Oxford University Press Publishes Music Therapy Journals in 2014

Oxford University Press is pleased to announce its new partnership with the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA). Beginning in 2014, OUP and AMTA will be working together to publish the Journal of Music Therapy and Music Therapy Perspectives.

“Music is obviously a fundamental component of human experience and exerts a powerful influence on human psychology,” Oxford University Press USA President Niko Pfund said. “The AMTA journals perfectly complement OUP’s long-standing commitment to publishing on music and psychology, and we are delighted and honored by this important partnership.”

“This new partnership with Oxford University Press is one of the top five advances for the music therapy profession in the past two decades,” said Dr. Bryan Hunter, AMTA Historian. In joining with OUP, the journals will be available online – for the first time – which will massively expand access to universities and hospitals around the world.

The Journal of Music Therapy is a forum for authoritative articles of current music therapy research, theory, and practice while Music Therapy Perspectives seeks to promote the development of music therapy clinical practice through the dissemination of scholarly work. The journals were previously self-published by the AMTA, the largest membership organization for music therapists (both practicing and academic) in the world.

Celebrating 25 Years with Music Therapy
Dr. Andi Farbman, AMTA Executive Director

Reflections on an Unlikely Journey—25 Years and Counting—(Silver Lining and All)

To commemorate having worked 25 years with the American Music Therapy Association, the AMTA President at the time, Mary Ellen Wylie and the Historian, Bryan Hunter, invited me to present the second inaugural Carol Hampton Bitkon lecture at the 2013 annual conference in Jacksonville, Florida. I was both honored and apprehensive about the opportunity. On one hand, the honor of being invited to present this prestigious lecture was very flattering; on the other hand, I felt that the standards were high in terms of the inaugural Bitkon address, presented by Lifetime Achievement winners, Dr. Alan Solomon and Ken Medema, having been a huge success!

Being invited in early summer meant that I had many months to devote to researching relevant topics, reading related books and articles, conducting interviews of pioneers, and generally contemplating this momentous occasion. This filled my hours on weekends, early mornings and in the middle of the night. I tried to catch-up on all the professional reading that stacks up on my desk; I reviewed recent journal articles; and as I told the audience, “I screened every TED Talk” (I was just kidding about that comment—there are thousands of TED Talks of all types). I did, however, recommend my favorite TED Talk by our very own Tim Ringgold!

In the end, I decided that I was searching too hard outside of myself and that I wanted to focus on “my truths” having lived and breathed this job for two and a half decades. Additionally, I determined that relating details of my personal journey continued on page 3

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Presently, we’ve moved into a new year, and as 2014 begins this is a time of transition. Starting in January the Journal of Music Therapy and Music Therapy Perspectives will be published by Oxford University Press. This is an historic move for AMTA. For me, it is time to wrap up business from the end of 2013 and begin the process of thanking all the people who served in some capacity during my term as President. This is a long list of people, and I’m very grateful for their work over the last two years. I’m also in close contact with your new AMTA President, Amy Furman, who assumed the office on January 1st. I’m making myself available to provide assistance to her as needed. I’m also continuing to work on Master’s Level Entry (MLE) Subcommittee projects. In addition to presenting a concurrent session at the conference, the MLE Subcommittee met and identified future work for the subcommittee. I’ll also begin to settle into my new role as Immediate Past President of AMTA. Amy and the new Board of Directors will focus on several tasks in the weeks to come, and I’ll let Amy conclude this column with words about the future.

A second special event was the Carol Hampton Bitcon Lecture presented by AMTA Executive Director, Dr. Andrea Farbman. Andi was asked to present this lecture to celebrate her 25th Anniversary with AMTA. Andi’s lecture was a wonderful mix of AMTA highlights, personal accounts, and musical interludes provided by the “George Center Band.” Her insights into the growth of music therapy were significant. The third special event was a plenary session titled “Music Therapy with Military Populations.” Panel members consisted of active duty officers from programs at the Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration, along with music therapists who are working with active duty military populations or veterans and their families. Panel members reflected on the fact that music therapy has been included in the treatment of veterans for decades, and panelists shared thoughts and ideas about the place of music therapy and other creative arts therapies in current and future treatment models.

A past, present, future... Today, our regions provide numerous networking and growth opportunities for members. Their history is rich.

Presently, we’ve moved into a new year, and as 2014 begins this is a time of transition. Starting in January the Journal of Music Therapy and Music Therapy Perspectives will be published by Oxford University Press. This is an historic move for AMTA. For me, it is time to wrap up business from the end of 2013 and begin the process of thanking all the people who served in some capacity during my term as President. This is a long list of people, and I’m very grateful for their work over the last two years. I’m also in close contact with your new AMTA President, Amy Furman, who assumed the office on January 1st. I’m making myself available to provide assistance to her as needed. I’m also continuing to work on Master’s Level Entry (MLE) Subcommittee projects. In addition to presenting a concurrent session at the conference, the MLE Subcommittee met and identified future work for the subcommittee. I’ll also begin to settle into my new role as Immediate Past President of AMTA. Amy and the new Board of Directors will focus on several tasks in the weeks to come, and I’ll let Amy conclude this column with words about the future.

Amy Furman, President 2014-2015

It is very appropriate that Mary Ellen and I share this column for Music Therapy Matters. Over the past two years as President Elect I have had the opportunity to work very closely with Mary Ellen and all of the
might help explain how I came to be the Executive Director and what has compelled me to stay.

I began the talk with an introduction and then divided it into five segments; Part One—“The Personal is Political,” Part Two—“Civil Rights to Women’s Rights to Disability Rights to Music Therapy,” Part Three—“Personal Bests,” Part Four—“So Much To Do, So Little Time,” and Part Five—“What’s Next and Gratitude.”

The best part of the talk for me was working with five accomplished music therapists from The George Center for Music Therapy, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia: Jamie George (founder of the George Center), Lana Card, Tasia Dockery, Andrea Johnson, and Andrew Littlefield. I selected excerpts of songs that were personally meaningful for each segment and the band members arranged them into delightful versions. “Dancin’ in the Streets” by Martha Reeves and the Vandellas was the song that brought me onto the stage. “The Way I Am” by Ingrid Michaelson framed the first segment about my early childhood and family. (If you don’t know that song, you should. Go directly to iTunes and download it!) I used Bob Dylan’s prophetic lyrics from “The Times They are a Changin’” to highlight the section about civil rights and disability rights. The backdrop for my five personal bests was “Stand By Me” by Ben E. King because I thought it underscored how much my personal bests required help from many colleagues who “stood by me.” The frenzy of “so much to do and so little time” was illustrated by a song that has been with me since the late 1970s. “Natural High” is the theme song of a musical called, “I’m Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road,” which was an off-Broadway production about a cabaret singer who was completely absorbed with being a wife and mother, never getting to “sing her songs.” “Natural High” begins with the lyrics, “Got a thousand notes to myself need a shovel to dig me out. Got a pile of unanswered letters and I’ve forgotten what they’re about...” In thinking about how much work there always seems to be and how relentless it is, I’ve kept these words in my mind for more than 30 years! I was particularly pleased because the George Center Band transcribed and developed a terrific version of this song. When they performed it, I asked the audience if anyone was familiar with this song and not one person raised a hand. Having that happen in a room full of music therapists was a little like “stumping the stars!”

And finally, when I distilled down my 25 years to their most essential elements and combined that with my 15 additional years of work before music therapy, three themes evolved as the most important things to me in work life and personal life. The first is “truth and trust,” both of which I think are important underpinnings to any relationship and without which you cannot function very well or at all. The second key element is “hope” and I cited the book by Dr. Jerome Groopman called the “Anatomy of Hope” in which he stresses the importance of doctors offering whatever hope is possible to patients in various stages of illness. The third element sounds rather frivolous but I’ve come to think it’s an essential ingredient along the way and, especially, when all else fails, and that is “humor.” There are many situations in which humor has sustained and nurtured me when nothing else was possible.

I completed my talk by inviting colleagues to join me on stage. The first group consisted of seven leaders who had each been with me through “thick and thin” for all of my 25 years and I wanted to acknowledge how much they mean to me. Not that there haven’t been hundreds of others, but each of these individuals has seen me “in the best of times and in the worst of times” and assisted me with whatever I asked of him or her. That group included Bryan Hunter, Cathy Knoll, David Smith, Alicia Clair, Jayne Standley, Mary Adamek, and Deforia Lane. I thanked my family members who were in the audience for all of their support, understanding, and love: my sister, Margie Varney, two of my four daughters, Arielle and Molly Burgdorf, (as well as Dorney and Gigi, who were supporting me from afar) and my husband, Bob Burgdorf. Last but not least, I called up all the National Office staff and consultants who numbered 14—Jane Creagan, Dianne Wawrzuszyn, Judy Kaplan (who returned from retirement to attend the talk), Al Bumanis, Angie Elkins, Cindy Smith, Judy Simpson, Rebecca Preddie, Barbara Else, Kim Bell, Tawna Grasty, Patti Catalano, Kimberly Sena Moore, and Jenny Peter.

Presenting the speech was one of the highlights of my life and I look forward to what the future holds for music therapy and for me. A video of the speech will be posted on the website in early 2014. 

“The AMTA’s journals are the best in their field, and we’re honored to have been selected as their new publisher,” said Alison Denby, editorial director of the journals program at OUP. “This new partnership not only reflects our commitment to publishing excellent journals, but OUP’s investment in the future of music therapy and music psychology.” In 2011 the press published the Oxford Handbook of Music Psychology, and in 2014 will publish the Oxford Handbook of Music Therapy.
Arts Advocacy Day

Registration is now open for Arts Advocacy Day 2014!! On March 24th and 25th of 2014, AMTA will once again participate in Arts Advocacy Day as a national co-sponsor. This annual event in Washington, D.C., hosted by the Americans for the Arts, is the only national event that brings together a broad cross section of America’s cultural and civic organizations, along with hundreds of grassroots advocates from across the country. Attendees collaborate to communicate with Members of Congress the importance of strong public policies and public funding for the arts.

Preparation for this event begins in November when representatives from the co-sponsoring organizations form the Legislative Planning Committee (LPC). The LPC meets twice a month for four months to determine the Issue Briefs that will be the focus of discussions with Congress on Arts Advocacy Day. Although AMTA has been a co-sponsor for many years, we have been active members of the LPC for the past six years, assisting with development of an Arts in Healthcare Issue Brief. Each issue Brief developed by the LPC begins with specific “asks” of Congress, followed by talking points and supportive background information to assist advocates explain the rationale behind the requests.

AMTA is leading the Arts in Healthcare LPC subgroup again this year. Representation of music therapy during this national event is a great example of how AMTA works to increase awareness of the profession with Congress and with related organizations.

We would like to make 2014 the year for a record number of music therapist attendees! Please make plans to join us on Capitol Hill to advocate for music therapy. Registration information is listed below. For more information about Arts Advocacy Day, please visit: http://www.americansforthearts.org/events/arts-advocacy-day

AMTA STAFF

Andrea Farbman, EdD
Executive Director

Al Bumanis, MT-BC
Director of Communications and Conferences

Jane Creagan, MME, MT-BC
Director of Professional Programs

Angie Elkins, MT-BC
Director of Membership Services/ Music Therapy Matters Editor

Tawna Grasty, BFA*
Senior Staff Assistant

Jennifer Peter*
Staff Assistant

Judy Simpson, MT-BC
Director of Government Relations

Cindy Smith
Membership Associate/ Conference Planner

Rebecca Smith Preddie, BA
Federal Programs Analyst

Dianne Wawrzusin, MM, MT-BC
Administrative Services Coordinator

AMTA’s Mission Statement:
To advance public awareness of the benefits of music therapy and increase access to quality music therapy services in a rapidly changing world.

ARTS ADVOCACY DAY

Center Stage

Honor your friends and loved ones or celebrate life’s landmark events while supporting the growth of music therapy through Center Stage.

To Mary Ellen Wylie
as outgoing President of AMTA.
Thank you for your service and support!
from the AMTA National Office Staff

To Amy Furman
as incoming President of AMTA.
Welcome and here’s to a great two years!
from the AMTA National Office Staff

in appreciation of the outstanding work of two esteemed colleagues and friends,
Anita Louise Steele & Donald E. Michel
from Emily Stevens Baumann

In honor of Dr. Bill Davis
from Leslie Henry

AMTA’s Center Stage is the perfect way to honor your friends and loved ones or celebrate life’s landmark events, all while supporting the growth of music therapy. Funds donated are used to support AMTA’s mission. To make your submission to Center Stage, please send a check for $15 or more, the name and address of your honoree, along the name and address and reason for the tribute to: AMTA, Center Stage, 8455 Colesville Rd, Ste 1000, Silver Spring, MD, 20910. Tribute gifts will be acknowledged with a letter to the donor and a card to the designate, as well as in Music Therapy Matters. AMTA reserves the right to accept, edit, or reject tributes for publication.
AMTA Government Relations: Advocating for Awareness, Access, and YOU!

Judy Simpson, MT-BC, AMTA Director of Government Relations

With the start of every New Year, it is common for all of us to look back and reflect on the challenges and accomplishments of the past 12 months to help us set new goals for the future. We make decisions about personal and professional priorities, so we can determine how best to spend our resources. This annual process is helpful for organizations, as well. AMTA, which includes all of you, consistently reviews programs and activities of the association, maintaining focus on the AMTA mission of increasing awareness of music therapy benefits and increasing access to quality music therapy services.

Although projects that fall under AMTA Government Relations are only one component of larger association objectives, these projects that are brought to life by many of you, play an important role in fulfilling the AMTA mission. Advocacy on all levels contributes to increased awareness, increased access and increased opportunities for music therapy and music therapists. As we begin 2014, please take a few moments to review the “advocacy outcomes” the AMTA members and staff achieved by working together.

Thanks so much for your commitment to these endeavors and we look forward to even more success in the coming year!

NATIONAL ADVOCACY

2013 Arts Advocacy Day sponsored by Americans for the Arts: AMTA served as National Co-Sponsor; Served on Legislative Planning Committee; Served as Chair of Arts in Health Subcommittee; Presented Arts in Health Issue Brief during national training; AMTA letter to Congress included in AAD handbook.

Congressional Arts Caucus: AMTA presented Arts in Health Issue Brief to Congressional office staff.


National Summit: Arts, Health and Well-being across the Military Continuum: AMTA encouraged participation and provided support materials for the event.

Joint Commission: AMTA attended Liaison Network Forum; AMTA received invitation to nominate music therapists for AMTA seat on three Professional and Technical Advisory Committees (PTACs).

Congressional Office Visits: AMTA staff met with Congressional office staff at various times throughout the year to seek support for music therapy and initiatives important to the clients our members serve.

Clinical Practice Communication with Related Professional Organizations: AMTA continued its dialogue with representatives from National Standards Board for Therapeutic Musicians regarding state recognition efforts.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): AMTA served as a supporting organization for the 2013 Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day; With the theme, “Heroes of Hope,” this year’s program included a virtual event featuring stories from young adults with mental health and substance use challenges who have developed connections in their community to overcome challenges and develop resilience at home, school, work, and in accessing health care services.

Institute of Education Sciences (IES): AMTA monitored and reported on research funding opportunities with the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER) and the National Center for Education Research (NCER) within the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).

Social Media Advocacy Month: AMTA and CBMT encouraged discussions about music therapy advocacy and government relations through social media networks during January 2013.

Habilitation Benefits Coalition (HaB): AMTA advocated for improved definitions regarding “rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices” within the Affordable Care Act (ACA) mandated Essential Health Benefits package.

Health Professions Network (HPN): AMTA continued to serve as Advocacy Committee Chair.

National Alliance for Specialized Instructional Support Personnel (NASISP): AMTA continued as an active member of this group, which was formerly known as the National Alliance for Pupil Services Organizations (NAPSO); 2013 projects included participation in an Institute for Education Sciences (IES) Capitol Hill briefing in May, a Hill Day in June, and advocacy regarding the impact of sequestration on school services.

Disability and Rehabilitation Research Coalition (DRRC): AMTA monitored coalition discussions on ways to improve rehabilitation research and programming.

Nondefense Discretionary Coalition (NDD United): Participated in this coalition to urge a balanced approach to deficit reduction and advocate for no additional cuts to discretionary programs.

Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF): As members of CARF’s International Advisory Council, AMTA had the opportunity to provide feedback each time new rehabilitation facility standards were proposed; Standards reviewed in 2013 included: Community Services, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Older Adults/Dementia, Suicide Prevention, Aging Services Programs, and Cancer Rehabilitation.

AMTA MEMBERS WERE REPRESENTED IN THE FOLLOWING PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS THROUGH MONTHLY, BI-MONTHLY, OR QUARTERLY CONFERENCE CALLS AND MEETINGS

- CMS Open Door Forum – Skilled Nursing Facility - Long Term Care
- CMS Open Door Forum – Physicians, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals
- Disability and Rehabilitation Research Coalition (DRRC)

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GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

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- Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE)
- Real Warriors
- Health Profession and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC)
- NAMM SupportMusic Coalition
- National Coalition on Personnel Shortages in Special Education and Related Services (NCPS)
- National Consortium for Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (NCCAMHS)
- Families USA
- Friends of CDC’s National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD)
- National Medicare Education Program (NMEP)
- White House - Disability Group

STATE ADVOCACY
Implementation of AMTA and CBMT State Recognition Operational Plan

The AMTA and CBMT State Recognition Operational Plan is currently being implemented in 40 states, with related advocacy activity in one additional state and three other states ready to begin establishing task forces in this expanding initiative. With the growing awareness that advocacy is something all of us can do, we have experienced a significant increase in the number of clinicians and students expressing a desire to be involved in various task force projects.

The following states are participating in the state recognition operational plan. Asterisks indicate states that introduced legislation or participated in regulatory language revisions in 2013.

ALABAMA
Conducted survey of state music therapists; Creating state-specific fact sheet; Offering state advocacy training in November; Building grassroots network for outreach to legislators.

ARIZONA
Efforts in Arizona were coordinated by AMTA Senior Policy Advisor, Barb Else. The funds for Barb’s time coordinating efforts in Arizona were financed by AMTA exclusively; they were not shared with the Western Region or CBMT. Special Licensure bill originally introduced in Senate; Opposition from SLPs addressed by adding language that specifies music therapists do not diagnose communication disorders; In response to legislative feedback, the bill was amended to propose a state certification to reduce amount of state oversight and regulation; Certification bill passed both Senate and House; Vetoed by Governor Brewer due to her concerns that it did not provide enough state oversight of the profession; Task Force is currently communicating with state officials to determine 2014 action plan; Participating in state reviews and contributing to recommendations for rate changes in Medicaid Waiver services; Special thanks to Barb for her outstanding leadership with Arizona’s state recognition process!

CALIFORNIA
Completed state survey and created state fact sheet; Continue to monitor state Advisory Commission on Special Education; Attending Commission meetings and providing support material; State therapists have started meeting with legislators to advocate for updated language in state regulations; Conducting advocacy trainings in various locations throughout the state this fall.

COLORADO
Communicating with state agencies regarding regulatory language changes needed to reflect current practice; Networked with state Dance/Movement Therapy Association to suggest clarification language; Communicating with Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) again to explore state recognition options; Preparing updated Sunrise Application requesting Title Protection; Seeking legislative support for proposal.

CONNECTICUT
Hosted an advocacy training event for state clinicians; Task Force members supported colleagues in neighboring state of RI with their legislative efforts by providing written testimonies and attending a hearing about the RI music therapy registry bill; Conducted survey to gather data for state-specific fact sheet.

*FLORIDA
Recognition Resolution introduced in Senate Rules Committee; Anticipate re-introduction in 2014; Hill Day participation in April; Building support from legislators for establishing state recognition; Hosted three advocacy trainings in different locations throughout the state on September 14th; Kimberly Sena Moore presented at West Palm Beach location; Hosting VIP advocacy breakfast at annual conference in Jacksonville; Launching state-wide letter writing campaign in January; Planning possible Hill Day in spring 2014; Communicating with Division of Medical Quality Assurance to determine state recognition options.

GEORGIA
Licensure bill passed and signed into law in 2012; Music Therapy Advisory Group, which includes three music therapists, was appointed in June 2013 and licensure application process was created; Applications made available August 15, 2013 on Secretary of State website; License in effect January 1, 2014.

HAWAII
Maintaining communication with legislators who support music therapy recognition; Possible Sunrise Review to be completed to determine necessity for licensure.

IDAHO
Contacting legislators to determine best method of state recognition; Exploring systems within state regulations related to music therapy practice including structure of recognition under the Board of Medicine; Inclusion under some Medicaid Waiver funding but language needs revision to reflect qualifications.

ILLINOIS
Planning social events throughout the state to build music therapy grassroots network and educate clinicians and students about state recognition options; Planning event for 2014 GLR conference to recognize advocates.

*INDIANA
Title Protection passed by Senate and House as part of a larger bill that included other health professions; Governor vetoed the bill citing the state needs to decrease occupational regulation to increase jobs.

*IOWA
Music therapy advocacy events held in nine districts across the state in November 2012 following the election to educate legislators, related professionals, agency officials, community leaders, and the general public about music therapy; Strong support led to introduction of licensure bill; Amendments continued on page 8
offered to match recommended AMTA and CBMT language; Bill will carryover to 2014 session; Seeking Republican support; Hill Day scheduled for March 2014; Conducting outreach with state SLP association following inaccurate SLP newsletter article discussing music therapy legislation.

KANSAS
Communicating with state music therapists to increase involvement in advocacy projects; Communicating with legislators to seek guidance on recommended state recognition options.

KENTUCKY
Initiating contact with state legislators; Reviewing history of art therapy licensure bill; Distributing state-specific fact sheet to music therapy community; Possible collaboration with state association as it becomes more active again.

LOUISIANA
New task force forming.

MAINE
New task force forming.

MARYLAND
New Task Force; Completed regulation research; Conducted survey of state music therapists; Creating state-specific fact sheet; Reviewing Medicaid Waiver language and exploring possible revisions to improve access.

MASSACHUSETTS
New Task Force; Communicated with legislators about state recognition options; Conducting regulatory research; Drafting state survey; Discussion of importance of stand-alone music therapy recognition in the state separate from the LMHC currently available.

MICHIGAN
New Task Force; Exploring dual recognition within the Department of Education and the Department of Health; State survey recently distributed; Advocacy update will be presented during state meeting in October; Planning letter-writing campaign and possible Hill Day in 2014.

MINNESOTA
Licensure bill will carryover to 2014 session; Successful Hill Day completed; Positive feedback from legislators; Conducting outreach to other healthcare professions; Preparing for committee questions regarding impact of music therapy services and financial implications of licensure; Seeking additional legislation co-sponsors.

MISSISSIPPI
New task force forming.

MISSOURI
Recognition Resolution introduced in House General Laws Committee; Anticipate reintroduction in 2014; Conducted advocacy trainings in three locations across the state; Hosted a Hill Day in February; Established a website to increase communication in the state; Planning a 2014 Hill Day and MW Regional Conference advocacy events; Continue to explore state recognition options.

NEBRASKA
Exploring next steps following feedback received during 2012 Credential Review process.

NEVADA
Licensure Advisory Group appointed; Working with Board of Health to establish meeting process; Monitoring legislation that impacts the license; State webpage allows for easy access to important music therapy licensure information; Exploring post-licensure effect on funding and service provision.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Completed survey analysis; Exploring possible presentations to educate public and related organizations about music therapy.

NEW JERSEY
New co-chairs recently approved by MAR Board; Creating state-specific fact sheet using data from survey of state music therapists; Advocacy trainings planned for February 2014.

NEW YORK
Task Force continues to monitor the activity surrounding the License for Creative Arts Therapists (LCAT); Experiencing difficulties navigating the intentions of the multiple professions included in the LCAT as well as those included under the Mental Health Practitioners Board; Significant communication with other CATs in the state in an effort to collaborate on issues of joint interest; Small group of CAT representatives is forming (Super 8) to facilitate necessary communication; Continued attention to various pieces of legislation introduced in 2013 that would impact the LCAT; Task Force and MAR Board are considering the possibility of seeking legislative consultant assistance in Albany; Exploring options for the future of music therapy practice in the state through communication with leaders from AMTA, CBMT, MAR, and the Task Force.

NORTH CAROLINA
Licensure bill passed out of House Committee on Regulatory Reform Subcommittee on Business and Labor; Legislation changed to a study bill during committee hearing in June; Committee will be appointed to study the issue; Communicated with representatives from the National Standards Board for Therapeutic Musicians regarding their concerns about this bill; Agreed upon exemption language has been forwarded to the bill sponsor.

NORTH DAKOTA
The state's Legislative Management Administrative Rules Committee reviewed and approved the Board of Integrative Health regulations for the music therapy license; Andrew Knight continues to serve as Secretary/Treasurer of this Board.

OHIO
Hosted Advocacy Training and Hill Day during GLR Conference in April; Positive feedback from legislators; Template licensure bill language shared with potential sponsor; Seeking legislative support and exploring potential home for music therapy recognition; Monitoring regulatory language changes that remove all discipline-specific references.

OKLAHOMA
Task Force Members exhibited and presented at related conferences to expand awareness of music therapy and increase grassroots network for future legislative efforts; Strong online communication among music therapists, assisting with job opportunities and locating professionals to respond to requests from the general public for services.

continued on page 9
**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

**OREGON**
New task force chair; Hosted Hill Day in June; Legislators willing to sponsor licensure legislation; Conference call held with representatives from Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) in August to discuss licensing options; Possible committee presentation in November if legislation can be introduced during short session in 2014; Communicating with House leadership to determine next steps.

**PENNSYLVANIA**
Monitoring activity related to LPC regulations; Hosting advocacy training and Hill Day in October; Dena Register and I will be assisting with the presentation; Communicating with state plans that have funded music therapy services.

**RHODE ISLAND**
Registry bill passed by full House and passed Senate Committee, but full Senate vote was not completed due to lack of time; Anticipate registry legislation will be re-filed in January 2014; Despite verbal support from state ASHA president, official opposition letter was filed citing national ASHA concerns about scope of practice and use of billing codes; Provided supporting information to sponsor to refute opposition.

**SOUTH CAROLINA**
Licensure bill presented in Senate Labor, Commerce, and Industry subcommittee; Opposition voiced by ASHA representatives; Responded to legislators concerned about increased state oversight of professions; Potential carryover to 2014 session.

**SOUTH DAKOTA**
Created state-specific fact sheet; Participated in conference calls with Sen. Soholt in June and July to explore recognition options under Secretary of Health; Task force continuing to gather information about other professions with which to align in seeking recognition.

**TENNESSEE**
Building grassroots network; Planning to connect Nashville area music therapists with Ben Fold’s management team who have extensive experience with state and national politics; Possible advocacy training to be scheduled in 2014.

**TEXAS**
Organized advocacy “Oktoberfest” to encourage state music therapists to contact legislators; Community advocacy events planned for November to increase awareness of music therapy and build grassroots network within communities; Advocacy trainings scheduled for spring 2014. Task force continues to nurture legislative relationships and will explore legislative options for 2015 session.

**UTAH**
State Certification bill introduced in 2013; Interim Study bill passed to explore music therapy regulation; Sunrise review proposal was filed in June; Proposal currently being considered by Occupational and Professional Licensure Review Committee; Task force presented committee hearing testimony in September; Anticipate committee recommendation in November.

**VIRGINIA**
New Co-Chairs appointed; Fact sheet completed; Encouraging state therapists to contact their personal legislators; Task force reviewing Sunrise application process for Board of Health Professions; Delegate Garrett attended state meeting in September to connect with music therapists and educate them about legislative process; Planning Hill Day in 2014.

**WASHINGTON**
Conducting follow-up on recommendations received from the Department of Health following the 2012 Sunrise Review application process, which stated board certification was sufficient for establishing state recognition; Assisting with inclusion of music therapy services in Children’s Intensive In-home Behavioral Support Waivers (CIIB); Potential to use this program as a model for inclusion of music therapy services within other state agencies.

**WEST VIRGINIA**
New task force approved by MAR; Informal gathering held in August to discuss music therapy services in the state; Organizing conference call held in October; Reviewing state regulations and preparing survey.

**WISCONSIN**
Support provided to state therapists as they continue to advocate against cuts to service access for individuals with developmental disabilities.

 Perspectives - continued from page 2
COMMITTEE NEWS

REIMBURSEMENT COMMITTEE NEWS

The AMTA Reimbursement Committee is charged with “developing strategies that will support the development of legislation, regulations, policies, and programs that will increase access to and funding for music therapy services and programs” (AMTA Strategic Plan 2000).

Reimbursement committee members meet yearly at the AMTA National Conference. This year’s meetings were held in Jacksonville, Florida on Thursday, November 21, 2013 and Friday, November 22, 2013. The following list includes the Committee’s regional representatives as well as interested participants who contributed positive ideas for moving forward with association reimbursement efforts:

• Great Lakes: Nancy Dexter-Schabow
• Mid-Atlantic:
• Midwest: Sarah Thompson
• New England: Julie Andring
• Southeast: Hannah Ownby, Amy Gower (Jamie George, GA State Task force)
• Southwest: Kate Harrison, Carolyn Dobson
• Western: Jillian Hicks

Highlights from the Annual meeting include:

1. Regional conference presentations were well received and the committee plans to provide sessions at the 2014 conferences.
2. Music therapy is now recognized within Colorado’s Workers’ Compensation TBI Guidelines and in Texas’ Youth Empowerment Waiver in the Houston area.
3. Wisconsin members have been actively working to maintain music therapy state funding coverage for individuals diagnosed with autism. Efforts have increased recognition of the quality of music therapy research, but more advocacy is needed from constituents to insure coverage continues.
4. ICD-10 will be implemented in October 2014. AMTA National Office staff is exploring resources to assist members with the transition.
5. AMTA National Office staff is developing language for members to utilize as state exchange programs are implemented in 2014, to advocate for coverage of music therapy services.
6. AMTA continues communication efforts with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, seeking revisions to the Minimum Data Set (MDS) manual that will clarify music therapy documentation in Skilled Nursing Facilities.
7. Goals for 2014:
   a) Outreach to Case Managers Society of America (CMSA) to provide music therapy information during CMSA state or regional meetings.
   b) Development of one page support documents that include diagnosis specific research outcomes and citations to assist with reimbursement efforts.
   c) Encourage members to utilize resources on AMTA website; encourage non-members to join AMTA to receive access to reimbursement documents; and support professional ethics within discussions and sharing of reimbursement information when using social media.

Please contact Committee Co-Chairs, Judy Simpson (simpson@musictherapy.org) or Rebecca Preddie (preddie@musictherapy.org) with any questions you might have regarding committee activities.

2014 Professional Membership in AMTA: "Pay in Installments" Option

Membership in AMTA not only helps support our mission, but it helps you as a music therapist in more ways than you know. Membership makes you a stakeholder in music therapy’s future and brings over $3300 in membership benefits right back to you.

Being a member is the best way to participate in the future of our profession. Be sure and renew your membership for the 2014 calendar year in order to take advantage of all the benefits membership in AMTA has to offer.

To join AMTA or renew your membership, go to www.musictherapy.org and log in with your email address and password, then click the Join AMTA button.

You can also renew your membership by telephone, or, if you’d like to mail in your payment, you can print out a 2014 membership form on the website and mail it with your payment to:

AMTA
8455 Colesville Rd., Ste. 1000
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

NEW "PAY IN INSTALLMENTS" OPTION:

You can pay for your membership in the AMTA Online Store and if you join between January 1 and March 31, 2014, Professional dues can be paid in 4 or 6 installments with a credit card, for your convenience. For this service, there is a processing fee of $5 per transaction for costs incurred. To choose to pay in installments, 1) go to the online store and log in with your email address and password, 2) select Professional membership and add it to your shopping cart, 3) choose the appropriate fee from the drop down menu next to "Dues Rate." NOTE: As you check out, you must check the "Pay Installment Amount" box on the Checkout page where you enter your credit card information. You will be contacted to set up recurring payments. If you have any questions, please contact the AMTA national office at (301) 589-3300.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP TOTAL $3300+ THIS YEAR. DEFINITELY WORTH THE COST!
COMMITTEE NEWS

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE NEWS

The Government Relations Committee (GRC) fulfills goals and tasks related to the mission of the American Music Therapy Association in the area of advocacy. The goal of the GRC is “to increase access to quality music therapy services through monitoring and responding to state and federal legislation that impacts music therapy practice and/or impacts healthcare and education service delivery to current and future music therapy clients” (AMTA Standing Councils and Committees Handbook).

The GRC conducts a formal meeting each year at Annual Conference to address the priorities and goals set forth by the AMTA strategic plan which states, “Promoting music therapy means advancing public awareness of music therapy as a viable health care profession and as an efficacious clinical intervention. In addition, AMTA must continue to advocate for the provision of music therapy services in medical, educational, community-based and other settings.”

This year’s meeting was held in Jacksonville, Florida on Thursday, November 21, 2013. CBMT’s Regulatory Affairs Associate, Kimberly SENA Moore also attended the meeting to assist in the review of state recognition efforts across the country. Many thanks to the following regional representatives who serve on the committee and the state task force members who served as regional representatives during the meeting:

- AMTAS: Chris Millett
- Great Lakes: Angie Snell
- Mid-Atlantic: Maria Hricko Fay
- Mid-Western: Jennifer Sokira
- New England: Joy Allen
- Southeast: Antoinette Neff
- Western: Dawn Iwamasa

Highlights of the annual meeting included:

1. There are 40 active state Task Forces working with AMTA and CBMT on the state recognition operational plan. Three additional states are ready to start task force work in the next few months. In 2014, legislation is anticipated to continue in Iowa and Minnesota, with possible bills introduced in Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, Rhode Island and Utah.
2. AMTA continues its national advocacy and professional representation with Congress and multiple Washington, D.C.-based coalitions and alliances.

Issues discussed included:

a) Implementation of state-level health insurance exchanges that are part of the Affordable Care Act.

b) A balanced approach to budget negotiations that have been ongoing. Decisions must be made by January 15, 2014 to avoid the interruption of Federal Government business.
3. Following many years of advocacy and collaborative work with other rehab therapy organizations, AMTA was recently offered seats on three Joint Commission Professional and Technical Advisory Committees, including Hospital, Behavioral Health and Home Care. As a result, music therapists will actively participate in the review of proposed standards for accreditation of facilities within these programs.
4. The Veterans Administration recently approved plans to move the music therapy job classification from Title 5 to Hybrid Title 38, which more formally recognizes the MT-BC, levels of education, years of experience, and specialized training.
5. In addition to committee members planning advocacy presentations during the 2014 Regional conferences, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Virginia, Indiana, Florida and Ohio are planning state Hill days.

6. Arts Advocacy Day 2014 will be held March 24th and 25th. AMTA would like for a larger music therapy contingent to be in attendance this year and will be sharing registration information with the membership in the coming month.
7. Plans for 2014 include continued networking with comparable professions in an effort to build support for state recognition efforts.

Working diligently on strategies to increase access to quality music therapy services, the GRC invites all members to participate in advocacy opportunities. Whether on the local, state, regional, or national level, everyone can contribute to raising awareness of the benefits of music therapy. If you have questions about GRC activities or about AMTA’s government relations projects, please contact the Committee Co-Chairs, Judy Simpson (simpson@musictherapy.org) or Rebecca Preddie (preddie@musictherapy.org) for more information.

Professional Competencies Updates
Jennifer D. Geiger, MA, MT-BC, Chair, Professional Competencies Task Force

2013 marked the year for review of the Professional Competencies. The originals were authored by Brusica, Hesser, and Boxhill (Music Therapy, 1981) and have been altered some since then, being reviewed every 5 years since 1999. The Professional Competencies Task Force conducted a review of literature, personal interviews with competency creators and previous reviewers, offered information at regional conference and solicited membership feedback. This current review process saw the competencies “streamlined,” numbering from 152 to 117. The membership survey, sent out over the summer, confirmed the need for new competencies on technology as well as addressing neurological processes. The Assembly of Delegates adopted those three new competencies as well as the restructuring of the music competencies. Individual competencies for keyboard, guitar, voice, percussion, nonsymphonic instrument and improvisation skills have been brought together under the category of “Functional Music Skills.” This new, combined section arose from discussion amongst the task force members after survey feedback was received. This change reflects the wide range of instruments utilized by music therapists in practice and highlights developing relationship through the music. Another highlight is the renaming of the section on “Exceptionality” to “Therapeutic Applications.” The task force felt this was more applicable to the broader range of populations served; it also fits within the other sections under “Clinical Foundations” of reordered wording of Therapeutic Principles and Relationship. It should be noted that the new version of the competencies will be available on the website immediately, but will not require implementation until August 1, 2015. This is to provide academic programs ample time to incorporate the new competencies in their course catalogs. Many members who have served on previous task forces understand the enormity of the job at hand. Much thanks goes to Professional Competencies task Force Members Jane Creagan, Robert Groene, Betsy King, Kathy Murphy and Andrea Scheve for their time, energy and diligence.
Financial Facts - Treasurer's Report
Alicia Clair, PhD, MT-BC, AMTA Treasurer

Greetings to everyone! My second year as Treasurer of the American Music Therapy Association is about to conclude and it is my pleasure to report that the AMTA has strong fiscal integrity. I continue to be very impressed with the dynamic budget management the AMTA uses throughout each fiscal year.

It is a very different approach from the draconian budget process used in the past when I was previously on the Board of Directors in the 1980s. At that time the budget was determined at the annual fall conference. The Board of Directors worked with limited knowledge regarding the ebb and flow of revenue and expenditures that occur throughout the year. Once the budget was set nothing was considered until it was time to set it again for the subsequent fiscal year. Working with limited knowledge, decisions to cut services were the only way to balance the budget.

Of significance at that time was the decision to limit the publication of Music Therapy Perspectives (MTP) to one issue per year, a cut that was deleterious for the dissemination of clinical knowledge to AMTA members. Moving from two MTP issues to one issue per year was devastating; yet, the Board discussed ceasing publication altogether in an effort to save dollars to balance the budget. It was a poor way to do business compared to the approach employed today to manage AMTA’s finances.

Now the budget is a fluid process with a fundamental goal to achieve a surplus or, at a minimum, a zero-based budget where the revenue is equal to expenditures by the end of the fiscal year. It is necessary to consistently monitor the finances to allow for necessary changes as revenue streams and expenditures ebb and flow. For example, in the past AMTA incurred more legal expenses than were anticipated due to a trademark opposition case; yet, funds were found to cover this important protection of the integrity of our profession.

In fiscal year 2013, funds were expended for a publishing consultant as AMTA put out the call for proposals regarding a new publication contract. In addition, unanticipated legal fees were required to finalize the contract with the Oxford University Press. In anticipation of changes in the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget, the new publishing contract will affect many budget line items, but it is not yet possible to know the impact until we have more information from our new publisher.

Working with the budget this year has been very exciting. Executive Director Andi Farbman, and I have worked together consistently to monitor revenues and expenses to assure the best possible management. We have conferred over the year with the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee (on more time-sensitive matters) to revise the budget. In all experiences I have found Dr. Farbman an excellent steward of AMTA resources.

We must all work together to grow the professional membership to expand revenue to support services.

An external accountant reviews all AMTA finances each month and at the end of the fiscal year AMTA contracts with an external auditing company to conduct an independent audit of all AMTA finances. Yearly, AMTA passes the audit with no indicators for change regarding financial management and this year was no exception. The auditors said AMTA finances were very well handled for fiscal year 2013 and there were no recommendations for improvements.

Throughout fiscal year 2013, changes occurred in both revenue and expenses. That was foreseen as the Board approved a deficit budget of approximately ($70,000) for fiscal year 2013. That decision was based on a long history of variable financial activity, conservative estimates of income streams, careful and thoughtful expenditures, and attention to making the best deals possible with financial commitments, all of which depended upon Dr. Farbman’s excellent financial management.

As fiscal year 2013 progressed, the initial deficit of ($70,000) was completely eliminated. In fact, with additional contributions of restricted funds and what’s called “unrealized gains” in our investments, the annual audit revealed that the Association ended the year with a surplus of revenue over expenses of $78,766.

While it is good news to have increased revenue beyond expenses, the restricted funds must be used for the purposes for which they were given. Restricted funds for fiscal year 2013 included, for example, a bequest from Michael McGuire to endow the Florence Tyson fund. Other restricted contributions were made for disaster relief, and still more were given for other specific purposes. We thank all those members and friends who made these important contributions. The restrictions with which the funds were contributed to AMTA will be strictly adhered to which makes the increased revenue tightly limited in the ways in which it can be used. Further, “unrealized gains” are a sign the AMTA investment portfolio is growing but the funds cannot be used to cover operating costs. They must remain invested.

AMTA operations are currently supported by three main revenue streams:
1. Membership
2. Conference Revenue
3. Publications

Data show a 25% decrease in professional and associate members since 1999, the year of the World Congress of Music Therapy and the year after Unification. During the same time the number of student members increased by 42%, representing great strength for our future. Publications produced $245,098 in gross revenue which continued on page 9
What do we do to grow our future?

We will stay the course on the Board of Director’s revenue development plan. The Board will continue to develop diversified revenue streams. We must all work together to grow the professional membership to expand revenue to support services. If each of us meets a challenge to bring in one new professional member, or one renewing professional member, the membership will have the support it needs to grow. The future growth and development of AMTA depends on fiscal stability and sustainability; continued careful management of resources; and commitment of the membership.

Thank you for your professionalism, your commitment to care and your willingness to contribute to the growth and development of AMTA.

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Affordable Care Act News from the Dept. of Health and Human Services

As the New Year begins, some of you might encounter requests from clients and their families to attempt reimbursement from insurance plans that are a part of the new Health Insurance Marketplace. These plans, also known as Health Insurance Exchanges, have been created as a part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Because enrollment has occurred in a relatively short period of time, many individuals may not yet have received insurance cards or may be unaware of the details of their coverage.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has developed several resources to assist you in contacting these new plans. If the marketplace in your state is run by the Federal government, it is best to call the plan’s customer service line. A list of all plans and their customer service numbers can be found in the following data base:

https://data.healthcare.gov/dataset/QHP-Customer-Service-Phone-Numbers/vryg-tdzf

Here is a link to information about using the data base:


If you cannot locate the number, please call the Marketplace Call Center (1-800-318-2596).

If your state has its own health insurance exchange, contact your state. To find the website for your state exchange, select the name of your state in the box at the left hand side of the healthcare.gov website.

If potential clients are uninsured, they have until March 31, 2014 to sign up for non-employer based coverage. They can go to HealthCare.gov to sign up for a plan and apply for financial assistance. The vast majority of uninsured will qualify for financial assistance to reduce their costs. For more information, please visit the following site to view and download fact sheets and educational materials for your clients and their families:

Music Therapy Pioneer,
Sr. Harriet Padberg Dies

Music Therapy Pioneer, Sr. Harriet “Happy” Padberg, RSCJ, 91, passed away on January 2, 2014 of complications after a fall and hip break. Sr. Harriet was born in St. Louis on November 13, 1922. She graduated from Maryville College in 1943 with a Bachelor of Arts in Math and Music and then followed her older sister and entered the Society of the Sacred Heart at Kenwood. She made her final profession to her order in 1951. In 1949 she completed a Masters in Music and Organ, specializing in historical and critical research, from the College Conservatory of Music of the University of Cincinnati. During the 1970’s Sr. Harriet earned her Master of Arts and a PhD in Math from St. Louis University. She took classes in computer-generated music, music therapy, and did a clinical internship in Music Therapy.

Sr. Harriet founded Maryville University’s music therapy department in 1973 and became active in the National Association for Music Therapy (NAMT). Beginning in the 1950’s, she was a math and music professor at Maryville for 35 years. Mark Lombardi, Maryville’s president, stated that Sr. Harriet was a visionary and a pioneer in the development of music therapy and understood early, before many others, the benefits of music therapy. Dr. Cynthia Briggs, the current director of Maryville’s music therapy program confirmed that when Maryville’s program began, it was among only a handful of schools offering courses leading to certification. According to Dr. Briggs, St. Harriet’s stature may have been petite but oh what a powerhouse she was! She possessed a remarkable intellect and had the capacity to mentor, lead and inspire her students to do more with their lives.

After retiring from Maryville in her mid-70’s, Sr. Harriet provided music therapy services to adults with developmental challenges at Emmaus Homes in Marthasville, Missouri. The Emmaus administrators grew to love and respect Sr. Harriet during the 15 years she served there, so much so that three times a week, they sent a car for her—a round trip of seventy-five miles until she was 87 years old!

Maryville music therapy students who came to Emmaus for their clinical practicums benefited from Sr. Harriet’s supervision.

In her 80s, Sr. Harriet taught the organ to church pianists. She also used her computer skills to digitize accurate copies of almost all of the Society of the Sacred Heart’s traditional hymns so that now the provincial archives has audio and paper copies.

To celebrate Maryville’s 40th anniversary, a special reunion luncheon was held on September 29, 2012 to honor Sr. Harriet just prior to her 90th birthday. Many former students, a number of whom she had taught 50 years ago, attended to demonstrate their thanks and loyalty to this extremely remarkable woman who touched their lives in so many positive ways. Long after she retired from teaching she continued to follow new developments within the music therapy profession.

In 2012 Sr. Harriet moved to Oakwood, the retirement center for her order in California. She continued to play the piano at daily mass and led sing-a-longs on the dementia care unit. A friend noted that Sr. Harriet’s love of music was second only to her love of God.

The music therapy profession is indebted to Sr. Harriet and her pioneering efforts. Our condolences and prayers go out to those in her family, colleagues, students, friends and those in the Society of Sacred Heart’s order whose lives were touched by her.

Sr. Harriet Padberg’s Society of the Sacred Heart obituary can be found at: https://rscj.org/about/memoriam/harriet-padberg-rscj

An additional obituary from St. Louis Public Radio can be found at: http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/sister-harriet-padberg-pioneer-music-therapy-longtime-teacher
Self Study E-courses from AMTA Now Available in AMTA Online Store!

Order your user-friendly AMTA E-course and receive everything you need to listen and learn at your leisure:

1. Audio Links. The core of the AMTA E-courses is the speaker sharing expertise and practical information to enhance your practice.
2. E-course Workbook. The pdf document includes discussion outline, references, links, and other valuable resources related to the topic.
3. CMTE Evaluation: Earn CMTE credits in two steps. Listen to audio discussion, then submit the CMTE Evaluation electronically.

AMTA PROFESSIONAL ISSUES E-COURSE SERIES
The self-study E-courses in this series provide in-depth, practical information about the "business" of music therapy, e.g., standards of clinical practice, ethics, career enhancement, reimbursement, grantsmanship, supervision, leadership, job development, copyright, and other high-priority career and business issues.

AMTA CLINICAL PRACTICE E-COURSE SERIES
Music therapy clinicians share their experience and expertise about music therapy interventions, applications, strategies, protocols, research, program and service-delivery models, group management, musicianship, and other issues related to delivering quality music therapy services to a variety of populations in various settings.

THE AMTA MUSIC THERAPY INTRO E-COURSE SERIES
This series features E-courses for continuing education credit for professionals in medicine, adjunct therapies, education, and other related fields, providing basic information about music therapy research and services. The series also includes accessible resources introducing music therapy to parents, career counselors, and other interested parties.

To buy these e-courses: Go to www.musictherapy.org and log in with your user name and password to get member discounts. Click on Education and Careers > Continuing Music Therapy Education or Visit the Bookstore and Shop for: Merchandise, Selected Category: E-courses and click Go. Click to choose your course and then add it to your shopping cart. Follow all on-screen directions.

After you make your online purchase and follow the instructions to check out and pay, your e-course workbook can be downloaded logging in on the AMTA website, then going to My Account > My Transactions > My Downloadable Products. Instructions for completing the course are found in the e-course workbook.

CURRENT AMTA MEMBERS RECEIVE SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNTS ON THE INTRODUCTORY PRICE
- Regular Cost: $150 - includes 5 CMTE credits
- Current Members Discounted Cost: $100 - includes 5 CMTE credits
- Current Student/Grad Student Member Discounted Cost: $50

MUSIC THERAPY IN EARLY CHILDHOOD: MEANINGFUL MUSIC FROM INFANCY TO KINDERGARTEN
Marcia Humpal, MED, MT-BC; Ronna Kaplan, MA, MT-BC; Amy Furman, MM, MT-BC
This e-course features the work of three music therapy clinicians with many decades of experience working with young children. Marcia Humpal explores music therapy for infants and toddlers, exploring the manner in which very young children learn through play, and discussing considerations for planning effective music therapy for little ones. Ronna Kaplan talks about music therapy in preschool groups, using examples from her experiences at The Music Settlement and community outreach programs, and providing details about the Hierarchical Model of Music Therapy and the Art Integration Model. Amy Furman discusses the application of music in therapy for young children in the public schools, based on her extensive experience in the Minneapolis Public Schools. Amy provides numerous examples of programmatic and IEP-specific music therapy in preschool and kindergarten classrooms. Ten Take-Away Points, numerous supplemental resources and other helpful links, references, and materials are a valuable bonus with a complimentary copy of the 62-page booklet from the well-received 2011 AMTA Institute, Developmental Approaches to Early Childhood Music Therapy.

MUSIC THERAPY REIMBURSEMENT: SOURCES AND STEPS TO SUCCESS
Judy Simpson, MT-BC, Managed Healthcare Professional
AMTA’s Director of Government Relations, Judy Simpson, teaches the fundamentals of reimbursement in practical terms, helping E-course participants build a solid foundation of knowledge about multiple reimbursement sources, about public and private third party payment systems, and about the specific steps required to access coverage. E-course participants will discover how the process of funding music therapy can vary by clinical setting, client diagnosis, and payment source, and will learn industry terminology, procedural coding information, billing forms, and other key elements of reimbursement. This AMTA E-course equips each listener with the knowledge and tools that make it possible to explore funding for making top-quality music therapy services more accessible to individuals of all ages in a variety of clinical settings.

MUSIC THERAPY AND DEMENTIA: PROTOCOLS FOR MANAGING PROBLEM BEHAVIORS
Alicia Clair, PhD, MT-BC
Dr. Alicia Clair's AMTA E-course, "Music Therapy and Dementia: Protocols for Managing Problem Behaviors" includes detailed descriptions of behavior issues, theoretical framework, and operating principles for music therapy interventions, as well as step-by-step details about music therapy protocols to facilitate predictable outcomes when addressing problem behaviors resulting from dementia.
2013 CONFERENCE MEMORIES
A Super Success!

Over 1,400 attended the Voices of the Sea: Music Therapy @ Florida. It was a time of learning, sharing, networking, jamming, drumming, singing, more learning, and fun. Conference Chair Dr. Sandi Curtis put together a mighty educational program that met the needs of music therapy professionals and students alike. Our first conference app was introduced thanks to Rachel See. Local Co-Chair Michelle Erfurt connected all attendees with a special conference web site and social media. Local Co-Chair Minda Gordon introduced the music therapy community to special musical guests Matt Giordano and Dave Pittman, two musicians with Tourette’s. Who can forget Matt’s energetic performance before the opening session and drum circle and Dave’s songwriting collaboration and performance with Dr. Tracy Richardson to close the conference? Memories were made with a humorous and enthralling opening night performance from AMTA artist spokesperson Robin Spielberg and the opening night reception. The exhibit hall was packed with attendees and filled with bargains. The Carol Hampton Bitcon lecture by AMTA Executive Director Dr. Andi Farbman featured an intriguing and insightful look at her 25 years of service and included wonderful music by the George Center Band. Members of the military panel sang a beautiful version of the Star Spangled Banner to begin their historic session and the conference choir was on the move, surprising and entertaining everyone with a “Flash Mob” up and down the hotel lobby and escalators! It was a time to re-connect, re-energize and to eagerly await the 2014 AMTA Conference Pursue Your Passion for Music Therapy in Louisville, Kentucky, November 5 to 9.
Rapper Kris Warren Attends AMTA's National Conference

Having already traveled throughout the USA to meet personally with a list full of music therapists, Kris Warren landed in Jacksonville this past November to attend the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) national conference. The conference hosted roughly 1400 attendees, which included music therapists, college students, and business professionals from around the world. In attendance was Chicago Rapper Kris Warren, who was introduced to AMTA by Jody Wilfong. Kris met Jody on a trip to California during his pursuit of Music Therapy research. Jody, a Board Certified Music Therapist from the Bay Area, most recently gave a lecture at Stanford University on Music Therapy models, techniques, and impacts in children and adults.

Speaking on his experience at the conference Kris said "I already admire the clinical work music therapists do on a daily basis, but to see so many multi-talented therapists in action musically was breathtaking and inspiring. My voice is my main instrument. I was a percussionist for a few years in grade school, but nothing that can compare to the high level of talent I saw at the conference. I was actually inspired to learn another instrument. I'm starting guitar lessons next week! I had the pleasure to meet a lot of passionate therapists and also had the opportunity to film a great interview with Shana Summers for the Music Is My Therapy documentary," he concludes.

Shana, a Board Certified Music Therapist based in Illinois, spoke on the documentary, "I have truly enjoyed being a part of this project. It is great to see music therapy being represented and exposed to people who could benefit from this field. I hope many people can learn from this documentary and can see how music can be therapy," Shana said.

Among business professionals in attendance was Colorado based psychiatrist Brian McAlpine. "As a psychiatrist just beginning to explore the world of Music Therapy, I certainly see one natural area for collaboration as working together toward improving outcomes in mental health care. It seems much can be gained when people with different backgrounds and talents can share ideas. For example, how cool is it that a hip-hop artist wants to collaborate to produce a documentary on various aspects of Music Therapy," Brain explained. The Music Is My Therapy documentary is due to be released in 2014.

AMTA Recognizes Music Therapy Philanthropists

AMTA was pleased to begin a new tradition to highlight and acknowledge several Music Therapy Philanthropists at the National Conference this past November in Jacksonville, Florida. Music Therapists attending the Opening Session were able to learn about these generous donors and their gifts made to benefit music therapy programs.

AMTA is so grateful to these philanthropists for their generous donations that support AMTA's mission "to advance public awareness of the benefits of music therapy and increase access to quality music therapy services." The following donors were presented with AMTA's Music Therapy Philanthropy Award.

Alan Korest's gift is helping to create a music therapy degree program at Florida Gulf Coast University. Southwest Florida Children's Charities also provided a generous gift to Florida Gulf Coast University, which will make it possible to create scholarships to educate qualified music therapists. Bob and Ann Fletcher's gift in the 1990s enabled All Children's Hospital, St. Petersburg, Florida to begin a music therapy program. Bill Edwards later contributed a major gift to the music therapy program at All Children's Hospital. Bruce and Karla Conley's gift through the Second Chance Foundation to the Golisano Children's Hospital of SW Florida was critical in establishing the hospital's music therapy program and serving as a model for future gifts. John and Marty Howard's subsequent gift to the Golisano Children's Hospital of SW Florida provided critical funding to sustain the music therapy program through the Close Friend Foundation. AMTA acknowledges the tremendous generosity of these Music Therapy Philanthropists and looks forward to honoring many more on a yearly basis at our annual conferences.
Scholarship Corner

**BRIAN HARRIS - STUDENT CONFERENCE SCHOLAR AWARD**

I am extremely grateful for the generosity and support of the AMTA through this scholarship. It is truly an honor to be chosen among colleagues for whom I have such deep respect. The AMTA national conference serves as an opportunity to learn, connect, grow, and be inspired by those who have dedicated their careers to the incredible work of Music Therapy. This conference did exactly that; I was able to be surrounded by like-minded individuals who could support and encourage my current endeavors, and serve as role models of where I want to grow professionally, which fuels my own passion for the work.

This year, I was afforded the opportunity to present for the first time at a national conference; a deeply humbling and rewarding experience. I can only hope to have given half as much knowledge and inspiration as I gained during my time there, and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to give something back. Words cannot express my deepest and sincerest gratitude for this opportunity and for making student’s goals more accessible! Based upon my interactions at the national conference, I can’t wait to see where Music Therapy is headed in the near future! Thank you!

**ALISON WATSON - PAST PRESIDENTS’ CONFERENCE SCHOLAR AWARD**

I am honored and grateful for the generous scholarships provided by AMTA, in addition to the plethora of other benefits provided to its members! While attending my first national AMTA conference in 2011, I pushed myself out of my shy ‘shell’ to network at several events. At the tweet up, I had the pleasure of meeting Bernadette Skodack, MT-BC, who works in the Great Lakes region. I quickly learned she had a connection to the Greenville, South Carolina area (where I live and work: cue “It’s a Small World”), where she attended Furman University during her undergraduate studies. We connected on various social media platforms and kept in touch. About ten months later, she sent a message that a Greenville area healthcare organization was looking to start a music therapy program, and let me know that she had passed along my contact information. Through several ‘degrees of separation,’ the director of that facility had contacted her former professor, who in turn contacted Bernadette, who relayed my information back across the country to the Southeastern region! I began this new music therapy program just a few short weeks after this process, and am still amazed at the power of networking.

I was determined to attend conference again this year and applied for a conference scholarship. I was thrilled to get a phone call this fall from Mary Ellen Wylie, PhD, MT-BC, AMTA President, informing me that I had been chosen as the Past Presidents’ Conference Scholar! This generous scholarship will allow me to take part in the array of professional development opportunities available at our conference. I plan to kickstart my conference experience with the “Music Therapy for the Aging Population: Evidence-based Practice and Considerations” institute, which will be especially useful in my work at a continuing care retirement community. I’m also looking forward to exploring my personal interest in medical ethnomusicology through the “Balinese Gamelan: Performance Practice and Therapeutic Applications” CMTE. My remaining schedule will be filled to the brim with a variety of concurrent sessions, music making, and perhaps a quick trip to the beach on Sunday. And, of course, I will be continually networking in a beautiful gathering of like-minded persons who are passionate about music therapy. See you at the tweet up!

**KRISTEN MEYER - CONFERENCE SCHOLAR AWARD**

I would like to start by giving heartfelt thanks to AMTA for the opportunity to receive a Conference Scholar Award. During the last couple of years, I have developed a strong interest in starting and growing new music therapy programs, and because of this scholarship I was able to attend many sessions at conference that will increase my ability to do so.

My community has a relatively small number of music therapists despite being a large metropolitan area, and I hope to create a program at one of the local medical centers. Attending courses such as the Evidence-Based Medical Music Therapy institute and the “Get It Funded” CMTE gave me a lot of valuable information that will hopefully be beneficial in this endeavor. I hope that this knowledge will also allow me to assist other music therapists in creating and expanding programs in this area and other underserved geographic areas.

Additionally, the variety of courses I was able to take—as well as simply being at the conference—provided many opportunities to network with other music therapists who work with similar populations or have started similar programs. These perspectives were extremely helpful, and make me grateful to be in a profession with colleagues who are so willing to share their knowledge and expertise.

I am eager to put all of this new information into practice, and can’t express enough how thankful I am to AMTA for this opportunity!

**MUSIC THERAPY MATTERS | WINTER, 2013 | 19**
When I was 14 years old, I lost my older brother as a result of a rare case of mononucleosis. During this time, I discovered the healing balm of music on life’s deepest wounds. Out of my own pain, my passion to help hurting people through music was born. This passion became a driving force that has continued to carry me through life’s most difficult struggles. When I heard about music therapy, I knew it was the perfect fit for me.

I didn’t think it was possible to be any more passionate about my future; however, the 2013 National Music Therapy Conference in Jacksonville has shown me differently. I got to spend six days soaking in as much information as I could hold. I heard from role models pursuing my own dream career—child abuse and trafficking to eating disorders, hospitalized children to hospice, drumming to songwriting, ukulele to guitar. One of the most resounding statements that I heard while at conference was during the Carol Hampton Bitcon lecture when Dr. Andrea Farbman talked of how some look to their passion to find their purpose, but she found it in pain. These words ring true in my life and I will continue to cherish them as well as the countless other words of wisdom I gained from conference.

Participating in the AMTA National Conference this year has equipped me with skills and inspiration to help me passionately pursue my future in music therapy. I cannot express how truly grateful and honored I am to have had the opportunity to attend as a Student Conference Scholar.

**SUSAN SMIDDY - STUDENT CONFERENCE SCHOLAR AWARD**

Need help with salary information and setting fees?
The AMTA Workforce Survey can help! Members can go to www.musictherapy.org and choose Member Resources>Job Center>Resources and Links to download the most recent and archived copies. Non-members can purchase a download of the Workforce Survey in the AMTA online store.

What are your fundraising ideas? We want to know! We are always asked by our extraordinary customers for ideas on how to acquire more funds for instruments and materials. Share your most successful fundraising ideas with West Music (and your fellow music therapists and educators) and win the chance at earning up to $1,500 in additional funds from West Music!

**HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:**

• Submit your fundraising ideas by email to MoneyForMusic@WestMusic.com.
• Include your name and school/organization name.
• In 300 words or less, share with us the who, what, when, and why of your fundraising program, including what you might do differently in the future.
• Your name will be included in our monthly drawing for a $100 West Music gift certificate and we’ll highlight the winning idea in our monthly email newsletter.
• PLUS, we’ll pick one lucky winner for a $1,500 West Music gift certificate at the end of the contest in May of 2014.

How have you contributed to your clients’ successes through fundraising efforts? Have you hosted a concert to raise funds or helped sponsor a loose change drive? We want to know how you’re inspiring your communities to help keep music therapy a thriving profession.

Here’s your chance to help each other with ideas that have worked in your school.
Membership in AMTA in 2014

AMTA is your professional association...your intellectual home. Becoming a member of AMTA supports our mission (to advance public awareness of the benefits of music therapy and to increase access to quality music therapy services in a rapidly changing world) and shows your commitment to our profession by supporting the programs and initiatives that make music therapy strong.

What You Get: $235 Professional Membership

- Journal of Music Therapy & Music Therapy Perspectives Subscriptions
- AMTA pro: Free, Convenient, Online Continuing Education
- Member Area of AMTA Website
- Conference Discount
- Publications & Online E-Courses Discount
- NMTR Maintenance Discount
- Job Center/Job Hotline/Referral List Inclusion/Posting a Job
- Online Directory and Yearly Workforce Study
- Private Practice/Reimbursement/Technical Assistance
- Public Education, Advocacy and Job Creation

Worth: Over $3300/year:

- $566 (print AND online access)
- $600 (~$50 per podcast value)
- $218 (based on average subscription rates)
- $235
- $75 (based on ~value of 5 purchases)
- $215
- $350 (based on average subscription rates)
- $50
- $50 (per 30 minute phone call)
- $1000

But the best reason to join AMTA is for a strong national voice for music therapy standing beside you. As a member, you support the music therapy profession and make it possible for our profession to grow.
Membership in AMTA not only helps support our mission, but it helps you as a music therapist in more ways than you know. Membership makes you a stakeholder in music therapy’s future and means over $3,300 in membership benefits for you.

Being a member is the best way to participate in the future of our profession. Be sure and renew your membership for the 2014 calendar year in order to take advantage of all the benefits membership in AMTA has to offer.

To join AMTA or renew your membership, go to www.musictherapy.org and log in with your email address and password, then click the “Join AMTA” button.

You can also renew your membership by telephone, or, if you’d like to mail in your payment, you can print out a 2014 membership form on the website and mail it with your payment to:

AMTA
8455 Colesville Rd., Ste. 1000
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Announcing the 27th Advanced Fellowship Training

The Center for Biomedical Research in Music in conjunction with members of the Neurologic Music Therapy section of the World Federation of Neurorehabilitation invites you to attend the 27th Advanced Fellowship Training being held in Fort Collins, Colorado on February 7 & 8, 2014. Visit the CBRM website (www.colostate.edu/depts/cbrm) for information about the fellowship training, including how to register. If you have questions, contact Dr. Michael Thaut at michael.thaut@colostate.edu or call 970-491-3178.

Announcing the 35th International Neurologic Music Therapy Training Institute

The Center for Biomedical Research in Music in conjunction with members of the Neurologic Music Therapy section of the World Federation of Neurorehabilitation invites you to attend the 35th International Neurologic Music Therapy Training Institute being held in Fort Collins, Colorado from January 30-February 2, 2014. Visit the CBRM website (www.colostate.edu/depts/cbrm) for information about the training, including how to register for the Institute. If you have questions, contact Dr. Michael Thaut at michael.thaut@colostate.edu or Nicole Wilshusen at Nicole.Wilshusen@colostate.edu or call 970-491-3178.

Canadian Journal of Music Therapy Call for Co-Editors

The Canadian Journal of Music Therapy call for new English co-editors has been extended to March 1, 2014. We would like to extend the invitation to qualified AMTA members to apply. For details of the call, please visit http://www.musictherapy.ca/documents/journal/CALLforNEWenglishCOEDITORS.pdf Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jennifer Lin (jlin@cmu.ca), Publications Chair of The Canadian Association for Music Therapy.