



**American Music Therapy Association
Membership Recognition Program
2025 Nomination Submission Form**

Deadline: 11:59pm ET Sunday, February 22, 2026

[2025 AMTA Member Recognition Nomination Form](#)

The purpose of the member recognition program is to honor music therapists and advocates for their long-term efforts towards the development and growth of the profession of music therapy. The awards acknowledge individuals who have made significant contributions to the American Music Therapy Association, Inc. (as well as the former AAMT and NAMT associations) through education, service, clinical practice, and/or research.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

These nominations are for the 2025 calendar year. The 2026 nominations will open later this year.

Selection shall be made by an Awards Committee comprised of people appointed by the President. The committee shall review nominations and recommend award recipients to the AMTA Board of Directors. No member of the Membership Recognition Award Committee or an employee/consultant of AMTA shall be eligible for the awards. Submit your nomination using this form no later than the specified deadline on the Nomination form.

Each year, nominations will be sought and considered. Nominees may be submitted by a nominator or through self-nomination. A person may be nominated in more than one area but may not receive more than one award for the given award year. Additionally, each award category may have from one to three recipients for the given award year. All AMTA awards are for members in good standing, with the exception of the Music Therapy Advocate Award, which is available to members or non-members/non-music therapists.

An award certificate and plaque with citation highlighting the accomplishments of the recipient of the award shall be presented at an Association event by the President of the Association or their designee. The name of the person receiving the award, a photograph, and appropriate citation shall be announced in an AMTA communication.

2025 Awards Deadline: Submit nominations for the 2025 Award Candidates
by 11:59 pm ET, Sunday, February 22, 2026

Form: **[2025 AMTA Member Recognition Nomination Form](#)**



AWARD CATEGORIES

Research/Publications Award

The purpose of this award is to honor a member of the American Music Therapy Association who has contributed to the development of the profession through research, scholarly activity or creative products resulting in advanced knowledge and development in the profession of music therapy.

Selection Criteria:

1. Nominee is making or has made significant contribution to the body of knowledge of the profession of music therapy. This will be demonstrated in one of the following ways:
 1. Involvement in or completion of an outstanding research project(s).
 2. Involvement in scholarly work resulting in a textbook(s) or monograph(s) related to refinement of professional theory and/or practice.
 3. Involvement in creative activity resulting in the marketing of an activity kit(s), recording(s), and/or compositions(s) related to the development of the practice of music therapy.
2. Nominee shall have shared this knowledge and inspired others through both written communications (publications) and oral presentations (workshops, lectures, seminars, conference presentations).

Advocate of Music Therapy Award

The purpose of this award is to honor a person who is not a music therapist but who has contributed significantly to the field. This contribution could take the form of major and/or repeated public acknowledgement of the field of music therapy, major support through scholarships or other types of funding, or major volunteer time spent bettering the interests of the music therapy profession, or music therapy groups such as a specific region. These are examples of the kinds of contributions that could be cited in this award, but do not exclude other ways that an individual might have contributed.

Service Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize individual members of the American Music Therapy Association who have provided service to the Association and profession either through long term commitments or task limited activities, such as serving in national offices, as chairs of commissions, chairs of standing and ad hoc committees, and as members of the Board of Directors and/or the Assembly of Delegates.



Award of Merit

The purpose of this award is to honor a member of the American Music Therapy Association who has contributed to the development of the profession in a unique and remarkable way.

Selection Criteria:

1. Nominee shall have made an outstanding contribution to the profession of music therapy in more than one of the following areas: Therapeutic practice, education, research, and service.
2. Nominee's contribution shall have markedly benefited the profession and Association.
3. Nominee must qualify in each of the following categories:
 1. Communication activities that promote his/her philosophy and contributions. This can be either written (publications) or oral (presentations, seminars, or workshops).
 2. Association activities at the regional and national level, as evidenced by participation on committees, commissions, task forces, boards and/or elected positions.

Professional Practice Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize members of the American Music Therapy Association who have made a significant contribution to the practice of music therapy. The nominee shall be recognized by his/her peers as having made a significant contribution to the profession by utilizing special skills and/or knowledge in therapeutic practice, clinical supervision, education and/or administration. Both scholarly contribution and organizational leadership will be considered. The following criteria will be employed in determining this award:

1. Development of practice models or methods of treatment/teaching of national significance.
2. Development of clinical or academic education models, programs, or methods of national significance.
3. Completion and publication of research concerning music therapy practice, or education that benefits the profession.
4. Administrative leadership which enhances clinical and/or academic education, supports innovation in or improves the quality of practice or supports research.

Instructions: All nominations must be submitted using this form. Please provide information for all fields. Follow the application instructions exactly. Include all required forms and information in the order listed. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Applications are due no later than 11:59 pm ET on Sunday, February 22, 2026.

Contact info@musictherapy.org with any questions.



AMTA Membership Recognition Program AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Instructions: All nominations must be submitted electronically via the: [2025 AMTA Member Recognition Nomination Form](#).

Instructions: At the link above, please provide information for all fields. Follow the application instructions exactly. Include all required forms and information in the order listed. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Submit applications no later than 11:59 pm ET on Sunday, February 22, 2026.

Contact info@musictherapy.org with any questions.

Information collected on the nomination form includes the following:

- **Name of Award**
- **Nominee Name**
- **Nominee Credentials**
- **Nominee Address**
 - *Street:*
 - *City/State: Zip code: Country:*
- **Best phone number to reach nominee**
- **Nominee Email**
- **Is this person an AMTA Member? Yes/No**

- **Nominator's Name**
- **Nominator Address**
 - *Street:*
 - *City/State: Zip code: Country:*
- **Best phone number to reach you (nominator)**
- **Email**

Narrative Requirements:

Upload a nomination letter and any supporting documents to include the following:

Description of the professional accomplishments and personal characteristics that the nominee has demonstrated as outlined in the selection criteria, especially those for which you have firsthand knowledge. The committee is interested in why you think this person deserves this award. If the person you are nominating does not have high visibility on the national level and would therefore not be well known to the committee, it is suggested that a vita of the nominee accompany the narrative. Any other material that is deemed helpful by the nominator may also be included.

Upload requirements: Maximum 5 files, each file no larger than 100 MB