



passages 2011: **Building Bridges**

8th Annual Mid-Atlantic Region Passages Conference

Saturday, October 15, 2011

9:00am-5:00pm

Molloy College

Rockville Centre, NY

**A one-day music therapy conference for
all students & new professionals in the Mid-Atlantic Region of the
American Music Therapy Association**

Welcome from Molloy College

It is my sincere pleasure to welcome everyone to the 8th Annual MAR Passages Conference here at Molloy College. We have been looking forward to this event for the past year! Passages is a wonderful opportunity for both students and professionals. The presentations you will see here today are exciting representations of the work of our newest AMTA members, and truly a preview of the future of music therapy. The Molloy College Music Therapy Department is proud to invite you to enjoy this conference in our brand new home in the Public Square Building. Please feel free to tour our new facility and also visit our on-campus clinic, The Rebecca Center for Music Therapy.

Welcome again to a beautiful day of meeting new colleagues, seeing the work & accomplishments of your fellow students & professionals, and making music together!

*Evelyn Císario Selesky, LCAT, MT-BC
Chairperson, Music Department
Director, Undergraduate Music Therapy*

Mid-Atlantic Region Passages – LOGO

The MAR Passages Logo resembles the music symbol “natural,” and itself holds two different meanings. First, the implied circle in the middle of the symbol conveys the ideas of embrace and wholeness – one of the goals of MAR Passages is to foster an embracing environment to facilitate and support a sense of community for students and new professionals in the region, as we are here together as a whole. Second, the concept of the logo comes from a Chinese children’s game in which two people create a “seat” with their arms in order to lift up a third person. In this game, two people who face one another extend their left arms and grasp the top of this extended arm with their right hands. This creates an "L" shape. Each person then uses his or her left hand to hold onto the other person's right lower arm creating a square which can serve as a seat to hold a third person on top. This third person can, in the arms of two friends, be carried over whatever obstacle lies ahead. When looking from above, the armchair looks exactly like our logo. As we are here altogether today, we share and learn from each other. We all hold out our arms and make this giant seat together, to hold and support one another, to carry each other through this exciting transition from “studenthood” to professional life.

Schedule of Events

9:00-9:30

Registration

Complimentary (light) Breakfast

Public Square Lobby

9:30-10:30

Welcome Session

Welcome:

Jill Lucente, MS, MT-BC and **Kelsey Alvarez** – 2011 Passages Co-Coordinator

Evelyn Cisario Selesky, LCAT, MT-BC -Director of the Undergraduate Music

Therapy Program at Molloy College and Chairperson of the Music Department.

Jenny Hoi Yan Fu, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, NRMT -Co-Founder of MAR

Passages.

Keynote Presentation:

Music, Imagination, and the Aesthetics of Transition

Presenter: Brian Abrams, Ph.D., MT-BC, LPC, LCAT, Fellow of the Association for Music and Imagery.

10:45-11:45

Concurrent Session 1

Story Songs: Exploring Nordoff-Robbins Music

RM: 070

Presenter: Gabriela S. Ortiz, MT-BC

The use of working games originated with the story of “Pif-Paf-Poltrie,” during Paul Nordoff and Clive Robbins' stay at Sunfield Children’s Home. The experience of collaborative work between the children was remarkable. Bringing about immediate social meaning, stimulation, and freedom, stories like “Pif-Paf-Poltrie” and “Three Bears” help children tap into their potential for growth by bringing characters, music, and movement to life. The purpose of this presentation is to examine and explore the Nordoff-Robbins musical working games, songs, and plays through experiential and group discussion.

Music Therapy Interns' Experiences with Client Resistance

RM: 040

Presenter: Katie Guerrero, MA, MT-BC

This presentation offers insight and perspective for future interns and professionals about client resistance. An examination of the journey of researching and writing a master's thesis on four music therapy interns' experiences with client resistance will be shared. Examples of the in-depth interviews, rigorous method, and findings will be illustrated.

***Reaching Beyond Autism: Connections in the Therapeutic Relationship
Using a Humanistic, Music-Centered Approach***

RM: 050

Presenter: Kristin Sharkey, B.M., (expected M.A. September 2011)

This case study follows twenty-three sessions with a “severely” autistic six-year old boy. The presenter examines aspects of humanistic psychology and the Nordoff-Robbins approach to music therapy that contributed to establishing a positive relationship in which the client flourished.

***Training Caregivers of Those with Dementia to Musically Engage
Their Loved One***

RM: 060

Presenter: Joanna Swift, MA, MT-BC

This presentation will discuss research results examining the effects of training a caregiver to musically engage his wife who was in the late stages of dementia. The primary goal was to reduce caregiver stress and depression. Secondary goals included increasing engagement and communication between the caregiver and care recipient, and to decrease care recipient agitation.

12:00-1:00

Concurrent Session 2

Chasing Time- My Process as a New Professional Working as a Music Therapist in Hospice

RM: 070

Presenter: Michelle Lasco, MT-BC

Many issues and struggles arise when working with clients who are near the end of their lives. The recognition of impending death will have an effect on the therapist's relationship with their clients. These struggles will be discussed with the presenter's current work as a hospice music therapist.

The Journey of a Lifetime: Empowerment through Music Therapy for a Girl with Cancer

RM: 040

Presenter: Deborah Joyce D'Angelo/ Molloy College, Undergraduate Senior

The case study depicts how music therapy impacted the life of Katherine, a nine-year-old girl with pediatric cancer. It will be shown that individual music therapy sessions and a group original recording project provided an extension of Katherine's feelings and expressions. Revealed is a testament of how music therapy could benefit an individual open to the healing power of music.

The Relationships Between Therapist and Client: Based on a Case Study

RM: 050

Presenter: Hye Yeon Moon, MA, MT-BC, NRMT

Human society is composed of relationships, and we learn about ourselves throughout our lives through exploring these relationships. Building up positive relationships greatly affects and influences one's life. In therapy sessions, therapists work with clients through relationship and dynamics, and it has profound effect on the development of clients.

Alex's Journey: Finding 'Our' Voice

RM: 060

Presenter: Jessie Haviland, BS/ Molloy College, Graduate Student

This case study examines the growth of a five-year-old client, Alex, as well as my growth as a music therapist in training. By reflecting on our musical relationship, I realized we were on a parallel journey; to find our voice together-both literally and figuratively within our musical relationship.

1:00-2:15

Lunch (on your own-Molloy's Café will be open)

2:15-3:15

Concurrent Session 3

Simple Techniques to Sound Like an Advanced Guitarist

RM: 070

Presenter: Stefan Benkowski/ Music Therapy Intern

Whether you consider yourself a beginner or advanced guitarist, this workshop will improve both your guitar playing and overall musicianship. You will learn different ways to play familiar chords and strumming patterns that don't require as much dexterity and thought. By focusing less on guitar, you can focus more on what really matters: your client!

Finding Anthony: Discovering Joy and Connectivity through Music Therapy

RM: 040

Presenter: Midori Tsujimoto, MS, MT-BC, NRMT

This is a case study presentation that tells a story of Anthony and his therapists, as the therapist worked with Anthony for her Nordoff-Robbins Training. Some significant musical themes and games that allowed the relationships to grow will be highlighted during the presentation.

The Last Round Up: Reflections on an Internship in Hospice Music Therapy

RM: 050

Presenter: Corinne Marie Woolley, MT-BC

During this presentation, the presenter will speak about her personal experiences during internship. Topics will include death, musical struggles, and other aspects of the internship process through stories and music. Presenter will also address areas such as the creation of an internship project, specifically a music therapy business proposal.

Something is Going to Happen: The Dual Process of a Client and Intern's Growth in Music Therapy

RM: 060

Presenter: Heather Becvar/ Molloy College, Undergraduate Senior

This case study details the nine- month process of the parallel growth in music therapy between a client and intern. Video footage will be shown as I describe each step toward reaching my own goals, while opening my eyes to the impact I've had on the growth of a young male client with Cornelia de Lange Syndrome

3:30-4:00

Closing Session

Public Square Multipurpose Room

4:00-5:00

Student Swap Shop

Public Square Rehearsal Room

Conference Presenter Bios

Brian Abrams, Ph.D., MT-BC, LPC, LCAT, Fellow of the Association for Music and Imagery, has been a music therapist since 1995, with clinical experience involving a wide range of populations. Dr. Abrams completed undergraduate studies at Vassar College and SUNY New Paltz, and graduate studies at Temple University. Prior to his current position at Montclair State as Associate Professor of Music and Coordinator of Music Therapy, he served on the faculty at Utah State University (2001-2004) and Immaculata University (2004-2008). He has published and presented internationally on a wide range of topics such as music therapy in cancer care, music psychotherapy, and humanistic dimensions of music therapy. He has served on the editorial boards of numerous journals, such as *Music Therapy Perspectives*, the *Nordic Journal of Music Therapy*, and *Voices: A World Forum for Music Therapy*. His current interests include contributing to the development of the global, interdisciplinary area of Health Humanities. He has also recently helped create a music therapy program at Trinitas Comprehensive Cancer Center in Elizabeth, New Jersey, where he provides music therapy services on a part-time basis. From 2005 to 2011, he served on the Executive Board of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA), including as President from 2007-2009. On a national level, from 2010 to Present, he has served on the AMTA Board of Directors as an elected representative from the AMTA Assembly of Delegates.

Kelsey Alvarez, Undergraduate, Temple University, Class of 2013

Kelsey is a junior Music Therapy major at Temple University. She is the Vice President of the Music Therapy Club at Temple. She just started her fieldwork this semester with children in a behavioral health facility and is already learning so much. After she graduates, Kelsey plans on working with children and adolescents with Autism, as well as pursuing her Master's degree in Music Therapy. Kelsey has enjoyed co-coordinating Passages this year and is so grateful to Jill Lucente and everyone at Molloy for the opportunity and for all their hard work!

Heather Becvar is an intern in Molloy College's undergraduate music therapy program. She has had experience in fieldwork at The Rebecca Center for Music Therapy under the supervision of Jill Lucente, MS, MT-BC. Heather has also completed internship at Alternatives for Children, under the supervision of Elizabeth Schwartz, LCAT, MT-BC, Lee Morris, LCAT, MT-BC and Suzanne Willoughby, LCAT, MT-BC.

Stefan Benkowski is currently completing his internship at Calvary Hospital in the Bronx after 1 year as a jazz performance major at NYU and 3 years of music therapy study at Arizona State University.

John A. Carpente, PhD, MT-BC, LCAT, NRMT is an Assistant Professor of Music at Molloy College, Executive Director/Founder of the Rebecca Center for Music Therapy and Founding Director of the Center for Autism and Child Development at Molloy. He is also an instructor in the Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy Certification Program. Dr. Carpente has had over 15 years of clinical and supervisory experience and has lectured internationally and domestically.

Deborah Joyce D'Angelo is a senior at Molloy College. She completed her internship at Cancer Center for Kids at Winthrop University Hospital in May of 2011 under the supervision of Glenn Schifano, LCAT, MT-BC.

Jenny Hoi Yan Fu, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, NRMT is Co-Founder of MAR Passages. She received a Master of Arts degree in Music Therapy from New York University. She finished her Level II certification training at the Nordoff Robbins Center for Music Therapy and the advanced certification training in Vocal Psychotherapy with Dr. Diane Austin. Jenny works mainly with children with developmental delays and is currently working with children with hearing impairments at The Auditory/Oral School of New York.

Katie Guerrero, MA, MT-BC- Regeis Care Center, Bronx, NY. Ms. Guerrero, a graduate from Montclair State University has worked with premature babies, and children in a variety of settings. Currently, she is working in a nursing home.

Jessie Haviland is a graduate student at Molloy College. Jessie has been interning for a year at the Child Development Center, a therapeutic nursery school in Harlem, NY where she worked with young children of varying developmental disabilities.

Michelle Lasco, MT-BC is a music therapist with Hospice of New York working primarily with older adults the end of their lives. She also began the music therapy program at the Center for Developmental Disabilities Adult Day Program where she still works today. She graduated from Molloy College in 2009 with her Bachelors of Science in music therapy and is currently pursuing a Master's of Science degree at Molloy College.

Jill Lucente, MS, MT-BC received her M.S. from Molloy College and currently serves as the Program Coordinator for The Rebecca Center for Music Therapy. In addition she is a clinical supervisor for undergraduate students. She is also an adjunct professor of music therapy for undergraduate students at Molloy College. Jill is currently pursuing her Level I advanced certification training in Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy at Molloy College.

Hye Yeon Moon, MA, MT-BC, NRMT received her M.A. in Music Therapy from New York University. She was a music therapy intern & Certification Level I, II Trainee Therapist at the Nordoff-Robbins Center for Music Therapy in New York.

Gabriela Ortiz, MT-BC is a clinical supervisor at The Rebecca Center for Music Therapy. Currently, she is completing her Master of Science degree in Music Therapy from Molloy College, where she also serves as adjunct faculty for undergraduate students. Gabriela has also completed her Level I advanced certification training in Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy, and awaits her certification upon completion of her masters.

Evelyn Cisario Selesky, LCAT, MT-BC is the director of the Undergraduate Music Therapy Program at Molloy College and currently serves as Chairperson of the Music Department. She currently serves on the national AMTA Academic Program Approval Committee, and presents regularly on issues in music therapy education and clinical training at both national and regional music therapy conferences. Evelyn also serves on the New York State Task Force on Occupational Regulation (NYSTF), which oversees the developments and implementation of the New York State Licensure in Creative Arts Therapy.

Kristin Sharkey attended the NYU graduate program for music therapy from 2009-2011. She did her clinical internship at the Nordoff-Robbins Center where she worked with clients of various ages and diagnoses.

Joanna Swift, MA, MT-BC from Drexel University interned at the Psychiatric Medical Care Unit, Hahnemann University Hospital. She is interested in researching music therapy approaches for persons with dementia and their caregivers.

Midori Tsujimoto, MS, MT-BC, NRMT has been working as a music therapist at the Rebecca Center for Music Therapy for 3 years. She recently completed her Master's degree, as well as Nordoff-Robbins Level I advanced training.

Corinne Woolley is a 2010 graduate of Slippery Rock University where she studied music therapy and minored in psychology. After undergrad, Corinne moved to Florida to complete her internship with Big Bend Hospice in Tallahassee. Corinne is currently working in Petersburg, VA as a music therapist at Central State Hospital.