

2025 Midwestern Regional Conference



MWR

Midwestern Region of the AMTA

March 20 - 23, 2025

Iowa City, Iowa

Voxman Music Building - University of Iowa
Welcome to Iowa City!

Welcome to Iowa City for the 2025 American Music Therapy Association Midwestern Regional Conference! Known for its vibrant arts scene and warm sense of community, our city provides the perfect backdrop for this gathering of passionate professionals, students, and advocates in the field of music therapy.

We have an exciting conference planned for you! Our team has worked tirelessly to craft a conference that features engaging keynote speakers, interactive sessions, exciting events, and music therapy-informed performances. We invite you to immerse yourself fully in these experiences, connect with colleagues old and new, and explore the many ways music continues to shape our profession.

We are thrilled to host you in Iowa City, a place where creativity thrives and collaboration flourishes. Voxman Music Building, the conference venue, is conveniently located downtown near the Pedestrian (Ped) Mall, a lively and iconic space that is car-free and walkable. An array of restaurants and cafes serve global cuisines, comfort foods, and locally sourced dishes, alongside craft breweries and coffee spots. Unique boutiques and specialty stores offer everything from books and clothing to locally made goods.

At the heart of Iowa City's identity is its vibrant arts scene. As a UNESCO City of Literature, we are proud to be one of only 42 cities worldwide recognized for fostering a culture of creativity. Home to the legendary Iowa Writers' Workshop, this city has long been a cradle of literary excellence, producing world-renowned authors whose stories resonate across generations. With literary festivals, author readings, and bookshops galore, the written word is cherished here, and storytelling and songwriting are celebrated in every corner.

Music takes center stage in Iowa City's cultural life. From the historic Englert Theatre to intimate local venues, there is a place for every genre and every performer. The city hosts a myriad of music festivals—including both the beloved Mission Creek Festival and Iowa Arts Festival—blending music, literature, and performance art into unforgettable experiences. For music enthusiasts, Hancher Auditorium regularly features performances by world-class musicians and ensembles. In every sense, music pulses through our streets and connects our community.

Music therapy in the Iowa City area is vibrant, growing, innovative, and integrated into the community. The University of Iowa serves as home to robust music therapy undergraduate and graduate programs, with several alums choosing to remain in the Iowa City area after graduation. University of Iowa Health Care employs music therapists as integral services across hospitals and now offers a pediatric fellowship to bridge the gap after internship. Several hospices, habilitation programs, rehabilitation centers, mental health services, and long-term care facilities employ music therapists in the area. In addition, we have many thriving music therapy private practices and contractual businesses that serve the Iowa City area and beyond.

As a local committee, we are incredibly grateful to all the individuals who worked to make this conference a success. We would like to thank keynote presenters Rachel Burchett, Sun Joo Lee, Meghan Ross, Elizabeth Stegemoller, Rachael Willeke, and Natalie Wlodarczyk for sharing their areas of expertise, and Amy Robertson and the MWRAMTAS students for coordinating the annual Passages conference. We would like to thank the vice presidents in charge of conference Kelly Carlson and Morgan Henderson; the staff, students, and faculty of the University of Iowa School of Music for hosting; West Music for hosting the Friday night dinner reception at their fulfillment center; and all the community members who participated in the planning and facilitating of this conference. Finally, we would like to thank each of the presenters, who help to make the conference a richer experience.

If you need a snack, coffee, or other food, check out Encounter Cafe, next door to the Hilton Garden Inn. Show your MWR Conference badge and you will get 10% off of your order! <https://theencountercafe.com/>

Lastly, thank you to all our sponsors and exhibitors for supporting this conference and supporting the work of music therapists throughout the region. Without you, this conference and the profession of music therapy would not be the same. A special thank you to our platinum sponsor Maryville University and gold sponsors West Music and the University of Iowa. Thank you to our silver sponsors The Music Therapy Center of California and Oaknoll, and our bronze sponsors the Iowa Chapter of Music Therapy and Edward Jones.

Throughout your time at conference, we invite you to share knowledge, explore innovative practices, and foster meaningful connections. We hope you find a wealth of opportunities to grow both personally and professionally. Enjoy your time in Iowa City and thank you for attending this year's conference!

Abbey Dvorak – Local Co-Chair

Becca Kurtz – Local Co-Chair

Alisa Kandel – Registration

Katey Kooi – Hospitality

Kirsten Nelson – Audio/Visual Equipment & Instruments

Meghan Ross – Internship Fair and Research Poster Session

Rachel Burchett and Rachael Willeke – Entertainment/West Music Reception

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

PLATINUM



GOLD

IOWA



SILVER



Oaknoll

BRONZE



SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

IOWA

**for the use of these beautiful facilities
assistance with planning
providing technology
volunteer help
and the countless hours of planning!!**

WEST MUSIC



WESTmusic

Play now. Play for life.

**for your ongoing support and
advocacy for music therapy services**

Midwestern Region Executive Committee

President:	Felicia Magaña Voorhees, MA, MT-BC
Past President:	Kelli McKee, MA, MT-BC
President-Elect:	Kirsten Nelson, MA, MT-BC
Vice President:	Kelly Carlson, MA, LPMT, MT-BC
Vice President-Elect:	Morgan Henderson, MSEd, MT-BC
Secretary:	Kailey Campbell, MA, MT-BC
Treasurer:	Katey Kooi, MT-BC
Archivist:	Lindsey Wilhelm, PhD, MT-BC
SAAB Advisor:	Amy Robertson, PhD, MT-BC
Online Media Coordinator:	Andrew Knight, PhD, MT-BC

2024-2025 Assembly Delegates & Alternate Delegates

Delegates:

Felicia Magaña Voorhees, MA, MT-BC
Kelli McKee, MA, MT-BC
Kirsten Nelson, MA, MT-BC
Xavier Fleming, MA, MT-BC
Jess Rushing, Ph.D., MT-BC
Amanda Brigham, MM, MT-BC

Alternates:

Natalie Wlodarczyk, Ph.D., MT-BC
Adam Summers, MA, MT-BC
Lauren Beemer, MA, MT-BC
Sharla Whitsitt, MME, MT-BC
Hope Romero, MT-BC
Rachael Willeke, MT-BC

Representatives to National Committees

Governments Relations:	Ariel Kraus, MMT, MT-BC
Technology:	Vacant
Research:	Cynthia Colwell, PhD, MT-BC
Academic Program Approval:	Nicole Jacobs, MM, MT-BC Crystal Weaver, MHA,LPC, CRC,MT-BC Hayley Turner, MA, MT-BC
Continuing Education:	Beth Mosko, MM, MT-BC
Assoc. Internship Approval:	Rachael Willeke, MT-BC
Workforce Development & Retention:	Stephanie Johnson, MT-BC
Standards of Clinical Practice:	Vacant
Professional Advocacy:	Soo-Jin Kwoun, PhD, MT-BC
International Relations:	Faith Halverson-Ramos, MA, LPC, MT-BC
Interprofessional Collaborative Resources:	Elizabeth O'Dell
Membership:	Vacant
Reimbursement:	Vacant
Clinical Practice Networking:	Vacant
Judicial Review Board:	Hae Sun Kim, PhD, MT-BC
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access, and Justice:	Vacant

Student Executive Board

President:
President-Elect:
Vice President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Parliamentarian:

Hannah Rice (UMKC)
Mia Sparks (UMKC)
Grey Steuwe (USC)
Megan Westphal (CSU)
Kelsie Lemon (UMKC)
Danielle Weber (CSU)

IOWA | School of Music

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)





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, 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

Conference Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, March 20

12:00 - 5:00 Continuing Music Therapy Education Session (5 hr)

Friday, March 21

7:00-5:00 Registration Open

7:00-12:00 Continuing Music Therapy Education Session (5 hr)

8:00-12:00 Passages Conference (students)

9:00-12:00 Registration Open

12:30-2:00 Opening Session

2:30-5:15 Registration Open

2:30 - 3:20 Concurrent Sessions

3:00 - 4:00 MWR Professional Board Meeting
MWR Student Board Meeting

3:40 - 4:30 Concurrent Sessions

4:45 - 5:45 MWR Professional Business Meeting #1
MWR Student Business Meeting #1

6:00 - 8:30 Reception at West Music Fulfillment Center

Saturday, April 6

6:00-8:45 Exhibit Hall Setup

7:30-11:30 Registration Open

8:00-8:50 Concurrent Sessions

8:45-6:30 Exhibit Hall Open

9:00 - 10:30	Research Posters
9:00 - 10:30	Internship Fair
9:10-10:00	Concurrent Sessions
10:30-11:20	Concurrent Sessions
12:00 - 2:00	Awards Banquet Luncheon, Presidential Address
2:30-3:20	Concurrent Sessions
3:00-4:00	MWR Professional Board Meeting MWR Student Board Meeting
3:40-4:30	Concurrent Sessions
4:45-5:45	MWR Professional Business Meeting #2 MWR Student Business Meeting #2

Sunday, April 7

7:30-11:30	Registration Open
8:00-8:50	Concurrent Sessions
9:10-10:00	Concurrent Sessions
10:20-11:10	Concurrent Sessions
12:00-3:00	Continuing Music Therapy Education Sessions (3 hr)

Meeting Schedule at a Glance

Friday, March 21

3:00 - 4:00 pm	MWR Professional Board Meeting – VOX 3357
3:00 - 4:00 pm	MWR Student Board Meeting – VOX 3353
4:45-5:45 pm	MWR Professional Business Meeting #1 – <i>Recital Hall</i>
4:45-5:45 pm	MWR Student Business Meeting #1 – <i>Stark</i>

Saturday, March 22

3:00 - 4:00 pm

3:00 - 4:00 pm

MWR Professional Board Meeting – VOX 3357

MWR Student Board Meeting – VOX 3353

4:45-5:45 pm

4:45-5:45 pm

MWR Professional Business Meeting #2 –*Recital Hall*

MWR Student Business Meeting #2 – *Stark*



Hear what current team members are saying:



We're Hiring!

Location: Quad Cities

Hours: Full-time

Start Date: July 2025

View the job description, qualifications and apply:



Visit us in the
Exhibit Hall

Saturday, March 22

**Just for Midwestern Region
Conference Attendees:**

Take advantage of **FREE SHIPPING**
at westmusic.com using promo code
MWRMT25FRSHIP

Valid 3/22/25-4/27/25 on orders \$49.95+ (standard exclusions apply)

musictherapy.westmusic.com



WE ARE SEARCHING FOR: **A BOARD-CERTIFIED MUSIC THERAPIST**



36,000 annually with opportunity to grow
MT-BC required



Flexibility with scheduling, diverse populations, group and one-on-one sessions, program development



Join our team of 18 to make a lasting impact on the Dubuque, Iowa community!

Apply here!



ABOUT US

Centrally Rooted is a nonprofit interactive growth space that supports the development of positive brain health in creative ways. We see an opportunity to build resilience during formative growth years to serve as inner pillars to lean on as we move through challenges of life to come.



Info@centrallyrooted.com



MINDFUL MUSICIANS

confidence • curiosity • compassion

WHY

We are looking to normalize conversations around brain health by using music to bridge the gap from adult knowledge to youth experience.

WHAT

The Mindful Musicians Subscription is \$8.99/month or \$89.99/year. You gain access to engaging lesson plans, our complete curriculum, interactive sing-alongs, tutorials, and our **monthly digital magazine**.

WHERE

Scan to find out more



THURSDAY, MARCH 20

PRE-CONFERENCE CMTE

12:00 – 5:00 pm
VOX 3357

CMTE A (5 hr)

Clinical Improvisation for Guitar: Creating musical resources for clients and clinicians.
Peter Meyer, MA, MT-BC

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Registration

7:00 am - 5:00 pm
Lobby

PRE-CONFERENCE CMTE

7:00 am – 12:00 pm
VOX 3357

CMTE C (5 hr)

Neurologic Strategies for Speech/Language for Individuals with Developmental and Neurodevelopmental Challenges
Angela Meier, MM, MT-BC and Julie Guy, MM, MT-BC

STUDENT PASSAGES CONFERENCE

8:00 – 11:35 am
Voxman Room 5

8-8:05 - Welcome - Get to know your neighbor

8:10-8:50 - Music Making Session

9-9:50 - Keynote Presentation

9:55-10:20 - Student Presentation 1

10:25-10:50 - Student Presentation 2

11:00-11:30 - Internship Panel

11:30-11:35 - Wrap-up

OPENING CEREMONY AND KEYNOTE

12:30 - 2:00 pm

Voxman Concert Hall

The Opening Ceremony includes a singing extravaganza keynote, bringing together a choir of over 100 individuals, their caregivers, and music therapy facilitators from singing groups around the region.

Facilitators include: Rachel Burchett, MT-BC, Sun Joo Lee, ABD, MT-BC; Meghan Ross, MA, MT-BC; MT-BC, Elizabeth Stegemoller, PhD, MT-BC; Rachael Willeke, MT-BC; Natalie Wlodarczyk, PhD; Abbey Dvorak, PhD, MT-BC.

For more information and to discover more about their groups, please visit the keynote website: <https://mw-amta.conference.uiowa.edu/>

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:30 PM - 3:20 PM

Plan A, Plan B, Plan OMG!

Barbara Ashton, MM, MT-BC

VOX 2

What happens when your session plan isn't working? How do you adapt when you expected to work on a given objective, but the client needs to work on something completely different? No need to say "OMG!" This session is jam-packed with ideas to help you pivot and to ensure you are equipped with tools for any age, any need, in any setting.

What We're Learning About Trauma-Informed Teaching and Supervision - VOX 5

Laura Beer, Ph.D., MT-BC, and Lindsey Wilhelm, Ph.D., MT-BC

VOX 5

This session invites educators and trainers to explore how a trauma-informed approach can enhance teaching and supervision in classroom and clinical settings. Participants will discuss strategies for understanding and responding to students' trauma-related actions, and gaining practical tools for creating supportive, compassionate learning environments.

BOARD MEETINGS

3:00 – 4:00 pm

MWR Professional Board Meeting – VOX 3357

MWR Student Board Meeting - VOX 3353

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:40 – 4:30 pm

Tuning in to Success: Expanding the Reach of a Music Therapy Practice

Misty Dais, MT-BC; Beth Huff, EdD; Katie New, EdD, LMSW, RN

VOX 2

This presentation discusses how an MT-BC approached challenges to expanding a music therapy practice in a midwestern community. The presentation explores market potential, public perception, funding, and skills needed for music therapy business growth. Recommendations include targeted marketing, strategic partnerships, and service specialization to address constraints and promote balanced growth.

Applications of Music Technology in Telehealth Settings: A Beginner's Guide

Naomi Davis, MA, MT-BC

VOX 5

Integrating music technology tools in telehealth practice can be intimidating for music therapists. This session presents available research on telehealth practices and demonstrates strategies for live music-making in telehealth settings. Participants will engage in breakout experiential sessions to explore uses of free, music technology resources.

Therapist Reflections on Implementing a Research Intervention

Deanna Hanson-Abromeit, Ph.D., MT-BC; Amy Wilson, MA, MT-BC; Jennifer Welch, MME, MT-BC

Stark

Delivery of a music-based intervention (MBI) can be a complex experience for the clinical music therapist delivering an intervention in a research study. This presentation will share perspectives, challenges and triumphs of two music therapists implementing a novel MBI for people with COPD in a telehealth format.

Business Meetings

4:45 - 5:45 pm

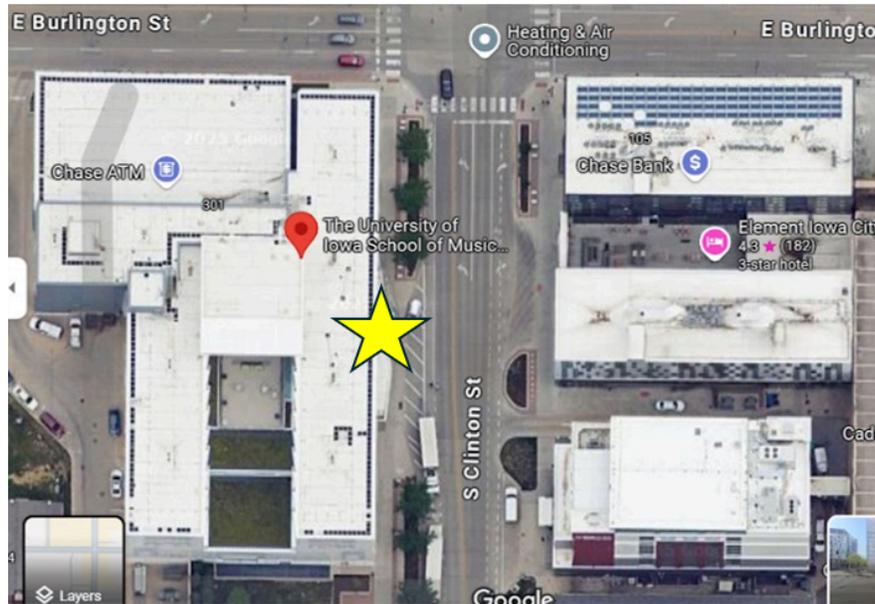
MWR Professional Business Meeting #1 - *Recital Hall*

MWR Student Business Meeting #1 - *Stark*

Reception at West Music Fulfillment Center

6:00-8:30 pm (Dinner served at 7:00 pm)
401 Westcor Drive, Coralville, IA 52241

Shuttles will provide transportation between Voxman School of Music and West Music Fulfillment Center. Shuttles will pick up/drop off outside Voxman on Clinton Street - see Yellow Star on map below. Shuttles will run from 5:30 pm - 8:45 pm. Parking is limited at West Music, so please plan accordingly!



JOIN THE
MWRAMTAS
EXECUTIVE
BOARD!

**Attend our business
meetings to learn how you
can get involved!**



MIDWEST REGION
AMTAS

KU SCHOOL
OF MUSIC

The University of Kansas

GRADUATE STUDIES IN MUSIC THERAPY

Degrees offered at the baccalaureate,
masters, and PhD levels.

Graduate Teaching Assistants
starting 2024-2025 or 2025-2026.



GRADUATE STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- Interface with faculty who have diverse clinical and research specializations
- Team teach with faculty mentors across the undergraduate curriculum
- Participate in collaborative research projects, presentations, and publications with faculty
- Engage in diverse supervision opportunities within varied clinical settings and levels of student development.
- Take graduate level courses designed for advanced practice, supervision, theory development, intervention research, philosophical orientations, and diverse special topics.



CONTACT US:

785-864-3436



Lawrence, Kansas



music.ku.edu



Saturday, March 22

Exhibit Hall Setup

6:00 - 8:45 am

2nd-Floor hallway

Registration

7:30 - 12:00 pm

Lobby

Exhibit Hall Open

8:45 am - 6:30 pm

2nd-Floor Hallway

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8:00 - 8:50 AM

Ready, Set, Play: Music and Movement for Diverse Social Development - VOX 2

Alyssa Stone, MM, MT-BC

VOX 2

Play is the foundation of learning and development! In this interactive session, participants will explore strategies using music, movement, and play to support social skills in diverse learners. Through hands-on demonstrations, attendees will discover creative tools to promote regulation, engagement, and social growth, gaining practical techniques to enrich children's well-being.

Listen and Learn: Music Therapy for Deaf or Hard of Hearing Children

Hae Sun Kim, Ph.D., MT-BC; Maya St. Clair; Rebecca Cohen

VOX 5

This presentation aims to provide a description of a six-week summer interdisciplinary program for Deaf or Hard of Hearing (DHH) children ages 3-6, highlighting its history, structure, characteristics, and the role of music therapy. We will explore how music supports communication skills and addresses areas of need for DHH children.

Safeguarding the Past and Present: Preserving Music Therapy's History

Emily Sevcik, PhD, LCPC, MT-BC, and Lindsey Wilhelm, PhD, MT-BC

STARK

This presentation will address strategies for preserving and protecting music therapy historical artifacts and documents, ensuring that the voices of innovators remain part of our collective story. Understanding the history of clinical practice and the profession is essential for music therapists to inform and enrich their work.

Research Poster Session

9:00 – 10:30 am

PEARL WEST LOBBY

Internship Fair

9:00 - 10:30 am

PEARL WEST LOBBY

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9:10 – 10:00 am

Exploring Hope as a Foundation for Music Therapy

Amy Wilson, MA, MT-BC

STARK

Hope is a psychological strength. The Hope Fostering Model of Music Therapy is in the conceptualization phase based on extant theories of hope informed by clinical practice. This theoretical model proposes an outline for the integration of music elements and the therapeutic relationship to foster hope in adult medical populations.

Caring Cadences: Community Engagement through Music Therapy Informed Performances

Meghan Ross, MA, MT-BC; Luis Enrique Infante Hernandez; Kylie Little; Renee Santos; Christina Leigh Stephenson; Kirsten Nelson, MA, MT-BC; Beth Oakes; Abbey Dvorak, PhD, MT-BC

VOX 5

Music therapists collaborate with musicians and stakeholders to support community engagement in music experiences. In music therapy-informed programming, participants experience classically performed music in a welcoming and engaging way for all ages, including those living with dementia and their caregivers. We explore planning, facilitating, evaluating, and funding these collaborative projects.

Evaluating Music Therapy Business Success: An Examination of Resources and Education

Sydney Winders, MA, MT-BC

VOX 2

This presentation evaluates how music therapy education prepares professionals for business ownership. A survey of U.S. music therapy business owners examined their preparedness for private practice, highlighting significant gaps in education. Discussion will address implications for private practice and strategies to better support therapists in diverse settings

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:30 - 11:20 am

From the Inside: Understanding Autism and Supporting Autistic People

Amy Adams, MM, MT-BC

VOX 2

Music therapists often work with autistic clients but may not fully understand autistic experiences. Join an autistic music therapist as she shares a deep dive into what autism is, how she experiences the world, and how you can support autistic people in a world that was not built for them.

Hearing Preservation Principles and Practices for Music Therapists: Risks and Preservation Strategies

Hae Sun Kim, Ph.D., MT-BC; Kate Gfeller, Ph.D.

STARK

This presentation describes the risk of noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) common among musicians, including music therapists. It will include a discussion of environmental and musical sounds that can cause NIHL, strategies music therapists can use to prevent NIHL, and resources to help them sustain healthy hearing for life.

Burnout: Successful Strategies From a Seasoned Clinician

Maggie Rodgers, MT-BC

VOX 5

“Burned out” is a term that is heard often from people in jobs, and especially healthcare careers. Listen to strategies this hospice music therapist has used over a long career to avoid feeling and being this.

LUNCHEON AT HILTON GARDEN INN

12:00 – 2:00 pm

Main Ballroom

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:30 – 3:20 pm

Music Therapy and Military Populations: Exploring the VA Health Care System

Alisa Kandel, MT-BC; Matthew Lloyd, MT-BC; Bailey Condon, MT-BC

VOX 2

Ever wonder what's happening in the VA? This presentation will explore the background, research, facilitation, and evaluation of music therapy with military populations. Three VA music therapists will share their experiences and programming in the VA health care system. Participants will engage in meaningful music experiences and lively discussion.

From Chaos to Harmony: How Music Therapy Supports Addiction Recovery

Lindy Welch, MT-BC

VOX 5

This presentation explores the therapeutic use of music in addiction recovery, highlighting its impact on emotional regulation, stress reduction, and relapse prevention. It covers key music therapy techniques, the neuroscience behind music's effect on the brain, and evidence supporting its integration into holistic addiction treatment programs.

Invitation for Educators: Bridging the Gap between Education and Clinical Practice

Kelsey Nelson, MM, MT-BC; Stephanie Johnson, MT-BC; Maggie Brown, MT-BC

STARK

Designed for a primary audience of educators in order to contribute toward the process of bridging the gap between education, clinical practice, and research. Emerging trends within areas of clinical decision-making, clinical musicianship, and perceived value in the profession will be discussed.

Board Meetings

2:30 - 3:30 pm

MWR Professional Board Meeting – VOX 3357

MWR Student Board Meeting - VOX 3353

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:40 – 4:30 pm

Group music-based intervention for parents and infants to support pre-linguistic language acquisition for infants living in under-resourced environments.

Deanna Hanson-Abromeit, Ph.D., MT-BC; Amy Smith, Ph.D., MT-BC; Brenda Salley, Ph.D.

STARK

Infant Pre-Linguistic Singing (IPLS) is a music-based intervention designed to sequentially mimic optimal pre-linguistic language skills (joint attention, gestures, and vocalizations) and provide parent-infant dyads playful ways to engage in high quality early language experiences. We will share the development of IPLS and preliminary outcomes of our current feasibility studies.

I Can't Hear You! Improving Clear Speech and Music Accessibility in Sessions

Lindsey Wilhelm, Ph.D., MT-BC

VOX 2

Music therapists working with older adults often encounter clients with hearing loss. In this session, participants will practice strategies for producing 'clear speech' and explore clinical techniques to enhance the accessibility of auditory stimuli in music therapy, improving communication and session effectiveness.

Music Therapy to Promote Empowerment with Women in Addiction Recovery

Natalie Wlodarczyk, Ph.D., MT-BC

VOX 5

This experiential presentation will share music therapy interventions to promote empowerment using a gender-responsive approach for women with addictions. Participants will see examples of songwriting, drumming, and improvisation interventions that encourage self-expression, validation, and a sense of belonging designed to foster empowerment in recovery.

Business Meetings

4:45 – 5:45 pm

MWR Professional Business Meeting #2 – *RECITAL HALL*

MWR Student Business Meeting #2 - *STARK*



**Advocation, education and
celebration of
Iowa Music Therapists**



**Elevate Your
Music Therapy
Practice!**

*CBMT-approved CMTes
– flexible, convenient,
and content-rich!*

50% off 
any ethics class
with the code
“MTConference”
(Ends May 15th)

Provider
P-106

Learn new ideas and strategies.
TheSpiegelAcademy.com

edwardjones.com/findyourrich | Member SIPC



**Let's
find
your
rich**

Edward Jones

What does it mean to be rich?
Is it being your own boss? Having more stories to share, or time to give? We'd like to hear what makes your life feel rich – and help you get there. Count on us for financial strategies that help support a life you love.



Liz Nowak
Financial Advisor
6720 W 121st St
Suite 104
Overland Park, KS 66209
913-217-7338

CAT-16762-A-A1-AD © 2025 EDWARD D. JONES CO. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. AECSPAD 24630218

Sunday, March 23

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8:00 – 8:50 am

“Something Changed in the Room” a Short Film about Music Therapy

Hilary Camino, MS, MT-BC

VOX 5

View and discuss the award winning short film, “Something Changed in the Room” about a music therapy program in a senior living community in Jackson, WY. How can the art of film elevate how music therapists advocate for the profession and create more opportunities for music therapists?

Fostering Sanctuary in Music Therapy Practice and Clinical Supervision

Kailey Campbell, MA, MT-BC, MAADC II

STARK

The purpose of this presentation is to introduce participants to the Sanctuary Model of trauma-informed care and its accompanying tools and frameworks. Drawn from research literature and presenter experiences, implications for music therapy practice, therapeutic relationships, and supervisory relationships will be explored in lecture and group discussion formats.

Defying Gravity: Student Supervision Supporting Growth from Classroom to Clinical Spaces

Kirsten Nelson, MA, MT-BC, and Katey Kooi, MT-BC

VOX 2

Music therapy students experience monumental changes as they move from the classroom to the clinical setting. We will explore supervision strategies to support student success in both practicum and in internship. Developmental models will be reviewed and current trends from both the academic and the clinical perspectives will be explored.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9:10-10:00 am

Supervising Undergraduate Students in Emotionally Chaotic Times

Barbara Ashton, MM, MT-BC

STARK

We will discuss the implications of supervising clinical students during challenging times. The ethical dangers of emotionally ill-prepared music therapists are multiple, so it is key to teach grounding and reflexivity skills. We will discuss and practice various strategies so you can begin using them immediately with your supervisees!

Making A Difference While Documenting to Decline: Data Tracking in Hospice

Laura Fehr, MT-BC

VOX 2

How do you know if you are making a difference when working with hospice patients? The purpose of this presentation is to offer music therapists measurable ways to document in and across sessions that can be applied immediately with hospice patients.

Non-compliance, communication, or autonomy? Strategies for empowering multiple client populations.

Annie Roberson, MT-BC, and Madison Robinson, MT-BC

VOX 5

Is your client non-compliant, communicating, or expressing autonomy? How can you tell the difference? Explore why non-compliant behaviors may be occurring, practice strategies to empower clients with trauma, behavioral or personality diagnoses, and Intellectual and Developmental Disability diagnoses, and discover why it can be good for clients to say "No."

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:20 – 11:10 am

Hospice Songs and Stories, Part Two

Maggie Rodgers, MT-BC

STARK

Music therapists working in hospice do not just sing hymns. Come and hear more songs used in hospice and the stories they have inspired. Persons approaching the end of life are more likely to discuss their feelings through their favorite popular songs. Sometimes the lyrics do the talking.

Practical Application of Music Interventions in Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills Training

Lindsey Landeck, MT-BC; Abbey Dvorak, PhD, MT-BC

VOX 2

Music therapy interventions can affect four areas of mental health: mindfulness, distress tolerance, emotion regulation, and interpersonal effectiveness. Participants will explore current research evidence to support clinical practice and engage in music experientials for each of these four areas of focus within dialectical behavior therapy skills training.

Using Electroencephalography to Evaluate Mechanisms of Music Therapy in Parkinson's Disease

Ryan Smith, MM, MT-BC

VOX 5

Electroencephalography (EEG) research may provide evidence for a theoretical model that includes rhythm and music in cortical compensation for motor symptoms in persons with Parkinson's disease. Attendees learn about this model, practice interpreting EEG results in music therapy contexts, and discuss future uses of EEG research to inform clinical practice.

POST CONFERENCE CMTEs

12:00 – 3:00 pm

CMTE 3 (3 hr): Electric Guitar Workshop: Maximizing Technique and Equipment for Therapeutic Spaces

Luke Sanders, MM

VOX 5

CMTE 4 (3 hr): This is Your Brain on Music: The Neuroscience of Self-Regulation

Alyssa Stone, MM, MT-BC, CYT 500

VOX 3357

Join us at Drexel University in the Master of Arts in Music Therapy and Counseling program in Philadelphia, PA!

This 90-credit degree program will prepare you to
earn your MT-BC and be eligible for a license in
professional counseling in Pennsylvania.



Contact catadmissions@drexel.edu
for more information.



DREXEL UNIVERSITY
College of

**Nursing and
Health Professions**

RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTERS

Diving into DAWs: Music Therapy Students' Perceptions of a Virtual Collaborative Peer Songwriting and Music Video Project

Amy Robertson, University of Missouri-Kansas City & Chris Millett, The University of Louisville

The Effects of Live Lullaby Music on Intraventricular Hemorrhage in Low Birth Weight Infants on Mechanical Ventilation

Amy Robertson, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Alexis Ruffner, Alexis Ruffner, & Dana Osterling, University of Rochester Medical Center

Effects of Reminiscence-Focused Music Therapy on Intimacy Behaviors for Spousal Caregivers of Individuals with Dementia

Laura Kuper & Abbey Dvorak, University of Iowa

Experiences of Music Therapists and Applied Behavior Analysis: A Phenomenological Study

Alyssa Stone, Colorado State University

Exploring the Effects of Therapeutic Group Singing on Young Adults

Anabel Perez-Brennan, Alisa Kandel, Sun Joo Lee, & Abbey Dvorak, University of Iowa

From Readiness to Action: How Educational Approaches Affect Attitudes and Use of Hearing Protection

Hae Sun Kim, Erika Cowhey, and Kate Gfeller, University of Iowa

Hospice Music Therapists' Experiences with Musical Life Reviews and Music Therapy Legacy Projects

Lauren Camp, University of Kansas

Music, Signs and Meaning (Música, Señas y Sentido)

Federico Rincon, University of Iowa

Music Therapy in the Liminal Space of Pediatric Palliative Care

Kristen O'Grady, University of Kansas

Music Therapy for Children with Hearing Loss: Interdisciplinary Collaboration in the Communication Explorers Program

Rebecca Cohen, University of Iowa, Hae Sun Kim, & Abbey Dvorak, University of Iowa

Neuroimaging and Music Interventions in the NICU

Efthymios Papatzikis, Oslo Metropolitan University, Kyriakos Dimitropoulos, University of Macedonia & Aubrianna Gerdes, University of Kansas

Preliminary Results of Hope Outcomes from a Feasibility Investigation of the EMPOWER Singing Intervention

Amy Wilson, Deanna Hanson-Abromeit, University of Kansas, & Jiwoong Choi, University of Kansas Medical Center

RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTERS CONTINUED...

A Scoping Review of Auditory Based Interventions on Premature Infant Sleep in the NICU
Vivian Lok, University of Kansas

A Scoping Review of Music Therapy Interventions That Foster Hope
Amy Wilson, University of Kansas

Sing and Speak: A Model for an Effective Interdisciplinary Group for People with Aphasia
Bill Matney, Julie Gatts, Elizabeth Webster, Karlee Seevers, Grace Bradbury, Alyssa Marino,
University of Kansas

A Theory of Intervention Model to Define the Essential Characteristics of Music to Support Emotion Regulation Development in Early Childhood
Kimberly Sena Moore, Kailah Burbach, Bower School of Music and the Arts, Florida Gulf Coast University, & Deanna Hanson-Abromeit, School of Music, University of Kansas

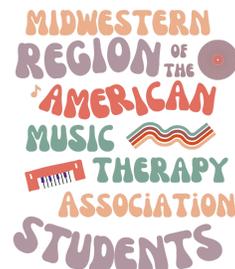
The Use of Legacy Projects with Caregivers Who Experienced the Loss of a Child
Anelise Gebard & Abbey Dvorak, University of Iowa

The Use of Music in the Treatment of Specific Phobia for Adults A Rapid Scoping Review
Lorena Surducan, University of Kansas

INTERNSHIP FAIR PRESENTERS

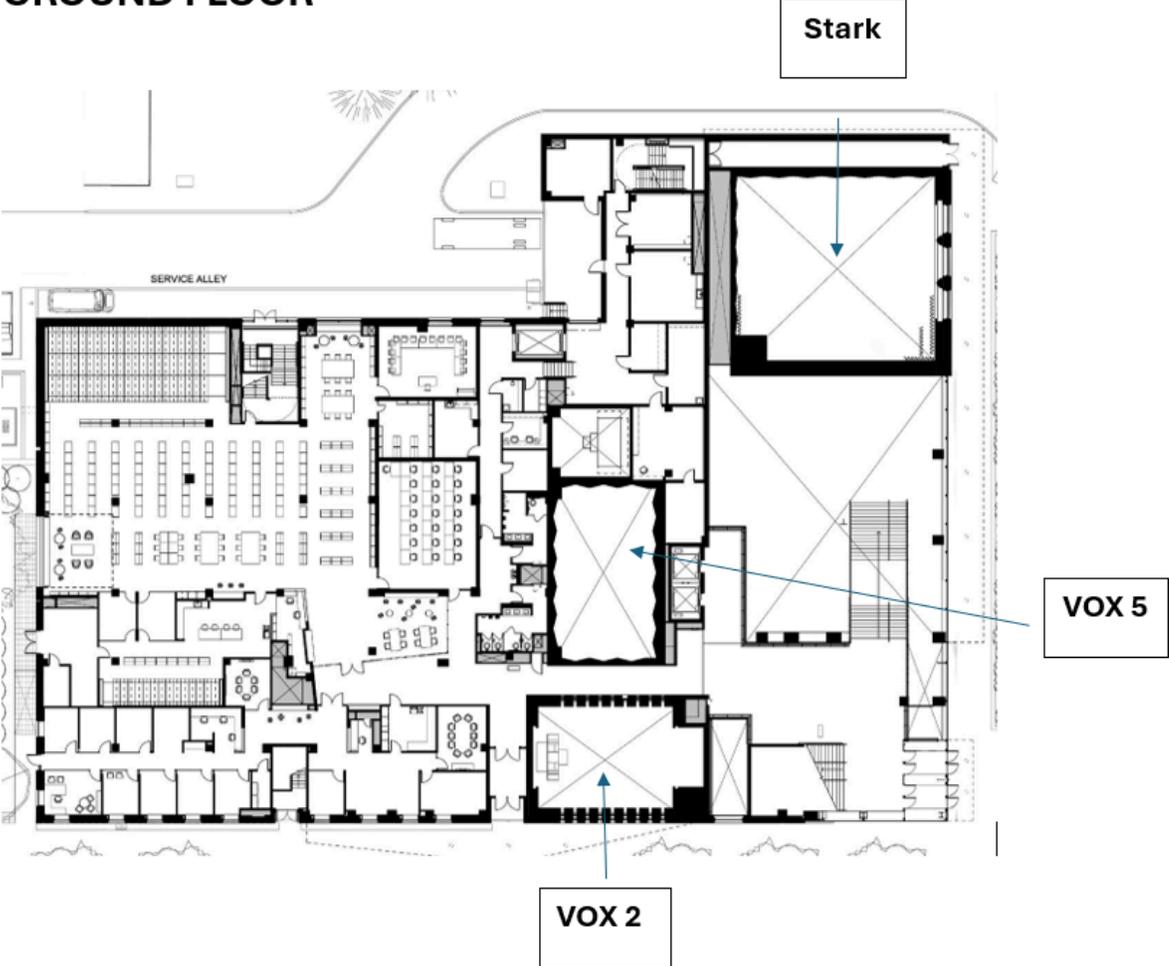
1. University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics – Iowa City, IA
2. West Music – Davenport and Coralville, IA
3. Dynamic Lynks – Oakpark, IL
4. Pathways Hospice – Fort Collins, CO
5. SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital – St. Louis, MO
6. Teton Music Therapy – Jackson, WY
7. Easter Seals Midwest Autism Services – Cape Girardeu, MO

THANK YOU TO OUR EXHIBITORS



MAPS OF VOXMAN MUSIC BUILDING

GROUND FLOOR



2nd FLOOR

