

THE AMERICAN
*Music
Therapy*
ASSOCIATION

2021
CONFERENCE

*Sessions on Social Justice,
Trauma, and Resilience*

OCTOBER 14-17, 2021

YOUR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

Research Poster Session Presentations – Available Throughout the Conference

Over 120 Educational Sessions – Access for Up to 6 Months in the Virtual Vault

23 Add-on Courses Available

**Closing Session Spectacular Featuring *Sound Health Network* with Special Guests
Dr. Julene Johnson, Dr. Sheri Robb, and Music from Jill Colucci**



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Featured Sessions

Opening Session with Guest Speaker Nick van Bloss

Thursday, October 14, 7:00 pm–9:00 pm

Nick is the only acclaimed concert pianist in the world who suffers from severe, non-swearing Tourette Syndrome, a condition that causes him some 70,000 bodily tics per day. However, once he touches a piano, his tics dissipate. Not only does this give Nick respite from an exhausting condition, it seems that the neuro and muscular activity that would normally cause uncontrollable tics allows Nick to harness this energy to the piano and music. Oliver Sacks who wrote a chapter of his book *Musophilia* about Nick, believed that Tourette's enhances his musical ability. Nick will share his story of triumph over adversity, the obstacles that living with Tourette's has presented personally and professionally, and how music has been the antidote to his condition.

Keynote Address with Laura van Dernoot Lipsky – "Transforming Trauma – How to Do This Work and Sustain"

Saturday, October 16, 10:00 am–11:00 am

Laura is the founder and director of The Trauma Stewardship Institute and author of *Trauma Stewardship and The Age of Overwhelm*. Widely recognized as a pioneer in the field of trauma exposure, she has worked locally, nationally, and internationally for more than three decades. Much of her work is being invited to assist in the aftermath of community catastrophes - whether they are fatal storms or mass shootings. Simultaneously, she has long been active in community organizing and movements for social and environmental justice and has taught on issues surrounding systematic oppression, structural supremacy, and liberation theory.

Safe Spaces, Resilience, and Other Empty Promises: Articulating the Need for a Paradigm Shift in Trauma-Informed Music Therapy Practice

Saturday, October 16, 6:00 pm–7:15 pm

Presenter(s): Dr. Elly Scrine

This paper interrogates the failure of trauma-informed practice, as it currently stands, to realistically engage with the promise of safety and the pervasiveness of systemic violence. Challenge your tendency to frame trauma as an individual experience and expect resilience through adversity; outline alternative paths forward.

The Importance of Cultural Competency When Addressing Trauma; An Intentional Exploration of Cultural Humility

Sunday, October 17, 4:30 pm–5:45 pm

Presenter(s): Natalia Alvarez-Figueroa, MMT, MT-BC

Minorities and non-primary English speakers are to have a voice in leading the conversation pertaining to important components of how to effectively treat trauma. The focus for this presentation lies on the importance of culture within the field of trauma. Cultural competency and cultural humility are to come hand in hand for transformative and sustainable therapy to take place. Define culture, cultural humility, and provide different interventions for building therapeutic alliance with marginalized cultures, and cultures outside clinician's. An additional and intentional focus on opportunities for cognitive behavioral practices within the Anti-racism framework, will be discussed. The importance of understanding our own personal culture and potential implications pertaining to the ability for understanding the individual's culture, promotes intentional identification of bias and countertransference, and removes barriers to treatment.

Trauma Informed Care, Social Justice, and Resilience: Connecting and Exploring the Conference Theme through Research and Practice

Saturday, October 16, 4:30 pm–5:45 pm

Panelists include: Natalia Alvarez-Figueroa MMT, MT-BC, Ed Roth, PhD, MT-BC, Maria Gonsalves Schimpf, MA, MT-BC, and Dr. Elly Scrine. Moderator: Wendy Woolsey, MA, MT-BC

Consider trauma and the brain, trauma focused support, systems that create harm in society, and limits of resilience through this panel discussion.

EVEN MORE SESSIONS ADDRESSING SUBTOPICS IN SOCIAL JUSTICE, TRAUMA, AND RESILIENCE CAN BE FOUND IN THE CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT WWW.MUSICTHERAPY.ORG