

In This Issue

WINTER 2011

[Welcome!](#)

Welcome!

Mark Ahola, LCAT, MT-BC

Matt has been helping me smoothly transition into my new editorial role for Rx Music this summer. I've been learning the ropes technology-wise, and hope this finds everyone without a hitch. Thanks Matt for your assistance and commitment to our newsletter all these past issues!

[President's Report](#)

[VP for Membership](#)

[President-Elect's Report](#)

[VP for Conference Planning](#)

[Public Relations](#)

[PR Spotlight!](#)

[Student Affairs](#)

[Treasurer's Report](#)

[2011 Conference Notes](#)

[NYSTF Update](#)



[Please consider advertising in "Tuning In to Rx Music."](#)

Deadline for the fall edition:
October 1, 2011.

Announcements

The 2012 MAR-AMTA Conference in Baltimore, MD will be here before we know it! If you have topic you've been waiting to present to your colleagues, the time to submit your session proposal has arrived! Check out the 2012 Call for Papers

President's Report

Kristen O'Grady, MA, MT-BC

Happy summer! I hope that everyone is staying cool and enjoying the sunshine. It is my great pleasure to assume the role as President of the MAR for the next two years. I hope to fulfill the mission of the region to the best of my ability. We held our transition meeting on June 10-11 and were graciously hosted by Marywood University. It was wonderful to welcome our new board members and sad to say farewell to outgoing board members. During our meeting, we developed the following goals for region which we hope to address within the next two years:

1. To explore the needs of the region's music therapy professionals in order to increase and retain membership in the MAR-AMTA.
2. To continue promoting and encouraging student membership and involvement in the MAR-AMTA.
3. To continue advocating for availability of, and support for, quality music therapy services.
4. To continue increasing our opportunities to be environmentally responsible.
5. To continue focusing on identifying opportunities to be fiscally responsible and sensitive to the financial needs of the membership.
6. To empower the MAR membership to take an active role in the regional and national organizations.
7. To continue promoting fair representation of diverse membership backgrounds and interests on regional committees, task forces and other decision-making bodies.
8. To ensure that members who have taken an active role in the organization or conference planning have the resources, support and information needed to fulfill their responsibilities.
9. To promote the MAR-AMTA as an international presence within the music therapy community.
10. To recognize interdisciplinary collaboration with music therapy and to promote further opportunities for increased partnerships.

We have an amazing board and I am really looking forward to work we will do over the next two years. If you have any suggestions, questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me at kristenmarie120@hotmail.com.



Drexel University
now offers a **Ph.D. in Creative Arts Therapies**,
in addition to our Music Therapy MA program.

Vice President For Membership's Report

Marie-Louise Gainsford, MT-BC

It's not too late to join AMTA for 2011!

If you need financial assistance to help pay your 2011 Membership dues, there are still funds available! Just fill out the assistance form that can be found at http://mar-amta.org/ops/memb_award.html.

Unfortunately, our numbers for the first quarter are down 4% from the first quarter of 2010. However, our student member numbers have increased about 20% from last year! Thank you to all of our student members who have signed up this year! Professional membership has decreased by 207 members since the end of 2010! We will be attempting to figure out how to better meet the needs of our professional members to help retain and increase our professional



membership. As a reminder, financial assistance is available to help retain the valuable resource of your MAR-AMTA membership!

As I take over the position of VP for membership, I will continue support our new members by sending out new member packets which includes a \$75 off coupon for their first MAR conference. I will also continue to develop plans to create podcasts on the MAR website for CMTE credit. I look forward to serving in this position and furthering the programs that Gene Ann Behrens started!



President-Elect's Report

Julie Parker Neal, MS, MT-BC

It is with humble appreciation that I submit this, my first report as your new President-Elect. First and foremost, I would like to thank those who support the MAR-AMTA Executive Board through your input and efforts. I am honored to be selected for this position, and look forward to forming new and exciting relationships through this process, and serving the membership as mindfully as I am able. I am encouraged by the high level of support of the new and outgoing executive boards and fellow members, and feel very strongly that serving the region is a calling and a responsibility that I take seriously.



After consulting with your new President and my predecessor, Kristen O-Grady, I have begun learning the details of some of the responsibilities of the President-Elect position. As one of those responsibilities, I am currently in the process of putting together a proposed Constitution and Bylaws Committee, who will study and suggest necessary revisions to this document. The Constitution and Bylaws document outlines the way in which our organization runs, including the responsibilities of each member of the executive board and related committees. Members are always encouraged to send any questions or comments about the Constitution and Bylaws to myself and the committee. You can find the current version of the MAR Constitution and Bylaws on the website, or by clicking on this link: http://www.mar-amta.org/pdf/MARAMTA_Constitution_&_Bylaws_2011.pdf. I can be reached directly at jneal@mcps.org.

Warm wishes for a relaxing and rejuvenating summer season. I hope to see many of you in Atlanta in November!

Vice President for Conference Planning's Report

Mike Viega, MMT, MT-BC

First, I would like to give a huge THANK YOU to **Nina Galerstein**. It was a pleasure to work with Nina who, along with the help of the best local and regional conference committees in any organization, helped organize two successful conferences, Pittsburgh, PA in 2009 and Saratoga, NY in 2010. Both conferences offered a wonderful variety of entertainment and concurrent sessions, showcased the eclectic work being done in MAR, and were financially successful. Also, a special thank you to **Melissa King** who tirelessly works as our Regional Event Planner. I am excited to report that Melissa has agreed to continue in this role for MAR and we all thrilled to have her expertise and dedication in working with the hotels and her important role in putting conference together.



MAR-AMTA CONFERENCE FOR 2012

Our next conference will take place in the Baltimore Maryland (Timonium) on March 22nd- 24th, 2012, with the Pre-Conference Institute occurring on March 21st, 2011. Our Local Conference Co-Hosts for this year's conference are **Terel Jackson** and **Molly Hicks**. A fantastic local team is being assembled to put on an exciting conference that showcases MAR's innovative practice, as well as celebrating the richness of our musical, cultural and theoretical diversities! The conference theme for this year is, *Music Therapy: Learn More, Create More, B-More!* In addition, this year, we are excited to announce that **Dr. Seung-A Kim** will be putting together a Pre-Conference Institute on Multicultural Music Therapy. More information about the Pre-Conference Institute will be forthcoming. Please check the Fall newsletter and www.mar-amta.org for more future updates.

Hotel Details

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2004 Greenspring Drive , Timonium , MD , 21093

Room Rates: \$92/night for single-double, \$99/night for triple-quad (Amazing prices, thank you **Melissa King!!**)

The Call for Papers is now available! **Deadlines For Presenter Discounts,**
(Discounts are only for concurrent sessions as CMTE presenters receive a stipend).

Deadline #1 October 14th, 2011 - \$35.00 discount off of registration fee

Deadline #2 November 4th, 2011 - \$25.00 discount off of registration fee

After November 1, 2010 - No Discount.

***** Final Cut Off Date For Proposals, November 14th, 2011 Session proposals sent after this date will not be considered.**

If you have any questions, comments, or would like to volunteer for a conference committee, please feel free to contact me at mikeviega@yahoo.com

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Public Relations

Meghan Hinman, MA, MT-BC, LCAT
Outgoing Public Relations Chair

This is my last Public Relations newsletter report, and I want to thank the region for a really enjoyable and educational two year term! I loved being part of the board, and I know that wonderful things continue to be in store for MAR.

I'm also thrilled to be passing the PR reigns on to John Carpente, who was elected by MAR members to be the new PR Chair. John A. Carpente, PhD, MT-BC, LCAT, NRMT is an Assistant Professor of Music at Molloy College, Founder and Executive Director of the Rebecca Center for Music Therapy, and is the Founding Clinical Director of the Center for Autism and Child Development at Molloy College. In addition, he is the owner of Developmental Health Services, LLC and was the Founding music therapist and creator of the DIR-based music therapy program at the Rebecca School in New York City. John has been a music therapist for 15 years, and has a great deal of experience and knowledge in combining both the clinical and business aspects of music therapy in regards to marketing, promoting and advocating MT to the (non-music therapy) public. I know that he'll do a wonderful job with MAR public relations.



My final contribution as PR Chair is a new regular feature for the newsletter. More and more over the last two years, MAR members have been taking advantage of the PR materials and electronic resources that we provide to you for free, and running exciting community or workplace presentations to tell others about music therapy. In this newsletter you'll see the first feature describing the public relations work of these MAR members, in their own words. Check out what they have to say, and if you know them personally then congratulate them on their awesome efforts for promoting music therapy in our region!

Also, if you've done a community or workplace presentation on music therapy recently, please let us know how it went by sending an email to pr@mar-amta.org so we can recognize you in the next issue of the newsletter.

Thanks again for a great two years, and best wishes for all of your public relations pursuits!

Spotlight on MAR Members' Public Relations Efforts

Meghan Hinman, MA, MT-BC, LCAT
Outgoing Public Relations Chair

Have you ever thought about doing a community or workplace presentation explaining your music therapy work? Read below about several MAR members' experiences presenting in the community and using AMTA brochures and MAR electronic PR resources. You'll be inspired to put together your own music therapy PR presentation soon!



April 2011
from Carol Ann Blank:

I had the opportunity to speak to an undergraduate early childhood music class at Rowan University. The students in the class were of music education majors, early childhood education majors, and students from other majors. I was invited by Dr. Lili Levinowitz to discuss music therapy and ways to increase the number of access points into music making for children with special needs. It was so helpful to have the MAR-AMTA powerpoint template on music therapy! I was able to quickly customize the presentation for my needs, and I didn't have to reinvent the wheel. What a great member benefit! Thanks so much!

May 2011
from Joke Bradt:

I took part (with several of our Drexel Master's students) in an employee Health Fair at GlaxosmithKline Pharmaceutical. The event was great. Many employees stopped by our table (which was set up in a separate room), learned about music therapy, and we conducted several short experientials (relaxation experiential and short drum circles). The goal of the health fair was stress management in the work environment.

June 2011
from Melinda Ann Korte:

I went to Cherry Hill High School West in Cherry Hill, NJ on June 6th. I presented to about 60 kids in their choral program over the course of two class periods on what Music Therapy is, where it's used, who it's used with, how it started, average salaries nation wide, colleges in the US that offer a program, typical classes one would take to complete the credentials and even my own personal experience in the field. At the end of the presentation I did a drum circle with them and spoke about what they're used for in the field and how certain companies such as Remo will train and hire people to lead drum circles around the country and the world. The sources that the AMTA sent were extremely useful. Kids took info pamphlets, loved the presentation, and the teachers asked me to come back the following year!

from Gabby Ritter-Cantesanu:

The Music Therapists of Maryland hosted a benefit concert, "Jam for Japan", for The Music Therapists of Japan (all proceeds went to AMTA's disaster fund). We requested and received approximately 200 pieces of PR materials (pamphlets and brochures) from MAR and used them to advertise our event and raise awareness of MT in our community leading up to and during our event. Several people stopped by our information table at Jam for Japan and took copies of every single brochure and flyer. The concert was a huge success and we raised over \$1,000 at the concert alone! We hope to continue our awareness efforts in our community using the remainder of our PR materials.

If you've done a community presentation, let us know how it went! Send an email to pr@mar-amta.org and tell us about your experience so we can feature you in the next PR Spotlight!

Student Affairs Report

Nicole Hahna, PhD, MT-BC
Susan Hadley, PhD, MT-BC

This is a time of transition for many in the MAR-AMTA leadership, both at the professional and at the student levels. As such, we have decided to write a combined report as we move into this new phase for the Student Affairs Advisor position. We hope you are all enjoying the warm weather and we want to say how great it was to see you all at the conference and to hear of all the great work you are doing.

We would like to take a moment to recognize the great work of the the outgoing MARAMTS executive board (President Stephanie Kawzenuk, Nazareth College; Vice President Kristen Vogt, Marywood University; Parliamentarian Leeann Hackett, Elizabethtown University; Secretary Katy Capestrani, Slippery Rock; Treasurer Leah Rutledge, Slippery Rock; Government Relations Elaine Vuong, Nazareth College; Past President Michelle Bonaventura, Slippery Rock) for all the dedication and hard work they put in over the last 12 months and to welcome the new executive board. Having a new executive board and a new student affairs advisor can at times feel overwhelming, but we are all working together for a smooth transition and we are confident that the great work that has been done by the students will continue in full swing this year.

The incoming executive board members are:

President: Leah Rutledge (Slippery Rock) Past President: Stephanie Kawzenuk (Nazareth College) Vice President: Kaillie Enser (Nazareth College) Parliamentarian: Eden Schutzer (SUNY Fredonia) Secretary: DeAnna Klapp (SUNY Fredonia) Treasurer: Ashley Carlisle (Shenandoah University) Government Relations: Emily Walsh SAAB Advisor: Nicole Hahna, Ph.D., MT-BC, FAMI

During the conference this year, the students again had a very successful "eMpTy Your Pockets for MTs!" canning project with the goal to donate funds to the AMTA Disaster Relief Fund for Japan. Between the money collected in the cans and from the MARAMTS Executive Board's donation of \$350, the total amount raised was \$803.50! We are so proud of the efforts of the students and professionals alike.

The MARAMTS fundraiser this year was a huge success. The students sold tote bags and at the conference alone they made over \$1,500 and also sold a dozen to the hotel gift shop for them to sell in Saratoga because they loved them so much. Along with selling the tote bags, the gift shop will provide information on AMTA, music therapy, and the MAR region and students to help advocate for our profession and organization. If you missed out at the conference, there are order forms available on the MAR website (<http://www.mar-amta.org>) for online ordering.

At the Regional Conference in Saratoga Springs, 39 students from five schools participated in a StudentService Project Thursday morning before the Opening Ceremonies began. Students were broken into groups and worked with clients at a health care center in Saratoga Springs, from pre-school aged clients up to older adults. The project was an enormous success and the students had a wonderful experience.

Students also participated in the annual "Swap Shop" which was run by our Parliamentarian, Leeann Hackett from Elizabethtown College. Each school chapter was asked to bring an experience that could be shared with all of the other students in attendance. All of the students seemed to get a lot out of this experience.

And finally, at the conference the MARAMTS Executive Board proposed to the student body that a new position of President-Elect is created, similar to the make-up of the AMTAS board and many other regional boards. After much discussion, it was voted on by the chapters of the region and was approved. Over the next year, the MARAMTS by-laws will be altered to include this position and at the 2012 MAR conference in Baltimore, Maryland, the first President-Elect of MARAMTS will be nominated and elected.

The 8th annual Mid-Atlantic Region Passages conference "Building Bridges" will be held at Molloy College on October 15, 2011. Jill Lucente (The Rebecca Center for MT) and Kelsey Alvarez (TempleU) are the coordinators for this year. Please send in presentation proposals ASAP. Forms are available on the MAR-AMTA website. Registration Forms are also available. We would love to see as many preprofessionals, new professionals, and more seasoned professionals in attendance. It is a very important passage for young music therapists to engage in the process of presenting their work to professionals and is essential for continuing the vitality of our profession.

The winners of the music therapy club awards this year were: Temple University and SUNY Fredonia. The Sophomore scholarship winners were: Kaillie Enser (Nazareth), Ashley Taylor (Slippery Rock), and Megan Neil (Slippery Rock); the Junior Scholarship winners were Maggie Robinson (Molloy) and Kristen Muldoon (Nazareth); and the Graduate Scholarship winner was Rachel Sacksteder (Immaculata). The Jenny Shinn Memorial Internship scholarship winners were Julia Steinsberger (Elizabethtown), Elaine Vuong (Nazareth), Cayla Catino (Slippery Rock) and Leeann Hackett (Elizabethtown). Check with your program director or visit www.mar-amta.org in September for scholarship and award applications. Make sure to apply! If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Nicole Hahna at Nicole.Hahna@sru.edu

Treasurer's Report

Noel Anderson, MT-BC

Welcome to the 2011-12 Fiscal Year! The board approved an operating budget of \$82,218.00 for this year (July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012). It is based on the current balances and dividends from MAR accounts, as well as projected income from the 2012 MAR Conference, Newsletter advertisements, and dues.



Our Operating Budget checking account currently has a balance of \$74,055.49. Our Conference Budget checking account is \$7,7708.30. The Vanguard Money Market account balance is \$27,109.32. The Vanguard Money Market account dividends continue to decrease.

2011 Conference Notes

Nina Galerstein, MME, MT-BC

Thank you to all the those people in Saratoga, NY who made the conference a great success: **Barb MacLean** (Conference Chair), **Mark Ahola and Maureen Abrams** (Registration), **Beth McLaughlin** and **Sheryl Manning** (AV/Instruments), **Sharon Wheeler and Rachelle Vishneowski** (Entertainment), **Christina Rullison** and **Marie Gainsford** (Student Volunteers), **Mary Claire Holliday** (Government Relations), **Marie Gainsford** (Student Service Project), **Jennifer Kilinski** and **Courtney Elder** (Exhibits/Fundraising). Also, a huge thank you to the regional conference committee folks, most of whom have been doing their jobs for many years: **Melissa King** (Regional Event Planner), **Karen Jasko** (Regional Exhibits Coordinator), **Tracy Souhrada** (Regional CMTE Coordinator), **Brigitte Sutton** (Regional Registration Chair), and **Mike Viega** (VPCP-Elect).



For those of you who attended, you will remember some of the highlights at Saratoga: the Opening Session with **Flame** (those very talented young people with physical and developmental disabilities), the **Libana** concert/dessert bar, the Closing Session with **Hearty, Hearty Love** (local music therapist Courtney Elder and colleagues). We had one Institute, 15 CMTE sessions, and 63 concurrent sessions! The conference, attended by 472 people, made approx. \$35,000.00! I feel very privileged to have been a part of this endeavor. Please welcome Michael Viega as your new Vice President For Conference Planning!

New York State Task Force on Occupational Regulation (NYSTF)

Donna Polen, LCAT, MT-BC
Information current as of 7/1/11

MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS BOARD MEETING

The New York State MHP Board held a meeting on Friday, June 3. There was a face-to-face meeting at their office in Manhattan with videoconference options available at their offices in Albany and Rochester. NYSTF Chair **Donna Polen** attended the Rochester meeting. Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties with the video feed, the meeting started late and ended early. In addition, the agenda for the meeting was very light and no substantial business was transacted nor was there any significant information shared. The next tentative meeting date for the MHP Board is Friday, September 23.

The main updates from the Office of the Professions at this time are primarily related to personnel changes. Frank Munoz, Deputy Commissioner for the Office of the Professions, retired from state service effective March 25, 2011. His replacement, voted into the position unanimously by the Board of Regents on June 21, 2011, is Doug Lentivech. Many of the NYSTF members are familiar with Doug from his participation at State Board meetings. Doug has served in the Office of the Professions since 1994. During his tenure as Assistant Counsel, he has provided legal counsel on a variety of areas impacting each of the 48 professions as well as on complex practice/professional business organization issues.

PRE-CONFERENCE CMTE AT MAR CONFERENCE IN SARATOGA

Dr. David Hamilton, Executive Secretary of the State Board for Mental Health Practitioners, presented a free, 3-credit pre-conference CMTE at the MAR conference in Saratoga on Thursday, March 31, from 8:00-11:00 a.m. The title of the CMTE was "Lessons Learned in Licensing Creative Arts Therapists." The course was taken by 16 participants for credit, and several others were in attendance. The course evaluations were overwhelmingly positive, and participants were especially appreciative of the opportunity to ask questions and dialogue with Dr. Hamilton in such a relaxed setting. Dr. Hamilton has very generously shared his power point from this course with the task force, so anyone wishing to receive it can contact us at nystf@aol.com to request it (whether you attended the CMTE or not).

NYSTF SESSION AT AMTA CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA

The NYSTF will be presenting a concurrent session at the AMTA conference in Atlanta. Scheduled for Friday, November 18 from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., we will present a brief update on issues related to the LCAT law and then open it up for questions and discussion. We hope you will plan to attend, and please encourage colleagues from other states and regions who are interested in music therapy study and practice in NYS to attend as well.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive updates from NYSTF, please contact us directly at:
nystf@aol.com

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