibilities for the music therapist. With a range of populations, communities, cultures, and challenges a music therapist can collaboratively explore a range of tools and experiences with the client that can address a range of clinical goals. *Entry Level Professionals*

3:00pm – 4:00pm High School Session Cascade C/D
 Session for high school students and parents interested in music therapy.

4:00pm – 8:00pm Exhibit Hall Open Lilac Ballroom/Exhibit Hall

4:50pm – 5:40pm Student Swap Shop Highland C/H
 The student swap shop is an opportunity for the exchange of clinical ideas developed by students from the Mid-Atlantic Region.

4:50pm – 5:40pm State Meetings:
 Delaware Highland D
 Maryland Highland A
 New Jersey Highland E
 New York Highland B
 Pennsylvania Highland F



Virginia/West Virginia

Highland G

5:40pm – 6:00pm **Staircase Sing** **Convention Center Staircase**

6:30pm – 7:45pm **Awards Ceremony** **Grand Ballroom (Hyatt)**
 Complimentary appetizers, student and professional award recognition and more! Entertainment by The White Hots. Doors open at 6:15.

9:00pm – 10:00pm **Drum Circle** **Riverside Court**
 Nellie Hill will return again this year to facilitate the drum circle experience.

9:00pm – 12:00am **Jam Room** **Highland C/H**
 No alcohol permitted in the jam room space. If patrons are found to be in possession of alcohol they will be asked to leave the jam room.

SATURDAY MARCH 18

7:00am – 7:45am **Yoga** **Riverside Court**
 Rise and Stretch with Tyler Pearce in the morning yoga session. Bring your own mat or grab a towel. No experience necessary. Everyone is welcome.

7:30am – 1:00pm **Registration Open** **Coats**

Ongoing: **Mothers Lounge** **Aqueduct C/D**

8:00am – 12:00pm **Exhibits/Displays Open**
Lilac Ballroom/Exhibit Hall

8:00am – 9:40am **Conference Committee Transition Meeting**
Cascade C/D

A brief meeting to transition from the current conference committee to the incoming committee.



8:00am – 9:40am Concurrent Sessions #6: 100 minutes

Research Track: Poster Session

Aqueduct A/B

Approaching Musical Mutuality Through Guided Client Compositions Within Adult Inpatient Psychiatry

Highland C/H

Presenter: Dan Walsh, MT-BC

Passages featured presentation

This presentation will illustrate case vignettes wherein the student music therapist facilitated therapeutic relationships through the use of music technology with clients in an acute psychiatric facility in Brooklyn, NY. A detailed description of client/therapist approach toward mutuality will be presented through descriptions and recorded examples.

Developing together: A developmental model of supervision

Highland D

Presenter: Scott Horowitz, MA, MT-BC, LPC, ACS

The supervisory relationship can be simultaneously enriching and challenging for both supervisees and supervisors. During this presentation developmental models for supervision will be explored, highlighting the co-occurring nature of supervisee and supervisor development. Multicultural and ethical considerations in music therapy supervision will also be discussed. *Experienced Professionals*

The Richards' Modified Tuning for Adaptive Guitar

Highland E

Presenter: Wade Richards, LCAT, MT-BC

Alternate guitar tunings allow clients with cognitive and motor limitations to play new chord configurations. A specialized tuning designed by the presenter will demonstrate how clients can produce a variety of basic and extended chords with only one- and two-finger placements. Bring your guitar! *Entry Level Professionals*

Dispelling the Myths and Delineating the Truths of Personalized iPod Programs

Highland G

Presenters: Erica Smith, MT-BC; Jenna Carson, MT-BC

You've been given 100 iPods from a donor. As the music therapist, how will you utilize this donation? In this session you will hear from music therapists who



formed a regional peer group to address the growing public interest of iPod programs in long-term care. *Experienced Professionals*

Music Therapy Assessment: Early Intervention to Early Elementary

Presenter: Elizabeth K. Schwartz, MA, LCAT, MT-BC

Highland K

An overview of two music therapy assessment tools created for practice with young children from early intervention to early school-aged - The Early Childhood Strengths, Needs and Resources Review (ECSNRR) and the MIECD (Music Indicators of Early Childhood Development). Access to copies of both assessment tools will be provided to participants. *Entry Level Professionals*

Music and Mindfulness Practices in Acute Inpatient Psychiatric Settings

Presenters: Katie Van Loan, MA, MT-BC, LCAT; Rachel Schwartz, MA, MT-BC, LCAT

Cascade A/B

This presentation will illustrate music and mindfulness techniques for working in an acute inpatient adult psychiatric setting. Participants will engage in an experiential that includes breathing exercises, vocal toning, chanting, improvisation, and meditation guides to enhance their personal process and clinical skills. Therapeutic implications and considerations will be examined. *Entry Level Professionals*

MAR President Elect Transition Meeting

Cascade E/F

Hosted by: Michael Viega, PhD, MT-BC, LCAT

9:55am – 10:45am Concurrent Sessions #7: 50 minutes

Research Track: Research Alive!

Aqueduct A/B

Presenters:

Heeyoun Cho, PhD, MT-BC: *The effects of group singing on quality of life and affect of people with dementia: A randomized controlled trial*

Scott MacDonald, MT-BC, LPC: *Music therapy and being: How music therapy supports resilience and recovery in the inpatient mental health setting*

Adenike Webb, MMT, MT-BC: *A Qualitative Inquiry into the Experience of Feeling Culturally Competent in Music Therapy Practice*



Dive into research! Invited researchers summarize recently completed studies on a range of topics, using different methodologies. Compare studies, ask questions, and stimulate your own research ideas. Each researcher provides a summary of their research, and offers time for questions and discussion.

Got BOOMWACKERS? Easy, Engaging and Energizing Boomwhacker Activities for Baby Boomers **Highland A**

Presenter: Becky Watson, MBA, MT-BC

Learn Easy to Use Boomwhacker activities to stimulate and energize older adults in a group setting. These ideas will incorporate rhythm, speech, singing, songwriting, and movement to create an enjoyable, uplifting and rewarding experience for your older adults. We will also discuss session planning, settings, and logistics for success. *Students*

Fireside Chat **Highland B**

Facilitator: Mark Ahola, MM, LCAT, MT-BC

Participants: Sr. Miriam Pfeifer, IHM, MA, LCAT, MT-BC; Madelaine Ventre, MS, LCAT, MT-BC

Come have a conversation with 2 influential music therapists of our region, Sr. Mariam Pfeifer, IHM, MA, LCAT, MT-BC and Madelaine Ventre, MS, LCAT, MT-BC. With over 70 years of experience between them, these pioneers will help us remember the past and aim for the future of music therapy. This fireside chat is the first of a series that will be offered at MAR conferences.

I'm a Person Not a Disease: Eating Disorder Patient Perceptions of Treatment **Highland C/H**

Presenter: Stephenie Sofield, MT-BC

Passages featured presentation

This presentation will give discuss an internship case study experience, including data regarding Eating Disorder myths and treatment, patient perceptions of medical and music therapy treatment, and music therapy interventions utilized. Psychosocial themes found in patient quotes and songs will also be shared.



**Personalized Music Listening Programs for Persons with Dementia:
Knowledge, Assumptions, & Professional Leadership** **Highland D**

Presenters: Laurel Young, PhD, MTA, Music Therapy, Psychothérapeute (N0 de permis 61453-15) Fellow, Association for Music & Imagery (FAMI), Associate Professor of Music Therapy, Music Therapy Graduate Coordinator (2016-17) Creative Arts Therapies Department, Faculty of Fine Arts, Concordia University

What does it mean to provide optimal music listening opportunities for persons living with dementia (PLWD)? How can music therapists provide professional leadership? Information from various sources will be shared along with results of a pilot study that examined responses of PLWD to personalized music listening experiences delivered via an iPod. *Experienced Professionals*

**Music Therapy Interventions to Support Social Development in Early
Childhood Inclusion Classrooms** **Highland E**

Presenter: Carol Ann Blank, LCAT, LPC, MMT, MT-BC

During this session, participants will experience ways to design clinical interventions for the early-childhood inclusion classroom to support the development of social skills for all students. Skills include joint attention, turn-taking, greetings and responses. Participants will be introduced to relevant social development theories, research, and resources. *Entry Level Professionals*

Feeding the Music Child as a Transformative Experience **Highland F**

Presenter: Zachary Kandler, MA, MT-BC, Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapist, Certified Floortime™ Practioner

This presentation will describe the individual therapy process of a preadolescent boy with developmental differences using the Nordoff-Robbins approach. Using video case material from sessions, concepts of NRMT, including the “music child” and following a child’s musical lead will illustrate how clinically informed musical experiences can have transformative effects. *Entry Level Professionals*



Trauma-Informed Music Therapy for Youth who Experienced Domestic Abuse
Presenters: Katherine Myers-Coffman, MS, MT-BC; Debra Cotterall, MA, MT-BC
Highland G

Learn about a 7-week music therapy program aimed at promoting a sense of self-efficacy and positive vision for the future to increase resiliency in youth who experienced domestic abuse. The theoretical framework, curriculum, treatment goals and outcomes, implementation experiences, and song and art samples from participants will be presented. *Experienced Professionals*

Planting the Seeds: A Model for Interprofessional Education and Clinical Training
Highland J
Presenters: Laurie Keough, M.S.Ed, LCAT, MT-BC; Betsey King, PhD, LCAT, MT-BC

In all clinical settings, clinicians must develop attitudes and skills necessary for effective interprofessional collaboration. This presentation will share a model of interprofessional training and education occurring at one college campus, inclusive of six disciplines. Challenges and benefits of interprofessional collaboration will be discussed and students will share their experiences. *Students*

STOMP: Socialization through Original Music & Movement Programs
Presenters: Amanda Ruddy Belcastro, MT-BC; Conio Loretto, MS, LCAT, MT-BC;
Highland K

During this highly interactive, experiential session, attendees will be introduced to STOMP, a unique music and movement program developed by a team of Music Therapists, a Dance Therapist and a Dance Teacher. Designed for children with autism spectrum disorder, the program draws upon the inherent qualities of rhythm to ground, organize and connect those participating in it. *Entry Level Professionals*

Boundaries for the Modern Music Therapist
Cascade C/D
Presenters: Lindsey Oliver, MT-BC; Molly I. Phillips, MEd, MT-BC

Multi-Modal approach to addressing commonly occurring boundary challenges faced by the modern music therapist across all settings. Open discussion following



specific strategies will be implemented focused on developing professional skills sets rooted in ethics and practice of music therapy. *Entry Level Professionals*

“The Song Inside Me”: Powerful Therapeutic Songwriting In Music Therapy Practice **Cascade E/F**

Presenter: Melinda Korte, MT-BC

This session will investigate the diverse ways to utilize songwriting within the clinical relationship, whether student or professional. Therapeutic examples will demonstrate each technique while participants learn to develop their own songwriting toolbox. Songwriting technology, mixing and recording will also be explored in this presentation. *Experienced Professionals*

11:00am – 11:50am **Concurrent Sessions #8: 50 minutes**

Connecting Voices - A Group Music Experience for People with Parkinson's Disease **Highland A**

Presenter: Melinda C. Kurowski, MA, MT-BC

Connecting Voices is a group music experience for people with Parkinson's disease. Group work focuses on improving breath support, vocal volume, and articulation through specific vocal exercises and purposefully chosen repertoire. Group members will demonstrate examples of material used in sessions and will speak about their personal experiences. *Experienced Professionals*

Recertification 101: Make Your Credits Work for You, CBMT **Highland B**

Presenter: Hindi Burkett, MT-BC

Acquiring 100 recertification credits does not have to be confusing or costly! Will we review the most updated recertification requirements, identify and evaluate various economical options for obtaining credits, and review the online platform for recording continuing education. Bring your recertification questions and scenarios for thoughtful discussion and suggestions! *Entry Level Professionals*



A Case Study of a Child with ASD Incorporating Improvisation and other Methods **Highland C/H**

Presenters: Kenny Farinelli, MTS; Erin Oulton, MTS

Passages featured presentation

Students will explore a case study and watch videos of a 4-year-old female with ASD incorporating improvisational music therapy (IMT), sensory integration, and receptive methods to improve socialization and communication. Presenters will discuss their approach to IMT and their adherence to IMT guidelines formulated by Geretsegger et al.

Presenting Music Therapy To "Higher Ups" - Showcasing What We Do To Key People **Highland D**

Presenter: Ariel Avissar, MA, MT-BC, LCAT

This multi-media rich presentation will illustrate and explain how to alleviate any doubts or angst related to presenting music therapy to non-musicians, work supervisors, administrators, or any key people about the clear benefits of having a 'custom made' music therapy program. Come find out the useful methods and skills you want to emphasize that are based on deepening understanding and teaching clients how to rely on inner strengths to work through challenges, address clinical needs, and feel safer overall through the formation of a musical relationship. *Entry Level Professionals*

Sprouting Melodies®: An early childhood music program designed especially for music therapists **Highland E**

Presenter: Elizabeth K. Schwartz, MA, LCAT, MT-BC

As Music Therapists, we offer a unique resource to families with young children. Learn more about Sprouting Melodies, the early childhood music classes led by music therapists that focus on healthy overall growth and development of young children. *Entry Level Professionals*



Developing a Songwriting Program from a Theoretical Framework

Presenter: Katherine Myers-Coffman, MS, MT-BC

Highland F

Learn about one student-researcher's process of developing a resilience songwriting program from a theoretical framework used in psychology for adolescent bereavement. Choosing a suitable framework based on theoretical and philosophical perspectives, building a theory-driven songwriting program from the framework, and protocol development will be discussed. *Experienced Professionals*

Tutti Ensemble- A collaborate band program for kids with disabilities

Presenters: Tara Kelly, MTS; Elizabeth Demmer, MTS

Highland G

Developing an Ecosystem of Care: A Community Music Therapy Perspective

Presenter: Deborah Joyce D'Angelo MS, MT-BC, LCAT-LP

Highland J

The theory of community music therapy and how it relates to the work environment will be discussed in this presentation. Examples will highlight how music therapists can synergistically partner with other disciplines to meet common client goals while providing a forum for collective creativity and self-expression toward health and wellness. *Experienced Professionals*

Interdisciplinary Collaboration in an Acute Pediatric Medical Setting

Presenters: Clare Arezina, MME, MT-BC, CCLS; Maria Fazzini, MS, LCAT, ATR-BC; Suzanne Karl, CCLS; Emily O'Toole, PT, DPT; Kayla VanBrocklin, OTR

Highland K

In acute medical settings, the number of disciplines involved in a patient's care can be overwhelming. Confusion and poor outcomes can result from lack of communication and collaboration between disciplines. This presentation will provide an overview of the institutional structures and inter-professional efforts in place at our facility that foster strong collaboration and interdisciplinary collegiality. *Entry Level Professionals*



Not THAT Call Again: Responding to Requests for Student Music Therapy Volunteers **Cascade A/B**

Presenters: Andrea McGraw Hunt, PhD, MT-BC, Fellow of Association for Music and Imagery; Brian Abrams, PhD, MT-BC, LCAT, LPC, Analytical Music Therapist and Fellow of the Association for Music and Imagery

This presentation will address responses by university music therapy academic programs to clinical care facilities requesting volunteer music therapy services by students. Participants will be invited into a dialogue about working from an initial point of contact with facilities to what hopefully becomes the establishment of professional music therapy services. *Educators/Internship Directors*

Internship Instruction: A resource of training modules to ensure professional competency **Cascade E/F**

Presenters: April Westover Mounts, LCAT, MT-BC; Jason Willey, MMT, MT-BC; Karen Skahill, MS, MT-BC; Jennifer Trimble Ford, MS, MM, MT-BC

Music Therapists at a school serving students with special needs recently revamped its internship design. To ensure quality instruction and professional competency, ten modules which include tutorials and specified projects, will be offered to systematically structure a functional training approach that provides flexibility for the diverse needs of concurrent interns. *Educators/Internship Directors*

11:55am – 12:00pm **Conference Farewell** **Highland C/H**

1:00pm – 4:00pm **3 Hour CMTE's**

CMTE H: Analytical Music Therapy Method in Supervision **Highland E**

*3 CE contact hours for LCATs
Presenter: Seung-A Kim, PhD, LCAT, MT-BC

This workshop emphasizes the benefits of the Analytical Music Therapy (AMT) method in supervision. The presenter will discuss and demonstrate how the AMT method offers unique opportunities for music therapists/students in supervision to expand their expressiveness and creativity, while also promoting cultural integrity.



1:00pm – 6:00pm

5 Hour CMTE's

CMTE I: Exploring the Deeper Meaning of Transference/Countertransference Reactions in Your Clinical Work

Highland A

*5 CE contact hours for LCATs

Presenter: Allison Reynolds, LCSW, LCAT, MT-BC

This CMTE is for those clinicians interested in taking a deeper look at the therapeutic relationship, who want to gain insight into transference and countertransference reactions. Using a variety of psychodynamic techniques and role-plays, clinicians will learn more about unconscious dynamics and relational dilemmas, often occurring in the therapist-client relationship. This CMTE will be capped at 12 participants to allow for in-depth discussion and self-exploration.



Presenter bios:

Brian Abrams, PhD, MT-BC, is Coordinator of Music Therapy at Montclair State University. A music therapist since 1995, his professional and scholarly emphases have included humanistic models and music psychotherapy.

Mark Ahola, MM, LCAT, MT-BC, has been a music therapist for over 20 years, having worked in schools, hospice, private practice, addictions, and psychiatric settings. He has played guitar for over 45 years.

Clare Arezina, MME, MT-BC, CCLS, is a music therapist at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse NY.

Jesse Asch, MS, MT-BC, NRMT, has been a practicing music therapist, working with children to adults with varying developmental and social-emotional challenges since 2012. He received his Bachelor's from Temple University and his Master's from Molloy College in Music Therapy. Jesse has presented internationally on work within music-centered music therapy and DIRFloortime® models.

Ariel Avissar, MA, MT-BC, LCAT, has been practicing music therapy for 15 years. He works for the NY State's Office of Mental Health working and is currently developing a unique therapy wellness and recovery program based on performance, recording, and songwriting, in an outpatient adult mental health center in Brooklyn, NY.

Amanda Ruddy Belcastro, MT-BC, received her Bachelors of Music in Music Therapy from Marywood University. She has worked at The Center for Discovery for almost ten years, where she maintains a caseload of students and adults with multiple disabilities and leads weekly piano training sessions within the Music Therapy Internship Program.

Maya Benattar, MA, MT-BC, LCAT, is currently in private practice in New York City. She has a decade of diverse clinical experience in medical, long-term care, community, and private practice settings.



Carol Ann Blank, LCAT, LPC, MMT, MT-BC is a doctoral candidate (Drexel University) researching clinical decision-making with parent-child dyads. Carol Ann manages the Music Together Within Therapy program at Music Together LLC.

Colleen Bradfield has worked at BOCES 2 for 18 years with students ages preschool through 21. Colleen is a coauthor of the MT-SEAS assessment for public schools.

Joke Bratt, PhD, MT-BC, is Associate Professor in Drexel University's Creative Arts Therapies Department. She is Editor of the Nordic Journal of Music Therapy and serves on the MUTR 2025 Co-Direction Team.

Matthew Brady, MS, MT-BC, NRMT, Certified DIR/Floortime Provider, has been the music therapist at Imagine Academy in Brooklyn, NY since 2013. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in Music Therapy at Molloy College. He has also completed advanced training in Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy, with a focus on utilizing the bass in music therapy.

Hindi Burkett, MT-BC is the Continuing Education Coordinator for the Certification Board for Music Therapists.

Lore Businge, MPH, MT-BC, is a global public health professional and music therapist. Lore has started music therapy and public health projects in Uganda, and she currently manages projects in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Dorian Campbell, MS, MT-BC, Hospice and Palliative Care Music Therapist, obtained her undergraduate degree at Montclair State University and her masters at SUNY New Paltz, both in music therapy. Dorian has worked in geriatrics, dementia, and hospice. She currently works for Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care.

Jennifer Carlenius, MMT, LCAT, MT-BC, has worked in the special education setting for 20 years. Jennifer is a coauthor of the MT-SEAS assessment for public schools.

John Carpente, Ph.D., MT-BC, LCAT is an associate professor of music therapy at Molloy College and founder and director of the Rebecca Center for Music Therapy.



He has presented his work domestically and internationally.

Jenna Carson, MT-BC, graduated from Nazareth College of Rochester with a Master of Science in Creative Arts Therapy. She has worked with children and adults with developmental disabilities, and currently with the elderly in long term care.

Amy Clarkson, MMT, MT-BC, CP, PAT, LCAT, is a music therapist and psychodramatist, working in private practice with clients who face social-emotional challenges. Amy is an adjunct faculty member at Montclair State University.

Debra Cotterall, MA, MT-BC, is a Drexel University graduate and 2013 recipient of the Excellence in Music Therapy Thesis award. Debra works with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Leah Creary, MS, MT-BC, is a music therapist in the Rochester Area, practicing at both Spectrum Creative Arts and St. Ann's Care Center. Leah completed her M.S. at Nazareth College in 2015.

Shelby Dahl, MT-BC, is a Board Certified Music Therapist at Spectrum Creative Arts in Rochester, NY and a graduate of Berklee College of Music. Currently, Shelby is primarily based in K-12 schools.

Deborah Joyce D'Angelo, MS, MT-BC, LCAT-LP, practices music therapy at Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center. In addition to working in medical care and educational settings, she owned a business in music instruction and performance.

Elizabeth Deemer is a senior Music Therapy major at Marywood University.

Laura De Gennaro, Psy.D., is currently the clinical coordinator for the Center for Autism and Child Development at The Rebecca Center and conducting assessments for the TIME-A International Research Study. She has received her Masters of Science from Hofstra University in School-Community Psychology. She has provided directed services as well as psychological assessments to toddlers, young children, adolescents and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Laura has a broad range of clinical experience and has participated in research with children with Autism and the role of play therapy.



Lori L. De Rea-Kolb, MA, MT-BC, LPC, CPRP, is a Music Therapist who primarily works with adults with severe mental illness, serving as the Creative Arts Therapist and as the Clinical Team Lead at a Long Term Structured Residential facility.

Anne Dewan, MA, MT-BC, LCAT, received her Master's from NYU's music therapy program and has worked as an LCAT at Rebecca School for over 8 years. She also has a background in special education.

Beth Deyermund, MA, MT-BC has worked in the field of music therapy for over 15 years and currently serves as the Senior Music Therapist and Internship Director at The Center for Discovery in Harris, NY. She is a frequent presenter at the regional and national levels.

Christine Ertola, MS, LCAT, R-DMT holds a BA in Dance and Psychology from CUNY-Hunter in New York and a Master of Science degree in Dance/Movement Therapy from Pratt Institute. She is currently co-director of the Therapeutic Dance Department at The Center for Discovery where she also directs the dance/movement therapy internship program.

Whitney Fairchild, MT-BC, is a co-founder of the V7 Chord Podcast. She enjoys working as a long term substitute music therapist at Mary Cariola Children's Center in Rochester, NY.

Dr. Andi Farbman, Ed.D., has served AMTA as Executive Director since 1989, providing leadership in every area of the association's work.

Maria Fazzini, MS, LCAT, ATR-BC, is an art therapist at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse NY.

Jennifer Trimble Ford, MS, MM, MT-BC, is a graduate of Ithaca College and the Peabody Conservatory. Jen recently completed her degree in Creative Arts Therapy at Nazareth College and joined the music therapy team at Mary Cariola in January, 2015.



Peter Galub, MA, MT-BC, joined the music therapy team at Rebecca School in 2013. Prior to his work there, he has studied and utilized the Nordoff-Robbins approach with a wide range of populations.

Susan C. Gardstrom, PhD, MT-BC, is Professor and Coordinator of Music Therapy at the University of Dayton. Clientele served include adjudicated adolescents, children with physical disabilities and autism, and adults with addictions.

Christopher Gold, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, has worked at BOCES 2 for 16 years and is an adjunct professor at Nazareth College. He is a coauthor of the MT-SEAS assessment for public schools.

Jennifer Goldhammer, MA, MT-BC, received her masters degree in Music Therapy at Drexel University. She has worked primarily with children and adolescents with ASD, learning differences, anxiety, and depression, across a variety of clinical settings.

Lara Anat Grabois, pending a Bachelor's Degree in Music Therapy and Composition in January 2017, singer and pianist, completed all academic requirements for a Music Therapy degree, with Composition minor, at John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University.

Stacey Hensel MA, MT-BC, LCAT, NRMT, has extensive experience as a clinician, instructor and supervisor in a music-centered music therapy model. She has had instrumental roles in developing two thriving music therapy programs, currently at the Rebecca School in NYC. Stacey is also the founder of Innovative Music Therapy Services and a supervisor for creative music therapists in the New York City area.

James Hiller, PhD, MT-BC, is Assistant Professor and Clinical Coordinator at the University of Dayton. Clientele served include older adults with dementias, adults with psychiatric disorders and addictions, and children and adults with IDD.

Sharon Hoffberg, MA, MT-BC, graduated from the Hahnemann Creative Arts in Therapy Program at Drexel University with a Master's degree in Music Therapy. She has been a Board Certified Music Therapist since 2001.



Scott Horowitz, MA, MT-BC, LPC, ACS, is a music therapist and clinical supervisor in Philadelphia, PA. He is the Director of Field Education and Clinical Instructor in the Department of Creative Arts Therapies at Drexel University.

Alicia Hubbard, MT-BC is a 2014 graduate of Nazareth College. She completed her internship at Monroe #1 BOCES. Alicia is working as a recreation specialist, running a music and memory program while also working to start a brand new music therapy program at Elderwood at Hornell.

Andrea Hunt, PhD, MT-BC, is Assistant Professor and Clinical Coordinator at Immaculata University. Her research interests include cultural competence in advanced music therapy practice and neuroscience applications in music therapy research for mental health.

Dr. Bryan Hunter, Ph.D., LCAT, MT-BC, has held numerous Board of Director positions and currently serves as AMTA Historian. In that role he provides historical perspective to the Board of Directors' deliberations.

Flossie Ierardi, MM, MT-BC, LPC, Music Therapy Program Director at Drexel University, has taught Clinical Musical Improvisation in the academic program and continuing education. She has extensive experience using improvisation with various populations.

Nancy Jackson, PhD, MT-BC, is associate professor and Director of Music Therapy at Indiana-Purdue University Fort Wayne. She has more than 20 years of clinical experience in mental health and medical settings.

Meg Jones, CTRS, has worked at Rochester Psychiatric Center for the past 4 years. She is a licensed recreation therapist in NC. Prior to working at Rochester Psychiatric Center she worked at Norris Addiction Treatment Center. She has two beautiful sons and a pretty cool husband.

Joy Kaminski, MT-BC, at Rochester Psychiatric Center for the past 8 years. She has worked in inpatient acute, long-term and forensic psychiatric units.



Zachary Kandler, MA, MT-BC, is a Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapist and a certified Floortime practitioner. He is a clinician at Rebecca School and the Nordoff-Robbins Center in New York City and has extensive experience working with individuals with developmental differences.

Suzanne Karl, CCLS, is a Child Life Specialist at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse NY.

Mike Kelliher, MT-BC, is a professionally credentialed, board certified music therapist at the Rebecca Center for Music Therapy. He is currently completing his Masters of Science in Music Therapy at Molloy College. Mike has completed advanced post-graduate clinical training in Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy.

Tara Kelly is a senior Music Therapy major at Marywood University.

Laurie Keough, M.S.Ed, LCAT, MT-BC is a Clinical Associate Professor of Music Therapy at Nazareth College. Her current clinical work in the college's interprofessional clinic focuses on adults with neurological impairments, mental health disorders, and dementia.

Seung-A Kim, PhD, LCAT, MT-BC, is Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Music Therapy program at Molloy College, NY. She has worked with a variety of ethnic groups as an analytical music therapist and supervisor. Her research interests include Analytical Music Therapy, stress reduction and wellness, and multicultural music therapy.

Dr. Betsey King, LCAT, MT-BC is an Associate Professor of Music Therapy at Nazareth College. She has over 20 years of clinical experience with clients who have autism, neurological impairments, mental health disorders and dementia.

Melinda Korte, MT-BC, is a Graduate Teaching Assistant at Radford University. Melinda received her B.M. in Music Therapy at Marywood University in 2013. After interning at The Center for Neurological and Neurodevelopmental Health, she's now a Graduate student at Radford University.



Melinda C. Kurowski, MA, MT-BC, works for Heritage Christian Services where she provides services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities as well as for individuals diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, Alzheimer’s disease, and traumatic brain injury.

Bronwen Landless, MMT, MT-BC has over ten years of experience as a music therapist in a psychiatric residential treatment facility for children/adolescents. She is currently pursuing her PhD at Drexel where she is also a research assistant. She is also adjunct faculty at Shenandoah University.

Jerad Lawson, MT intern, is currently completing his internship at BOCES. Also a graduate of Berklee College of Music, he is excited to have moved to upstate NY to complete his education.

Joseph Lee, MM, MTA, MT-BC, is a Canadian accredited and US board-certified music therapist. A graduate of Colorado State University, he has worked with pediatric populations at NYU Langone Medical Center since 2009.

Patrick Lipawen, MA, MT-BC, LPC, has been a music therapist at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia since 1999. He also teaches a course on Technological Applications in Music Therapy at Drexel University.

Wei Lo, MT-BC, is currently a Graduate Teaching Assistant pursuing a Masters in Music Therapy at Radford University. She has experience in forensic, juvenile corrections, and geriatric populations in mental health.

Conio Loretto, MS, LCAT, MT-BC, has more than twenty years clinical experience as a Music Therapist working with children and adults with multiple disabilities and autism. He originated and serves as the Senior Director of The Center for Discovery’s Music Therapy Program and is an adjunct faculty member at SUNY New Paltz. Conio is in his second term as Student Affairs Advisor for the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Ming Yuan Low, MA, MT-BC, Nordoff/Robbins Music Therapist, is a student at Drexel University’s PhD in Creative Arts Therapies program and is a music therapist and research assistant at the Nordoff-Robbins Center for Music Therapy.



Amanda MacRae, MMT, MT-BC, is undergoing AMT training, is enrolled in Temple University's Music Therapy Doctoral Program and has over 15 years of experience working with persons who have multiple disabilities as well as over ten years experience working with men in a forensic setting.

Josh Massicot, MM, instructs keyboard studies at Nazareth College in Rochester, New York. His book on functional keyboard skills is currently being utilized by colleges and universities.

Barbara McKechnie, MA, LPC, LCAT, RDT/BCT, CP, PAT, is a drama therapist and psychodramatist, working with adolescents and adults at New York Presbyterian. Past President of NADTA and NJACC. Adjunct faculty member at New School University, NYC.

Kayla McNamara, MT-BC, graduated from Marywood University in 2014 and completed her internship at Monroe #1 BOCES in Rochester. She currently works for Upstate Music Therapy Center and provides services for school-aged children in the Rochester area.

Brianna Miller, MT-BC, graduated from Nazareth College in 2014 and completed her internship at Broome-Tioga BOCES in Binghamton. Currently, she works at Hospice Buffalo, Community Music School, and Buffalo Niagara Music Therapy Services.

Ilene "Lee" Berger Morris, MM, LCAT, MT-BC, has been a music therapy clinician for over 30 years. Lee is based on Long Island, NY, splitting her work-week between a special education center and the neuro-rehabilitation department of a hospital.

April Westover Mounts, LCAT, MT-BC, has worked at Mary Cariola Children's Center for 20 years. In addition, she is a clinical supervisor at Nazareth College and director of the internship program at Mary Cariola.

Jill Mulholland, MS, LCAT, MT-BC, is a professionally credentialed, board certified music therapist. She received her Masters of Science degree in Music Therapy from Molloy College where she is also an adjunct professor for undergraduate music therapy students. Jill received her advanced certification in Nordoff-Robbins Music



Therapy at Molloy College in 2011. She serves as the Program Coordinator for The Rebecca Center for Music Therapy at Molloy College, where she has been working since 2005. Currently her clinical focus is working with young children with developmental disabilities and generalized learning disabilities.

Michael Munoz is a music therapy intern at the Rebecca Center for Music Therapy at Molloy College. Michael is an accomplished performing guitarist and is completing his music therapy dual degree at Molloy College.

Katherine Myers-Coffman, MS, MT-BC, a PhD candidate at Drexel University, works in trauma and grief care with youth and refugees as well as with individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism spectrum disorders.

Kristen O'Grady, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, is the clinical director for creative arts therapies and child life at the Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center. She is the Vice President-Elect for The American Music Therapy Association and co-editor of the blog, Music Therapy and End of Life Care. She is a faculty member of the Children's Advisory Group for the Hospice and Palliative Care Association of New York State.

Lindsey Oliver, MT-BC, serves the greater Rochester area through providing for individuals in both local school districts and community based creative arts center. She has also directed a private music therapy program. She is currently working for Spectrum Creative Arts, servicing individuals with multiple disabilities.

Emily O'Toole, PT, DPT, is a physical therapist at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse NY.

Sister Mariam Pfeifer, IHM, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, Retired, Director of Music Therapy at Marywood University, is an experienced teacher, a music therapy clinician, Clinical Training Director and supervisor for over thirty years. Sister served as director and secretary on the initial Certification Board for Music Therapists, the initial Cut Scores for the Exam, the Recertification Committee, and chaired the initial Audit Committee. Sister Mariam is a Past President of the Mid- Atlantic Region/AMTA, and served as an MAR representative on the former NAMT and the current AMTA Assembly of Delegates for 30 years and two terms as MAR Assembly Chair.



Molly I. Phillips, MEd, MT-BC, is currently the Music Education chair for Spectrum Creative Arts. She provides educational and therapeutic services across all ages and abilities.

Roia Rafieyan, MA, MT-BC, has had a long and exciting career as a music therapist, learning, making mistakes, and growing from her various experiences as a clinician, teacher, clinical supervisor, student and musician.

Megan Resig, MT-BC, LCAT, is the Co-Founder and Director of Spectrum Creative Arts, a Rochester based community arts center dedicated to providing music therapy and creative arts therapy programming to individuals of all ages and abilities.

Allison Reynolds, LCSW, LCAT, MT-BC, is a graduate of NYU and a music psychotherapist in private practice in New York City, working with both adults and geriatrics.

Wade Richards, LCAT, MT-BC, is Director and Chair of the Music Therapy Department at Spectrum Creative Arts. Wade also is an instructor at the Eastman School of Music.

Sara Rogers, MT-BC, is a music therapist and performer (trumpet, vocals, guitar) based in Buffalo, NY. She currently teaches music lessons and provides music therapy services for multiple contractors. She is also a co-founder of the V7 Chord Podcast.

Elizabeth K. Schwartz LCAT, MT-BC, is the co-founder of Raising Harmony: Music Therapy for Young Children, adjunct faculty member at Molloy College and senior music therapist at Alternatives for Children in New York.

Rachel Schwartz, MA, MT-BC, LCAT, is a Board Certified Music Therapist, LCAT, and group therapist on an inpatient psychiatric unit in Manhattan with over 7 years experience in this population, ages 5 - 80+.



Kate Shannon, MS, MT-BC, is a music therapist at Spectrum Creative Arts in Rochester, NY. She has experience working within early childhood, special education, and with young adults in creative arts programming.

Helen Shoemark, Ph.D, RMT, works with clinical teams to develop service delivery models. Her other research focuses on auditory experience and the role of music for at risk parent infant dyads.

Karen Skahill, MS, MT-BC, is a graduate of Nazareth College, where she recently completed her degree in Creative Arts Therapy. In her 8th year at Mary Cariola, she is an internship supervisor.

Erica Smith, MT-BC, has been a board certified music therapist for four years working in long term care. She is currently working toward her Master's of Science in Creative Arts Therapy.

Suzanne Sorel, DA, LCAT, MT-BC, directs the graduate music therapy program and chairs the music department at Molloy College where she has been teaching since 1991. She worked as a clinical supervisor and clinician at the Nordoff-Robbins Center for Music Therapy at New York University from 1990-2003 and continued in a similar capacity at the Rebecca Center. She has earned Level I, II and III certification in the Nordoff- Robbins approach.

Rick Soshensky, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, NRMT, has been a music therapist working with children, adolescents and adults with diverse diagnoses since 1992. He is the founder and director of Hudson Valley Creative Arts Therapy Studio in Kingston, NY and professor of music therapy at State University of New York at New Paltz and Molloy College. Rick is an internationally known lecturer and keynote speaker and the author of numerous professional publications.

Aaron K. Teague, MA, MT-BC, LPC, Fellow of the Association for Music and Imagery, Registered Expressive Arts Therapist, has worked clinically in multiple settings. He is a Doctoral student in Creative Arts Therapies at Drexel University and an adjunct faculty affiliated with Duquesne University.



Monica Torres, MT-BC, is currently pursuing a Masters in Clinical Counseling at Bellevue University. She is experienced in forensic psychiatric and is currently working as a community mental health crisis professional.

I-Hsuan (Christy), Tung, MA, OT, received a Master of Arts in Music Therapy and Counseling from Drexel University. She has practiced as an occupational therapist in Singapore for 3 years.

Kayla Van Brocklin, OTR, is an occupational therapist at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse NY.

Katie Van Loan, MA, MT-BC, LCAT, has worked in medical, school, and rehabilitation settings. For the past three years, Ms. Van Loan has been specializing in inpatient psychiatry setting and supervises students.

Madelaine Ventre, M.S., LCAT, MT-BC, Fellow of the Association for Music and Imagery, has been a clinician for over 40 years and in private practice in the Bonny Method of Guided Imagery and Music (GIM) since 1981. As an AMI Primary Trainer, Madelaine created the first university training in GIM. She has trained GIM students nationally and internationally on the undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate levels. Madelaine has published in professional journals and books and presented at national and international conferences.

Michael Viega, Ph.D., MT-BC, LCAT, is an Assistant Professor of Music Therapy at the State University of New York, New Paltz. His clinical and research interests include adverse childhood experiences, therapeutic songwriting, the use of popular music in therapy, and arts-based research methodologies. In addition, he is a Fellow in the Association of Music and Imagery.

Tracy Wanamaker, MEd, MT-BC, is the Coordinator of the Music in Special Education Concentration at the Crane School of Music, SUNY Potsdam. She also operates a private music therapy practice.

Becky Watson, MBA, MT-BC, Owner, Music for Wellness, is a retired Navy Captain who provides music therapy and wellness programs for older adults living with dementia, caregivers and health care professionals.



Mary White, LCAT, MT-BC, has 28 years of experience primarily working in education with students with developmental disabilities and autism, with additional experience with individuals with CP and Alzheimers.

Jason Wiley, MMT, MT-BC, has been a member of the music therapy team at Mary Cariola Children's Center since 2006. Jason is also an adjunct faculty member at Nazareth College.

Meg Williams, MT-BC, is a performer, recording artist, and songwriter based in Nashville, TN. She frequently plays at well-respected venues as both a solo artist and guitarist for other musicians.

Sherma Williams is a dance and movement specialist and co-director of the Therapeutic Dance Department at The Center for Discovery. Sherma has directed, owned and operated Main Street Dance Studio, a facility that provides dance education for children, for 20 years.

Alyssa Yeager MA, MT-BC, created the Music Therapy Internship at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital in Cleveland, OH and provides CBMT approved courses through her business Telling Point Music. Alyssa has applied vocal improvisation techniques with populations from students with disabilities to assisted living and pediatrics. She offers a CBMT approved course on connecting through vocal improvisation.

Dr. Laurel Young, PhD, MTA, Associate Professor, Concordia University (Canada), has over 22 years of professional experience. In 2014, she received the Research & Publications Award from the Canadian Association of Music Therapists.

Amanda Zorzi, MT-BC received her music therapy degree from Temple University in 2016. She is currently a music therapist at the Center for Neurological and Neurodevelopmental Health (CNNH) in Voorhees, NJ.