Marking a path of discovery from the past...

to the present...
and into the future...

Music Therapy Makes a Difference!
Walking on a Trail of Rhythm and Song for ...

- Advocacy
- Alliances
- Education
- Partnerships
- Practice
- Strategic Priorities
- Scholarship
- Training
Ronna Kaplan, MA, MT-BC, President

It is my privilege to present the 2009 Year in Review. I am anxious to share with you the many milestones of 2009. In traditional circles a stone cairn is a pile of stones to mark a path, trail, or border. Throughout this report you will see cairns to mark our milestones of 2009.

There is no doubt that 2009 represented a challenging year in terms of the national and global economy. In the midst of considerable economic and global workforce volatility in the U.S., AMTA remained stable.

The keys to AMTA’s continued fiscal stability are many and include prudent fiscal stewardship, careful adherence to our mission, and exacting attention to planning and execution of our major sources of support.

In 2009, we advanced progress as a confluence of advocacy activity took hold in many states. We forged new partnerships and collaborations. In 2009 we served our communities and those affected by difficult circumstances because it’s the right thing to do. In 2009 we created new jobs and we begin the process of examining workforce needs to take us into the future.

Andrea H. Farbman, EdD, Executive Director

As I think about the milestones and markers of 2009, I am gratified that the association is … directed by a strong and dedicated Board of Directors, … supported by an active and passionate Assembly, … represented by scores of Friends and Advocates of Music Therapy, … served by an unbelievably dedicated staff, and … sustained by its professional members who represent the heart of this organization.

It is the people that mark the milestones and cairns to guide the mission of AMTA.

I am in training to complete a 30 mile walk soon. I mention this not to boast my commitment to exercise, but to note that the trail I will walk along the Potomac River and Canals has a beginning and end -- a start and a finish.

The trail and path we follow to advance the profession of music therapy moves beyond the horizon. As we enter the 60th anniversary year for the profession of music therapy, I ask you to ponder what your vision and message will be to the next two or three generations of music therapy professional when the profession reaches 100 years!
Advocacy in all sectors of government and to stakeholders nationwide remains a core activity led by Judy Simpson, Director, Government Relations with Rebecca Smith, Government Relations Assistant. Teamwork and collaboration are absolutely necessary to continue the successes.

In 2009, music therapy and AMTA was represented in a whirlwind of activity:

* Arts Advocacy Day 2009 is coordinated by Americans for the Arts. This annual event brings together a broad cross section of America’s cultural and civic organizations in Washington. AMTA presented an overview of the Arts in Healthcare Issue brief to the Congressional Arts Caucus.

* A Place at the Table: AMTA and CBMT submitted comments to the Obama Transition Team website, highlighting music therapy as a treatment option in healthcare and special education.

* Healthcare Reform was the focus of the newly formed National Arts in Healthcare Advocacy Council (NAHAC).

The group met regularly in 2009 as Congress drafted multiple reform bills. Significant time is dedicated to suggesting additional language recognizing the role and qualifications of creative arts therapists and arts in healthcare professionals.

Public Policy Section of AMTA Website was launched in 2009. AMTA is pleased to offer this extensive new public policy section on the association website.

Other organizations and agencies with whom AMTA networked and conducted advocacy work in 2009 included U.S. Dept. of Education, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Joint Commission, CARF, Health Professions Network.

Working collaboratively, AMTA, represented by Director of Government Relations, Judy Simpson and CBMT, represented by Regulatory Affairs Advisor, Dena Register, assisted 32 states since beginning the state recognition operational plan. Currently there are 24 states involved in some type of advocacy for music therapy with legislation in progress in key states nationwide.

Grassroots involvement in state advocacy is at an all-time high for the association. Members and non-members increasingly understand the need for their input and personal connections to make state recognition a reality.

The association, with CBMT, provides hands-on support through public relations materials, advocacy PowerPoint sessions, template letters, research and reimbursement documents, and organizational support letters. Core activity also includes professional guidance and technical assistance in cooperation with the many state task force teams.

The work of the State Task Force initiative is a core cooperative and shared responsibility. The ability for a relatively small group of professionals working in so many states is achieving results, respect, and positive notoriety.

There is an increase in music therapists filing for reimbursement. AMTA observed a trend towards improved music therapy CPT coding acceptance with fee payments negotiated with fewer preapproval obstacles.

Notably, many professionals are filing for the first time.

It is vital to demonstrate a tight link between evidence in support of specific music therapy interventions in order to achieve reimbursement.

In 2009, CMS identified music therapy as a service which can be a part of the Medicare Prospective Payment System (PPS) for inpatient rehabilitation. This was documented in the Federal Register. This formal clarification is a valuable achievement and will increase access to music therapy services in those settings.
Strategic Priorities: Research and Autism

Evidence-based practice represents the combination of the best available evidence from research, clinical expertise and experience, and the needs and preferences of the client.

While much of this work was behind the scenes, the 2009 workgroups set forth numerous important recommendations to benefit all strategic priorities and future scholarship.

Recommendations were provided in the areas of a) promoting high quality qualitative research and related systematic reviews of qualitative research; b) better aligning AMTA’s publications to the aims of the strategic priority on research; and c) development of guidelines on articulating music therapy interventions and associated research protocols.

In the area of autism, work concentrated on an updated summary of best available research evidence, stakeholder information packets, and developing partnerships.

Training Programs

The professional programs committees and the Education and Training Advisory Board (ETAB) was highly active in 2009. The ETAB focused on a position statement regarding the use of acronyms and a draft of revisions to the “AMTA Standards for Education & Clinical Training”. This work continues into 2010.

In 2009, AMTA recorded 72 approved academic programs. New programs included Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, AL, approved for a Masters Degree Program in Music Therapy; and, Seattle Pacific University in Seattle, WA, approved for an undergraduate degree in music therapy.

Five degree programs were granted re-approval, including 11 master’s degree programs since the re-approval process began in 2004.

There were 182 internship sites on the National Roster in 2009. 12 new National Roster internship programs were approved.

We extend our appreciation to the excellent and tireless work of the committee members working in training and education.

Music Therapy and Media

Individuals and therapists providing music therapy services are often featured in local, regional or national media. A media feature is an opportunity to educate and inform important stakeholders. While it is often appealing for journalists to focus on the music and aesthetics, the association and our membership takes time to speak to the supporting research, training, and qualifications in order to advocate for our clients and the profession. In 2009, public affairs responded to many print and online story requests including:

Publications and Scholarship

A flurry of work paved the way for scholarly contributions and practical resources for clinicians.

A new clinical practice publication was released in 2009.

Introduction to Music Therapy and Pediatric Medicine

Forty-four years of research in one place, completely searchable across years, and added accessibility features all comes contained in one small, but powerful, package.

Music Therapy Research, 3rd Ed., was released in a USB flash drive format.

2009 Annual Conference Sponsors

Gold

Silver

Bronze

Donation of intellectual property represents a significant resource to AMTA.

Authors receive tax benefits and the membership receives ready access to relevant published work.

AMTA Anniversary Pin
AMTA.Pro Launches in 2009

The AMTA.Pro interactive podcast series on clinical practice launched in 2009. There now are over 25 files available to members on the AMTA website. 2009 topics were wide ranging and highly informative.

- AMTA.Pro Live Report at the 2009 Annual Conference
- Stroke Rehab
- Detective Work in Music Therapy
- Eating Disorders
- Alzheimer’s Disease
- Medical Music Therapy
- Group Facilitation
- Special Edition: Job Solutions
- Reimbursement
- Circle Time in Early Childhood

Scholarship Funds 2009

**AMTA is honored to administer nine scholarship/grant funds**

- Florence Tyson Grant for the Study of Music Psychotherapy (One at full conference registration)
- Anne Emery Kyllo Professional Scholarship (Three at $500 each)
- E. Thayer Gaston Writing Competition (One at $500)
- Edwina Eustis Dick Scholarship Fund (Two at $500 each)
- Cathy and Brian Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund (One at $500)
- Conference Scholars Fund (Three at $500 each + conference registration/CMTEs)
- Past-President’s Conference Scholars Fund (Four at $  each)
- Student Conference Scholarship Fund (Three totaling $1,000)
- Fultz Fund Research Grant program (One at $15,000.)

We are greatly appreciative to all the donors who make these funds available.

Advocates of Music Therapy: 2009 Awards

Sharon O’Mary, RN, MN
San Diego, CA

Ruth Atherton, PhD, JD
Boston, MA

Allison Barkley
Founder, Healing Notes
San Diego, CA

The future is now! AMTA students are highly active in the Profession and the Association. Thank you to the student members of AMTA!
Membership

Membership in 2009 numbered 3,706. First time professional members represented the largest increase in three years, increasing 2 percent with student memberships up 5% over 2008. Membership drives in 2009 focused on five regional call-a-thons. This resulted in clear increases in new members across six of seven regions.

Development includes all that AMTA and its membership does to fulfill its mission of increasing awareness of and access to quality music therapy services. Fundraising is a significant part of development and a core piece of the budget process. 2009 donation statistics were as follows:

Donations, gifts* $41,248
Silent Auction $ 2,953
Total $44,201

*FY09. Detail listing, next page

Member communications continue with the annual Member Sourcebook, Music Therapy Matters newsletters, ‘Welcome to the Profession’ packets, Music Therapy ENews, and website updates.

AMTA provided nearly a score of member benefits in 2009 including: many enhanced conference benefits and discounts and Policy pages on the AMTA website.

N.I.C.E.
National Initiative for Continuing Education 2009

Lisa Jackert and Robin Rio: Strength-Based Improvisation: Level I
Judy Simpson and Dena Register: The Music Therapy Advocate’s Toolkit CMTE

Give-A-Day AMTA Wall of Fame 2009
Ronna Kaplan Kay Luedtke-Smith Anne B. Parker Dena Register
Judy Simpson Barbara Wheeler
Associations of Arizona and Ohio Music Therapists
Baldwin Wallace College Fraser Services
Ohio University University of Dayton

Be sure to contact AMTA with your Give-A-Day efforts and N.I.C.E. programs.
2009 Donors to AMTA

We are honored to recognize the many individuals and organizations whose generous financial gifts in the year 2009 contributed to securing the future of music therapy. AMTA is most grateful to donors, including students, who contributed to special funds such as the AMTA Disaster Response Fund, research, and scholarship funds.


Thank you for your generous donations.

Composer Chuck Wild developed and donated customized music royalty free for clinicians. Thank you!

AMTA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and accepts contributions which support its mission. Contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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Carol Hampton Bitcon Memorial Lecture Series

Carol was a pioneer in music therapy. Among other things, she served as President of the National Association for Music Therapy. In 2009 AMTA received Carol’s bequest in the amount of $20,000 to support a lecture series in her name.

The American Music Therapy Association wishes to thank and remember the contributions and service of our colleagues and friends who died this year. They helped lay the path to the future for all music therapists.

2009 Milestones Mark the Way Into the Future

Examples of Advocacy and Program Development

- Medical Music Therapy Expansion at Children’s National Medical Center, Washington, D.C.
- Community Music School Advocacy at Levine School of Music, Washington, D.C.
- Partnerships and Collaboration in Neuroscience Featured Dr. Ani Patel as the 2009 Sears Lecturer, a Neuroscience Institute, and Music Therapists as Featured Speakers for the Library of Congress Series on Music and the Brain.
- Representation at the United Nations, International Council for Caring Communities by Dr. Barbara Hesser

Photo by John Harvey
Through the work of the Financial Advisory Committee, the AMTA Budget Team, Treasurer, and the AMTA Board of Directors, AMTA has successfully worked to manage the finances of the organization in 2009 and continues a comprehensive fiscal stability operational plan in Fiscal Year 2009-10.

The 2009 Fiscal Year Audit reported the year ending with net assets of $251,297.

Income over expenses, inclusive of depreciation, was slightly negative at $(1,061) or less than half of 1%.

AMTA continues a thoughtful and conservative fiscal approach to manage through the general economic downturn. Good fiscal stewardship for AMTA means a adherence with the fiscal stability operational plan.

A complete copy of the 2008-09 Financial Statement is available on the AMTA website at www.musictherapy.org in “Events and News.”
2009 Sears Lecture

“Building Bridges between Music Neuroscience and Music Therapy”

Dr. Aniruddh D. Patel,
Esther J. Burnham Fellow, Neurosciences Institute,
San Diego, California

AMTA thanks the participation and contributions of
The Neurosciences Institute in San Diego, Dr.
Aniruddh Patel, and Dr. John Iversen.

“Collaboration between neuroscientists and music therapists is essential to advance or knowledge.

...we know that the brain can change with experience, including music experiences. We call this ‘experience dependent plasticity.’ Deeper insights into the relationship of music interventions on the brain, and specific brain processing functions, will grow as collaborative research opportunities are undertaken.”
Look for These Exciting Programs in 2010!

- **2010: 60th Anniversary of the Profession of Music Therapy**
  - A Diamond Year!
  - Be a part of the Circle

- **Library of Congress Special Series: Music and the Brain II**
  - The Positive Effects of Music Therapy on Health
  - Wellness and Growth: Acoustic Medicine and Music Therapy
  - Managing Stress And Enhancing Wellness with Music Therapy

- **AMTA Website Enhancements and Updates**

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**Membership in AMTA – A Bank of Benefits**

- AMTA-pro – free continuing education on-line
- Discounts on conference books & free practice support
- Be included on music therapy referral lists
- Job solutions – find a job or improve your employment

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