

**Midwest Regional Music Therapy  
Conference  
April 10-12, 2026**



**MIWR**

Midwestern Region of the AMTA

**THANK YOU TO OUR PLATINUM SPONSOR!**



**MARYVILLE**  
UNIVERSITY

**Master of Music Therapy**  
**100% Virtual**

**Dual enrollment options available with the online  
Master of Health Administration Program**

For more information:

Crystal Weaver, EdD, MHA, LPC, CRC, MT-BC  
Director of Music Therapy  
cweaver@maryville.edu  
314-529-9441

*Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music and approved by the American Music Therapy Association*

## **Midwestern Region Executive Committee**

President

Past President

President Elect

Vice President

Vice President Elect

Secretary

Treasurer

Archivist

SAAB Advisor

Online Media Coordinator

Social Media Coordinator

Kirsten Nelson, MA, MT-BC

Felicia Magaña Voorhees, MA, MT-BC

Morgan Henderson, MEd, MT-BC

Naomi Davis, MA, MT-BC

Becca Kurtz, MT-BC

Sydney Winders, MA, MT-BC

Katey Kooi, MT-BC

Lindsey Wilhelm, PhD, MT-BC

Amy Robertson, PhD, MT-BC

Andrew Knight, PhD, MT-BC

Anna Mitchell, MT-BC

## **2026-2027 Assembly Delegates & Alternate Delegates**

### **Delegates:**

Felicia Magaña Voorhees, MA, MT-BC

Kirsten Nelson, MA, MT-BC

Morgan Henderson, MEd, MT-BC

Kyle Fleming, MA, MT-BC

Adam Summers, MA, MT-BC

### **Alternates:**

Naomi Davis, MA, MT-BC

Ellyn Donahue, MA, MT-BC

Ryan Smith, MM, MT-BC

Angela Meier, MM, MT-BC

Rachael Willeke, MT-BC

Xavier Fleming, MA, MT-BC

Jess Rushing, PhD, MT-BC

## **Representatives to National Committees**

### **Association Services**

Clinical Practice Networking:

Interprofessional Collaborative Resources:

International Relations:

Membership:

Professional Advocacy:

Workforce Development & Retention:

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access, & Justice: Vacant

### **Professional Practices**

Governments Relations:

Reimbursement:

Research:

Standards of Clinical Practice:

Technology:

Judicial Review Board:

### **Education and Clinical Training**

Academic Program Approval:

Continuing Education:

Association Internship Approval:

### **Council Coordinator-Vacant**

Vacant

Faith Halverson-Ramos, MA, LPC-S, ADDC, MT-BC

Soo-Jin Kwoun, PhD, MT-BC

Elizabeth O'Dell, MMT, MT-BC

Annie Roberson, MT-BC

Rachael Willeke, MT-BC

Vacant

### **Megan McCausland, Council Coordinator**

Ariel Kraus, MMT, MT-BC

Anastasia Canfield, MM, MA, MT-BC

Cynthia Colwell, PhD, MT-BC, LPC, NCC

Stephanie Johnson, NMT, MT-BC

Vacant

Hae Sun Kim, PhD., MT-BC

### **Becky Engen, Council Coordinator**

Crystal Weaver, MHA, LPC, CRC, MT-BC

Kailey Campbell, MA, MT-BC

Beth Mosko, MM, MT-BC

## **Student Executive Board**

President

President-Elect

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Parliamentarian

Mia Sparks

Nettie Benjamin

Hadley Jarvis

Sean Morlock

Quinn Corp

Kayden Sinn

## Continuing Music Therapy Education

To facilitate your CBMT reporting process, each presenter will have a 2-digit code near the beginning of their presentation, and a separate 2-digit code later in their presentation. Write down the numbers to verify you attended the session (this substitutes getting the presenter's signature). You can use the following worksheet to easily keep track:

PRESENTATION NAME & PRESENTERS	CODE #1	CODE #2
Applying a Sensory Lens to Music Therapy Sessions to Support Emotional Regulation-Rajahna Wanick, Cassie Lewis		
Music Performance Anxiety: Barrier to Clinical Practice-Anastasia Canfield		
Promoting Big Developmental Gains for Little Learners through an Interdisciplinary Approach-Cindy Kraus, Joan Delahunt		
Songwriting/composition as a tool within music therapy-Sonia Dominguez, Anastasia Canfield		
Professional Advocacy for the Music Therapist 101- Annie Roberson		
Into the Simulation Lab: Exploring Clinical Learning in a Safe Space-SooJin Kwoun		
Motivating Factors in Choosing a Graduate Program Outside of Music Therapy-Mariah Skelly		
Eldercare Grab Bag: Up-to-Date Experiences for Older Adults-Rachelle Morgan		
Explaining Music Therapy: Clear, Confident, and Evidence-Based-Leah Quiller, Daniel Morris		
Safety, Connection, and Health Promotion Through Group Drumming-Jess Rushing		
Preferred Music: What Do We Know and Why Do We Use It?-Kyle Wilhelm		
Communicating with Stakeholders for Better Outcomes-Debra Brockington, Amber Cook		
Multisensory and Vibrotactile Strategies Informed by Expert Interviews-Federico Rincón		
Ten Levels of Traumatic Brain Injury and Corresponding Music Therapy Treatment-Annemarie Englehard		
Empowering Children and Adolescents with Hearing Loss Through Music: Interdisciplinary Strategies for Clinicians and Families-Hae Sun Kim, Eun Kyung Julie Jeon		
A Meaning-Centered Lens for Music Therapy: A Theoretical Look at Applying Logotherapy to Music Therapy Practice-Barbara Ashton		
Considering the Role of Music in Music Therapy Assessment-Blythe LaGasse		

# THANK YOU TO OUR SILVER SPONSOR!



Moved by Music, LLC is a **family-run company** that has been providing **one-to-one, in home and tele-health services** to people across the lifespan, diagnoses, and abilities in **Denver, Fort Collins, Colorado Springs, and Western Slope** communities since 2006.

We offer **group setting services** in several schools, skilled nursing facilities, day habitation centers, and various ABA centers and other clinics. Using well researched techniques, and evidenced-based practiced, **we strive to make a difference in all the lives we touch.**

## Join our team of skilled Music Therapists - Job opening in Denver

### Requirements

- Degree in Music Therapy
- Current MT-BC credential (or eligible to sit for the exam)
- Reliable personal transportation

Email us  
your resume  
to apply!

### Benefits

- Monthly Health Stipend
- IRA contributions
- Mileage Reimbursements
- Paid drive time
- and More!

### Services

- Individuals
- Groups
- Memory Care
- In-home
- Schools
- and More!

[movedbymusicllc.com](http://movedbymusicllc.com)

(970) 527-9138

[admin@movedbymusicllc.org](mailto:admin@movedbymusicllc.org)



@movedbymusicllc



# **Pre-Conference CMTEs (CMTEs are NOT recorded and MUST have 5 registrants in order to run)**

**Friday, April 10 via Zoom - Pre-register ONLY!**

**7:30am-12:30pm Continuing Music Therapy Education Session (5 CMTEs)**

## **Session A – Ethical Decision-Making and Reasoning in Music Therapy**

Anastasia Canfield, DHSc, LPC, NCC, MT-BC, RPT, ASDCS

Music therapists are faced with ethical dilemmas in workplaces, advocacy, education, and more. Consultation and collaboration are key. This CMTE explores the Music Therapy Code of Ethics, the recommended Music Therapy Ethical Decision-Making Model, group discussion about ethical dilemmas, and opportunities for practicing the process of making ethical decisions.

## **Session B – Compassion without Fatigue: Mindfulness, Boundaries, and the Practice of Empathy**

Andrea Dalton, MA, MT-BC, CLC

Does your work entail significant or ongoing stress? Have you found yourself feeling completely exhausted or traumatized by another's pain? This interactive, best practice training will explore a variety of protective tools and activities including mindfulness, intrapersonal boundaries, and the practice of compassionate empathy to support personal and professional wellbeing.

**2:30 - 5:30pm Continuing Music Therapy Education Session (3 CMTEs)**

## **Session D - Creative Accessibility: Designing Inclusive Programs for ASD/IDD Across the Lifespan**

Bonnie Houpt, MT-BC and Anastasia Canfield, DHSc, LPC, NCC, MT-BC, RPT, ASDCS

This training includes strategies, examples, and resources on how to make music therapy services more accessible for neurodivergent and disabled communities of various ages, focusing on physical and financial adaptations and community connection. It is led by two music therapists who have been incorporating accessibility approaches into their private practices.

## **Session E - The Role of Spirituality in Wellness and Music Therapy Practice**

Andrea Dalton, MA, MT-BC, CLC

Spirituality is a dimension of wellness which music therapists may be reluctant to address, due to personal beliefs, concern for offending clients, or scope of practice issues. This presentation will offer ideas on assessment and treatment planning for spiritual needs, as well as opportunities for identifying scope of practice concerns.

## **Session F - Put Your Kettle to the Mettle: Guitar Melody and Accompaniment, 3 Carols**

Robert Groene, PhD, MT-BC

This guitar workshop explores 3 types of guitar playing, including harmony and melody simultaneously. The songs (in the public domain) include Deck the Halls, Angels We Have Heard on High, and Adestes Fideles (Oh Come All Ye Faithful). "Bring" a guitar, pick, capo and tuner. "Tabs" and YouTube access after.

**THANK YOU TO OUR BRONZE SPONSOR!**



**The Iowa Chapter of Music Therapy** is a dedicated group of music therapists who seek to enhance individuals' everyday lives through live music and positive interaction. Our mission is to further the advancement of training and educating music therapists in and around the state, and to provide a forum for networking.

President

Elizabeth Ouverson, MT-BC

Vice President/Secretary

Barbara Ashton, MM, MT-BC

Membership/Historian/Treasurer

Rhonda Miller, MT-BC

Web/Social Media Coordinator

Adam Summers, MT-BC

Empowerment Workshop Coordinator

Maddi Smith, MT-BC

Email: [iowachapterofmusictherapy@gmail.com](mailto:iowachapterofmusictherapy@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.musictherapyiowa.org/>

# THANK YOU TO OUR BRONZE SPONSOR!



## **CMTEs for MTs**

CMTEs for MTs is a continuing education hub and marketplace designed specifically for music therapists. We offer accessible, high-quality learning opportunities that help professionals enhance their skills, earn CMTE credits, and stay current with the latest therapeutic practices.

 **CMTEs for MTs**

**HONORING YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH MUSIC: A CREATIVE WORKSHOP**



Ami Kunimura  
Ph.D., MT-BC

**4 CMTE CREDITS**

 **CMTEs for MTs**

**STEPHANIE LEAVELL'S EARLY CHILDHOOD MASTERCLASS**



Stephanie Leavell  
MT-BC

**7 CMTE CREDITS**

 **CMTEs for MTs**

**MAKE IT MULTISENSORY! COMBINING MUSIC, MOVEMENT, & VISUALS TO INCREASE ENGAGEMENT & ENHANCE LEARNING**



Marie Miller  
MT-BC, NMT

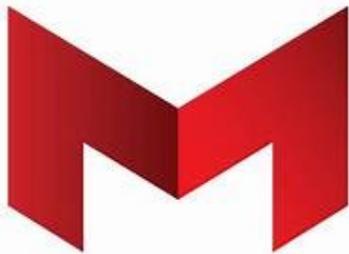
**5 CMTE CREDITS**



# THANK YOU TO OUR SATELLITE SITES!



**COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**



**MARYVILLE  
UNIVERSITY**



# **Saturday, April 11, 2026**

## **Student Passages Conference**

**The YOU in Music Therapy: Don't Skip Your Warm-Up** \*Pre-register\*

<https://forms.gle/K369HH9zskVJoHoH7>

**8:00-8:10 Welcome/Breakout Session #1**

**8:15-8:50 Student Presentations**

**9:00-9:10 Breakout Session #2**

**9:15-10:05 Keynote Presentation**

**10:10-10:25 Breakout Session #3**

**10:35-11:10 Internship Panel**

**11:15-11:55 Job Panel**

## **Concurrent Sessions (on Crowdcast)**

### **8:15-9:15 Concurrent Session #1**

#### **Explaining Music Therapy: Clear, Confident, and Evidence-Based**

Leah Quiller, MM, MT-BC and Daniel Morris, MM, MT-BC

Effective communication about music therapy is essential for strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration, supporting informed decision-making, and advocating for the profession. This presentation introduces a structured approach to communicating music therapy services using the Rehabilitation Treatment Specification System (RTSS). By the end of the session, participants will be equipped with tools to articulate music therapy services using the RTSS as a framework, providing greater precision, confidence, and consistency, ultimately enhancing understanding and support for the profession.

#### **Musical Performance Anxiety, Barrier to Clinical Practice**

Anastasia Canfield, DHSc, LPC, NCC, MT-BC, RPT, ASDCS

Music Performance Anxiety (MPA) is an occupational hazard. Musicians often score higher on anxiety measures than the general population which predisposes MTs to decreased mental health and poses risk for compassion fatigue and burnout. It can lead to questionable ethical decision-making and musculoskeletal injury. MPA can be experienced by students and professionals.

### **9:45-10:45 Concurrent Session #2**

#### **Promoting Big Developmental Gains for Little Learners through an Interdisciplinary Approach**

Cindy Kraus, MT-BC and Joan Delahunt, OTD, MS, OTR/L

Join us in exploring collaborative promotion of developmental skills essential for establishing connection with young children exposed to trauma using a small group-based music and movement format led by a music therapist and occupational therapist.

## 11:00 - 12:00 Concurrent Session #3

### Applying a Sensory Lens to Music Therapy Sessions to Support Emotional Regulation

Rajahna Wanick, MM, MT-BC, NMT and Cassie Lewis, MT-BC

Emotional regulation is an essential skill for individuals to better function in their daily lives, however applications to address sensory needs are often overlooked when working in clinical and in-home settings. Approaching music therapy sessions with a sensory lens is pivotal in supporting individual growth and development

### Considering the Role of Music in Music Therapy Assessment

Blythe LaGasse, PhD, MT-BC

This session explores research on music in development and its implications for music therapy assessment. Participants will learn strategies to integrate music into the assessment processes, using evidence and case examples to identify client strengths, guide objectives, and support client-centered treatment planning.

## 12:00-1:30 LUNCH BREAK

**GET NEW IDEAS AND STRATEGIES**  
200+ online CMTEs to choose from

THE SPIEGEL ACADEMY  
MUSIC THERAPY CONTINUING EDUCATION

**CMTE CLUB**

Join the club for all access, or purchase classes individually

**FREE ethics class with any purchase**

code "MTConference"  
(Ends May 15th)

**SPECIALTY OPPORTUNITY:**  
DBT Informed Music Therapy Training Program  
100 CMTEs

**TheSpiegelAcademy.com**

## **1:30-2:30 Concurrent Session #4**

### **Eldercare Grab Bag: Up-to-Date Experiences for Older Adults**

Rachelle Morgan, MA, MT-BC

Did you know members of the Boomer generation started entering their 80s this year? Let's freshen up our toolboxes with musical experiences using songs from the 1960s and beyond. You'll also walk away with a plan for continuing your repertoire development for this newest generation of older adults.

## **2:45-3:45 Concurrent Session #5**

### **Motivating Factors in Choosing a Graduate Program Outside of Music Therapy**

Mariah Skelly, MT-BC

This presentation will focus on reasons individuals choose graduate degree programs outside of music therapy, how this changes professional identity, and things to consider when choosing a graduate degree program. Discussion will focus on how this impacts the field, as well as what to consider when choosing a graduate program.

### **Safety, Connection, and Health Promotion Through Group Drumming**

Jess Rushing, PhD, MT-BC

In this session the presenter will discuss the evidence base for group drumming for health promotion, highlight new evidence from the UpBeats women's mental health drumming support group offered at Colorado State University, and lead participants in experiential learning of facilitation strategies.

## **4:00-5:00 Professional Business Meeting via Zoom**

***You must be an AMTA member to vote on any business***

**LINK**

## **4:00-5:00 Student Business Meeting via Zoom**

link

## **5:15-6:15 LIVE MUSIC MAKING - Satellite Sites only**

# MUSIC THERAPY PROGRAM

Bachelor's, Equivalency, Combined Equivalency + Master's, Master's, and Doctoral



- Dedicated music therapy faculty with extensive clinical, research, and supervision experience
- Individualized mentoring throughout the graduate program and beyond
- Support through graduate teaching assistantships, research assistantships, fellowships, and scholarships

- Individualized coursework available in-person and online from across the university
- Opportunities for scholarly and creative research, college teaching, and advanced clinical training
- Advanced training opportunities available on campus and in community settings



- Funding available for graduate research, travel, service, and community engagement projects
- Professional development, leadership programs, and college teaching certificates
- Opportunity to join the supportive Iowa community and international alumni network



**DISCOVER MORE:** [MUSIC.UIOWA.EDU/MASTER-ARTS-MUSIC-THERAPY](https://music.uiowa.edu/master-arts-music-therapy)



# **Sunday, April 12, 2026**

## **8:15-9:15 Concurrent Session #1**

### **Preferred Music: What Do We Know and Why Do We Use It?**

Kyle Wilhelm, MA, MT-BC

Music therapists are taught to use preferred music with clients. However, what do we really know about the effect of preferred music? This presentation will explore research in this area and what I learned about music preferences from the pilot testing of a music preference questionnaire.

## **9:45-10:45 Concurrent Session #2**

### **Communicating with Stakeholders for Better Outcomes**

Debra Brockington, LMHC, RPT, MT-BC; Amber Cook, LMFT, RPT, MT-BC

One of the more difficult tasks for beginning clinicians is communicating with the stakeholders of clients. Participants will learn about two relationship theories: Attachment Theory and Family Systems Theory then practice stakeholder conversations through role play and guided practice.

### **Songwriting/Composition as a Tool within Music Therapy**

Sonia Dominguez, MT-BC, CYT, ASDI and Anastasia Canfield, DHSc, LPC, NCC, MT-BC, RPT, ASDCS

Songwriting is a powerful tool that can be adapted for numerous goal areas and instrumentation. Music therapists may fear more preparation is required for this intervention than their capacity allows. This concurrent session explores songwriting tools that can support both the client and the therapist in accessing this important intervention.

## **11:00 - 12:00 Concurrent Session #3**

### **A Meaning-Centered Lens for Music Therapy: A Theoretical Look Applying Logotherapy to Music Therapy Practice**

Barbara Ashton, MM, MT-BC

This presentation is based on my recent article. I present my argument that music therapy is an inherently meaning-centered clinical practice. This argument is grounded in the theoretical framework of logotherapy (existentialism), developed by Viktor Frankl and refined through his experiences in the holocaust.

### **Empowering Children and Adolescents with Hearing Loss Through Music: Interdisciplinary Strategies for Clinicians and Families**

Hae Sun Kim, PhD, MT-BC and Eun Kyung Julie Jeon, PhD, AuD, CCC-A

Children with hearing loss often face challenges in music perception, leading families to question whether music can be enjoyable or meaningful. This interdisciplinary session integrates audiology and music therapy perspectives to address parent concerns, summarize current evidence on pediatric music engagement, and offer practical, developmentally supportive strategies for children using hearing aids and cochlear implants.

## **12:00-1:30 LUNCH BREAK**

# LESS ADMIN. MORE CLARITY.

practice management for music therapists



**FREE** 5 credit CMTE

**A CASE STUDY  
IN MUSIC  
THERAPY  
BUSINESS  
OPERATIONS**



scan for free CMTE

*by* music therapists *for* music therapists  
try it free for 30 days • [practiceintune.com](http://practiceintune.com)

## 1:30-2:30 Concurrent Session #4

### **Professional Advocacy for the Music Therapist 101**

Annie Roberson, MT-BC

This concurrent session will focus on common advocacy strategies, misrepresentation, and the Professional Advocacy Committee's role in supporting music therapists. Attendees will walk through misrepresentation scenarios, discuss responding to common misunderstandings about music therapy, and have opportunities to share their own advocacy struggles and successes.

### **Into the Simulation Lab: Exploring Clinical Learning in a Safe Space**

SooJin Kwoun, PhD, MT-BC, Shelby Bridgers, Sam Friend, Chloe Bonham, Alyssa Bonham, Arianna Brooks, Karen Lohrman, Sylvia Adzoh

This presentation examines a simulation-based learning experience in which music therapy students facilitate sessions with computerized mannequins programmed with changing medical conditions and real-time voice responses. Attendees will learn how these scenarios are designed and facilitated and how they enrich students' learning in engaging and clinically authentic ways.

## **2:45-3:45 Concurrent Session #5**

### **Ten Levels of Traumatic Brain Injury and Corresponding Music Therapy Treatment**

Annemarie Englehard, MT-BC, NMT

This session reviews the ten levels of traumatic brain injury using the Rancho Los Amigos Scale. Attendees will learn to identify levels, related symptoms, rehabilitation trajectory, and relevant assessments and statistics. Session explores how severity level informs clinical goals and music therapy treatment while highlighting appropriate interventions within the levels.

### **Multisensory and Vibrotactile Strategies Informed by Expert Interviews**

Federico Rincón

This session explores multisensory and vibrotactile strategies in music therapy for people with hearing loss, integrating findings from interviews with field experts. Participants will learn accessible techniques, review contemporary research, and discuss clinical applications that support music perception, communication, and engagement.

Thank you to our door prize sponsors!

AMTA

Music Therapy Joy

The Spiegel Academy

**SEE YOU NEXT YEAR IN PERSON!**