

## **DRAFT**

### **NER-AMTA General Membership Meeting**

Hotel Viking, Newport Rhode Island

Friday, March 8, 2023

President Wendy Krueger called the meeting to order at 8:17 a.m.

#### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

Wendy opened the meeting by leading attendees in singing “Here Comes the Sun.”

#### **2. Indigenous Land Acknowledgment**

Wendy acknowledged the space and territories on which the conference is held. The Hotel Viking and surrounding communities are located within the traditional territory of the Narragansett Nation and the Niantic (Nehantic) People. We express gratitude for them and all Indigenous Peoples for their continuous presence and stewardship of the land.

#### **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Jean Nemeth made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 26, 2023 NER-AMTA fall business meeting. Cathy Kang seconded the motion. After a successful vote, the minutes were approved as presented.

#### **4. Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Cathy Kang presented the following account balances:

Checking: \$4,030.74

Savings: \$42,166.52

Student: \$1,651.69.69

\*\*Pending deposits: \$1,232.73

#### **5. Conference Update**

Vice President Mary Reinsch and Vice President-Elect Emily Hawley welcomed attendees to this year’s conference, “Harmonizing Communities Across Generations.” They encouraged attendees to share feedback, concerns, and any support needs. This year, there are 28 concurrent sessions and 7 CMTEs. There are 181 attendees with at least 40 student registrants. There are 6 vendors and 2 sponsors. Thank you to our Gold Tier Sponsor, Roman Music Therapy Services. Thank our Bronze Tier Sponsor, Berklee College of Music. Attendees can find the attendance certificate located on the final page of the PDF conference program. Printed copies will also be available at the registration desk.

Updates will be forthcoming regarding the 2025 regional conference. Based on feedback from the last conference, the board is actively working to finding a location that is more accessible to attendees.

#### **6. Committee Updates and Reports**

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**Professional Advocacy Committee:** Lyzz Zinn reported that the committee is evaluating representations of music therapy in different media sources and in the public. The committee compiles misrepresentation, advocacy reports, and track sources of misrepresentation. Lyzz encouraged members to contact the committee about these instances via email or Facebook. They are currently looking for people to help create elevator speeches about music therapy. There is a form for this if you are interested. If you have any ideas or anything you would like to see the professional advocacy committee do, please contact them!

**Membership Committee:** Ali Iaria reported the AMTA has rolled out the new tiered membership structure. The committee is looking at other memberships to see what benefits they offer to members. Contact the membership committee if you have ideas about what you would like to see out of membership.

**Academic Program Approval Committee:** Heather Wagner submitted the following report:

The Academic Program Approval Committee (APAC) has, as its primary task, to approve new programs and re-approve academic programs. Our committee work is year-round, so we are meeting throughout the year to better address ongoing needs and issues that have arisen with higher demand for new music therapy programs around the country.

In 2023 and early 2024, the following new programs were approved.

Cleveland State University (OH) – BS (Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy)

Louisiana State University – BMT (Bachelor of Music Therapy)

Truman University (Kirksville, MO) – BS (Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy)

St. Cloud State University (MN)– BS (Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy)

We also have 16 reviews currently in process. Those include 6 new program applications, a few 10-year re-approval applications, 3-year status updates for new programs, and a couple of programs that are making substantive changes such as moving to a distance format and/or re-structuring the music therapy curriculum. For many reasons, including the restructuring of AMTA, and the overturn of committee leadership last year, we have a backlog of applications, and are expecting at least 30 more reviews to be coming in this year. So, this is a wildly busy group of volunteers! Another focus for our committee is to review the AMTA Standards of Education and Clinical Training to assure that they represent the current state of education. Related to that, the Committee presented, at the 2023 AMTA Symposium, on the AMTA University Affiliated Internship Guidelines that were approved by the AMTA Assembly of Delegates and published in 2021. This presentation detailed the role of all parties involved in the University Affiliated Internship process, the Academic Supervisor, the On-Site Supervisor, and the Student. Internally, the Committee has been working to revise all of the program applications, to streamline the information submitted, and make the review process smoother for everyone involved now that we have moved to a completely digital format for application submission and review. The Policies and Procedures document of the Committee is also undergoing a major revision and should

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be ready for distribution shortly. This Committee works with a representative from each region and also has 6 At-Large members appointed by the AMTA Board of Directors. We are currently looking for a member from the Western Region. Our committee members include:

Maureen Hearn	Co-Chair	maureen.hearns@usu.edu
Carmen Osburn	Co-Chair	ceosburn@muw.edu
Carol Olszewski	Great Lakes	c.a.olszewski@csuohio.edu
Hannah Ivey Bush	Mid-Atlantic	hannah.bush2@hsc.wvu.edu
Nicole Jacobs	Midwest	lincolnmusictherapy@yahoo.com
Heather Wagner	New England	wagnerh2@southernct.edu
Varvara Pasiali	Southeastern	pasialiv@queens.edu
Cathy Befi-Hensel	Southwestern	befi@uiwtx.edu
	Western	
Laura Brown	At-Large	BrownLR@appstate.edu
Alejandra Ferrer	At-Large	alejandra.ferrer@belmont.edu
Melissa Heffner	At-Large	melissa.e.heffner@gmail.com
Sophia Lee	At-Large	sophia.lee@swosu.edu
Lora Robinson	At-Large	lora.robinson@howard.edu
Eun Sil Suh	At-Large	esuh@marywood.edu

We have been approved by the AMTA Board of Directors for 2 new emergency At-Large members to help with the incoming flood of applications. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact one of the Co-Chairs. Qualifications include either being a current adjunct or full-time faculty member in a music therapy program or having past experience in university teaching. Clinical training supervisory experience is also desirable.

## **7. AMTA Update**

AMTA Vice President Jen Sokira presented a report on behalf of AMTA President Angie Snell.

### **2023 Highlights:**

- The AMTA newly hired consultants: Vicki Vega, Education Consultant, and Veronica Llanos Fernandez, Clinical Training Consultant. If you have questions or concerns, reach out to them directly.
- Launched AMTA in Action Web Series+
- AMTA professional advocacy committee presents: Music Therapy Advocacy Fatigue—A Discussion and Government Relations and Advocacy. Please subscribe to the YouTube Channel to see these.
- New publication: Evidence-Based Music Therapy for Premature Infants Edited by Jayne Standley
- AMTA Awards: The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes two individuals for their contributions to the field and association over the course of their career. Congratulations to the 2023 awardees: Edward Kahler and Barb Else.

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- 2023 awardees of the Arthur Flagler Fultz Award are Dr. Helen Shoemark Dr. Anthony Meadows and team for their winning proposal “National Outcomes Measurement for Music Therapy (NOM-MT) in Acute Healthcare Settings: Phase 1 – A Descriptive Analysis of One Year of Music Therapy Services in a Pediatric and Adult Hospital

### **2024 Highlights:**

- The Final Report of the Commission on the Education and Clinical Training of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Music Therapists released their final report. Bravo!
- AMTA 2023 Symposium was a success. The next symposium will be September 22-25, 2024. Call to papers will be released Mid-March. They will be looking for 3-credit CMTEs. Consider being a reviewer. You can get credit for being a reviewer for CMTE credit for service to the organization. Consider submitting a paper or volunteering to review.
- AMTA-U launched in 2022: [AMTA-U.thinkific.com](http://AMTA-U.thinkific.com). Access to AMTA e-courses, the final commission report, and the AMTA Symposium are all available through this website rather than the AMTA website.
- AMTA has changed the way they are recruiting leadership. It is not about who you know; it is about if you have a desire and call to serve. They follow up with everyone who expresses a desire to serve the AMTA. There is currently no president elect and vice-president elect which are very important positions. Please contact the AMTA if you have a desire to serve.

### **Financial Updates**

January – December 2022

Income: \$912,679.11

Expenses: \$1,356,647.25

Net Income: -\$443,968.14

January – December 2023

Income: \$857,158.47

Expenses: \$713,901.93

Net Income: \$143,283.54

Growth in Net Income of 132%

2022 Audit Approved by the Board of Directors on 2/15/24

2023 AMTA 990 & Audit, followed by regions coming soon

### **Membership FAQs**

- New Tiered Dues Structure for Professionals available on the AMTA page
- Installment plan available at all tier levels
- Lower rates for students, grad students, and retired members
- Consider joining or re-joining AMTA!

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Stay informed about the AMTA through Facebook, Instagram, Threads, X, Email, [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)

Thank you for all you do for your clients and for the profession! Thank you for your interest and dedication in the American Music Therapy Association.

### **8. Music Therapy in Rhode Island**

Nicole O'Malley provided background about the progression of music therapy in Rhode Island over the past 20 years. Nicole started with one client in 2003, growing to 3 clients in 2024, 85 in 2008, and 4681 clients in 2021. Rhode Island music therapy licensure passed in 2014. Music therapists in Rhode Island are now recognized as level II providers, licensed through the Rhode Island Department of Health (and collaborate with RIDOH for arts-based initiatives), and provide music therapy to major hospitals in Rhode Island. In Newport, music therapists provide services in local schools, have a grant for substance exposed newborns, and are supporting a developing program at Newport Hospital. Music therapists in Rhode Island continue to advocate and advance the field of music therapy for the benefit of clients throughout the state.

### **9. NER-AMTAS/SAAB Update**

NER-AMTAS Alayah Tedder gave a yearly overview of what the student board has done. Passages was held on October 28, 2023 with the theme of "Roses, Buds, and Thorns." They had about 40 registrants and 10 keynote presentations.

The Spring Event 2024 was held a few weeks ago at Westfield State University. The theme was the butterfly effect and how we each have an impact on each other in music therapy. Twenty-four people registered for this event.

Reminder to student conference attendees that they are having student board meeting tonight at 5:30 p.m. There are many open board positions. Please consider running for a board position!

### **10. Student Scholarships**

Brian Jantz presented the Berklee College of Music student scholarships:

Returning Student Award: **Alayah Tedder**

Graduating Student Award: **Parvathy Menon**

Caryl Beth Thomas presented the Lesley University student scholarships:

Returning Student Award: **Trey Legall**

Graduating Student Award: **Yin-Jung Chen**

Dr. Heather Wagner presented the Southern Connecticut State University student scholarship:

Returning Student Award: **Alexis Sorrell**

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Dr. Tim Honig presented the Westfield State University student scholarships:

Returning Student Award: **Alianna LeClair**

Graduating Student Award: **Tessa Cacioppo**

Nicole O'Malley presented the University of Rhode Island student scholarships:

Returning Student Award: **Andrea Sims**

Graduating Student Award: **Katelyn Belyea**

### **11. NER Service and Impact Awards**

Wendy presented the 2024 NER Presidential Awards.

NER Service Award: **Nancy Skaliotis-Perkins**

NER Impact Award: **Karen Wacks**

### **12. In Memoriam**

Wendy opened the meeting for attendees to share the names of those we have lost who are in our hearts followed by a moment of silence and tone chimes.

### **13. Good and Welfare**

The State of Connecticut has achieved licensure as of 2023. Acknowledging the Connecticut legislature and the public health committee who helped to make this happen.

Attendees shared news about new employment positions, internships, and a general excitement to be at the conference.

The Association for Music and Imagery (AMI) conference will be in Connecticut in 2025.

There will be a Level 1 GIM training at Southern Connecticut State University in May 2024. Costs are still being finalized. Contact Heather Wagner for more information.

This year the conference code of conduct has been expanded. There is also a conference phone number that attendees can call or text to get direct contact with either Wendy or Shannon. There are also licensed mental health counselors who are available this weekend. Please see the conference program for access to all of these contacts.

### **14. Adjournment**

Wendy adjourned the meeting at 9:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cecilia Burns, MMT, MT-BC  
Secretary, NER-AMTA