

MARAMTS

Spring 2007 Newsletter

Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Music Therapy Students

Special points of interest:

- Scholarship announcements
- Updates from regional music therapy student clubs and organizations
- Updates from MARAMTS committees
- AMTAS on Facebook

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Letter from the Editor

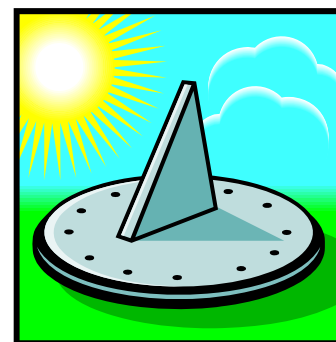
Students of MARAMTS,

Spring has finally made it here, and that means it is time for regional conference. Although I am looking forward to going to conference, I am not looking forward to the end of my time working with the MARAMTS executive board. The last three years have been awesome, and I have really enjoyed my time working with motivated students and professionals in the region. I would definitely recommend working with MARAMTS to others, and if you have any interest in getting some “pre-professional professional” experience, volunteer to be a chapter representative for your school or run for MARAMTS executive board office.

My experiences working in the

region have been incredible, and if there is one thing that I have learned, it is that the professionals support us completely in everything we do. We accomplish so much as a region and we are fortunate enough to be able to give out scholarships to support our students.

This year’s conference in Ocean City, Maryland, is going to be very exciting. The MARAMTS executive board and the chapter representatives have planned a swap shop for students (to meet, get to know, and share experiences with others), a fundraising service project, a session about preparing a presentation (perhaps for next year’s MAR Passages), and a conference guide that lists all of these events for students on one page.



Once again, I encourage students in the region to get involved whether it is at the national, regional, state, or school level. My experiences with MARAMTS are ones that I will not forget.

Best,

Kevin Hahn

2006-2007 MARAMTS Vice President and Past President

Letter from the President

Dear Music Therapy Colleagues,

This has been an exciting and humbling year serving with the 2006-2007 MARAMTS Executive Board. After one term together, we accomplished our goal of connecting with all music therapy students in the Mid-Atlantic Region! Each MARAMTS Executive Officer

was assigned approximately four schools to contact via phone or email. Reminders were shared to take advantage of available scholarships, encouraging participation and asking what more we could do to better serve MARAMTS Students.

Another achievement by your 2006-2007 MARAMTSEB in-

cluded the creation of the “MARAMTS Timeline.” The informational document was dispersed enabling ALL eighteen schools to have similar goals and initiatives. This document was drafted at the MARAMTS Executive Board Meeting, August 18-19, 2006 in Yardley, PA. Also very impressive was the initiative for MARAMTS truly serving

Letter from the President (cont.)

the WHOLE region having Chapter Representative serving from ALL eighteen schools, hoorah!

The year was filled with 3 exciting conferences... MAR Passages in Montclair, NJ (www.marpassages.org), AMTA Conference in Kansas City and the MARAMTA Conference in Ocean City, MD. The AMTA Conference was educational and gratefully MARAMTS VP and Past President Kevin Hahn and I attended on behalf of MARAMTS. Congratulations to Kevin for his re-election to AMTAS Treasurer! The MARAMTA Conference in Ocean City, March 2007 will host sessions including one presented by the MARAMTS

Executive Board, presided by Dr. Joke Bradt, MARAMTS Student Affairs Advisor. The presentation entitled, "To propose or not... we can help!" details how to present at a conference. Hopefully the set-up of this session, namely students presenting to fellow students and young professionals, will foster comfort and encouragement during this active learning process. The MARAMTS Business Meetings and Swap Shop are guaranteed to include door prizes and music making! A new officer will be elected in Ocean City at the Second MARAMTS Business Meeting, the position of Government Relations. Lastly, Ocean City will witness the first ever... "Student Confer-

ence Guide!" This idea was drafted at the Fall Business Meeting, September 2006 at Marywood University. The flyer will be included in ALL conference folders for students, hopefully explaining more about conference, assisting students and young professionals.

Farewell for now... I look forward to taking a less active role next year serving as MARAMTS Past President. Thank you for your participation and advocacy of music therapy!

Sincerely,

Gretchen Chardos

2006-2007 MARAMTS President

At regional conference...

Come learn about presenting at a conference by attending the MARAMTS executive board's presentation, "To Propose or Not... We Can Help!"



Letter from the Secretary

Greetings to the Mid-Atlantic Region!

Hi, I am Maryellen Fairchild, your MARAMTS secretary for the 2006-2007 academic year. This year has flown by and I can hardly believe it is time for conference, end of school year activities, and finally the summer.

I wanted to let you know of some of the projects and tasks that I have worked on as your secretary throughout the year. Throughout the year I keep an updated list of the chapter representatives from each school and we currently have 28 representatives across the region. I also update and monitor the yahoo group for both the reps and the MARAMTS Executive Board. As a rule, I also record the minutes at each business meeting and make sure they are sent out to his

member of the board as well as representatives.

This year, as an executive board, we put the extra effort forth to contact each school individually and get our information out there for everyone to see. By splitting up the number of schools per person, I think that we definitely made head way on that project.

My large project for the fall was putting together the Fall Newsletter. Thank you to all those who sent me submissions for the newsletter. Currently, it is posted on the yahoo group listserv and will be up on the website momentarily. It includes reports from the officers as well as school reports. I also included a view pictures and an update from Passages, which was held in October of this past fall. Check it out if you get the chance!

I really want to say thank you to everyone for voting me into this position. I thoroughly enjoyed it and I hope to continue to be a part of this spectacular group.

Sincerely yours,

Maryellen Fairchild

2006-2007 MARAMTS Secretary



Be sure to look for the Student Conference Guide in your registration folder! This will provide valuable information about the activities at regional conference that were planned with students and young professionals in mind.

Letter from the Parliamentarian

As parliamentarian of MARAMTS I am given a variety of responsibilities and fun duties. Throughout the term, I have been in close contact with my two committees: Swap Shop Committee and By-Laws Committee.

Concerning the by-laws, we have gone through the thick stack of rules and laws and have corrected grammar and clarified many regulations. We have also added a few rules and different committees to MARAMTS in order to get

more things done with less stress. It was a great experience learning and editing the By-Laws.

Swap Shop is a thoroughly thought-out event this year! The crew and I have thought of many games and fun activities for students and professionals to engage in at the swap shop. It's a time when we can all get together, learn about everyone, make new friends, and have a great time laughing and playing games. I hope you can all participate in this year's Swap

Shop!

This year has gone by so fast. I've made a great group of friends in the MARAMTS executive board and even more in the region. I've learned a lot about work, duties and responsibilities of an officer in an organization. I hope you will be active in the region and will have as much fun as I have.

Jillian Tolman

2006-2007 MARAMTS
Parliamentarian

Be sure to stop by this year's Student Swap Shop! Check your conference program for more info.

Letter from the Treasurer

This year has truly been an exciting and successful year. A big thank you and round of applause go out to the region for the success of our fundraisers at National Conference. There were many online order forms completed – we needed to order more shirts! So don't be surprised if you go to Texas and see a music therapist sporting our 'Top 10 Reasons to be a Music Therapist' shirt. More big 'thank you's' go to the chapter reps for spreading the word about the online order form and to those who filled out the order form from the MARAMTS website and sent it to me. We would not have been successful without you, so thank you for supporting our region! If you do not have a shirt or guitar picks yet, fear not - you still have a chance to order them.

On the subject of fundraisers, don't forget that our coffee

travel mugs will be available at the Regional Conference in Ocean City, MD. A huge round of applause for our lovely and dedicated fundraising committee, including: Lauren Willard (Elizabethtown), Meryl Barns (Radford), Tina Hodaba (Duquesne), and Shawna Vernisie (Marywood). Purchasing these coffee travel mugs would not have been possible without their hard work.

Remember to stop by the MARAMTS booth at the MAR conference to purchase your own coffee mug!!!

Thank you to all of those who applied for the MARAMTS scholarships. We recently awarded one sophomore, three junior, one graduate and two club scholarships. Congratulations to the winners; their names are in this newslet-

ter and will be publicly announced at Regional Conference. Just a reminder: these scholarship opportunities are available to all sophomores, juniors, graduate students, and school clubs, and all are encouraged to apply. We look forward to seeing more applications next year!

As my term comes to an end, I look back and realize how much our region has supported and advocated music therapy. Thank you to all for a great year and good luck in the future.

Thanks everyone!

Tiffany Carr

2006-2007 MARAMTS Treasurer



Stop by the MARAMTS booth to pick up some of this year's fundraisers!

Scholarship Announcements from the Student Affairs Advisor

Hi students!

I hope you are all having a wonderful spring semester. As you can read elsewhere in this newsletter, MARAMTS has been very busy planning for the upcoming conference. The fundraiser will again be awesome! Make sure to talk up the fundraiser to your fellow students and to the professionals. Because the bottom line is: the more money MARAMTS raises, the more scholarships we can offer to you!!

This year, MARAMTS offered again several student scholarships (AMTA dues + MAR conference registration fee) thanks to successful fundraising. Since one of the sophomore awardees changed majors, the award was offered to a third junior applicant.

Sophomore Scholarship:

Jennifer Manno - Immaculata University

Junior Scholarship:

Angel Park - SUNY Fredonia

Nilani Shankar - Marywood University

Amber Blair - Seton Hill University

Graduate Scholarship:

Francesca Angiuoli - Montclair State University

This year's club awards (\$250 each) went to:

Elizabethtown College

and

Duquesne University

Finally, we received 6 Jenny Shinn Memorial Scholarship applicants. The Jenny Shinn Memorial Scholarships are three \$500.00 awards that are offered by MAR to three students who are interning in 2007. Three judges have been assigned to interview the applicants at the MAR conference and the winners will be announced at the end of the conference.

I hope to see all of you at the conference!

Joke Bradt, PhD, MT-BC, LCAT

MARAMTS Student Affairs Advisor

jbradt@temple.edu



Congratulations
to all of the
2006-2007
MARAMTS
scholarship
winners!



Reports from Student Music Therapy Clubs and Organizations

Update from Duquesne University

The 2006-2007 school year has been a time of intense activity for Duquesne University's Music Therapy Student Association (MTSA). As a result of the dedication of our members, we have been able to participate in a wide variety of community services, advocacy activities, fundraising, and professional development sessions. Our hard work has been rewarded by recognition within the Duquesne community, the city of Pittsburgh, and the Mid-Atlantic region.

One of the cornerstones of the music therapy program at Duquesne is community outreach. Our organization has participated in a number of service projects in order to aid those in need. As in past years, music therapy students have lightened the atmosphere at the Magee Women's Hospital with their music. We have also been involved with providing live music in the lobby of the Allegheny County Jail. Our organization participated in *Keep It Clean South Side*, a monthly program that assigns student groups sections of the area to beautify. Our members have been active at the Saint Barnabas Nursing Home, where we provide music and games. Music therapy students also lead community drum circles. Duquesne students have donated their time at the regional level as well, volunteering both at MAR Passages and this year's regional conference. In the coming months, MTSA members will participate in Spring Clean-Up. This annual service program helps to maintain various community areas and outreach facilities. The

music therapy students will also be volunteering for the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation at their annual fundraising gala.

As a professional organization, the Music Therapy Student Association works to supplement the education provided by our university. In order to do so, our members have taken part in a number of seminars and instructional workshops. We are thrilled to be working with Janelle Burdell in drum circle facilitation workshops and community drum circles. Burdell is both a professional percussionist and a supporter of drumming as a therapeutic tool. She developed "Rhythm Games," a non-profit program that focuses on the use of drumming to improve conflict resolution skills and empower women and children. Our organization also hosted presentations of case studies from music therapy students, interns, and professionals. Members received HIPAA training, information on infection control, training on "HeartMath" technology, information on the use and maintenance of Orff instruments, and a comprehensive look at legislation in special education.

Duquesne's music therapy program is highly involved in advocacy for our field. On a campus level, students provide information about music therapy at Autumn Fest during homecoming weekend. Our organization and actions have been featured in the *Duquesne Duke* and *The Duquesne University Times*. While volunteering in the com-

munity, music therapy members make sure to share their passion for the field with all those who show interest. Sister Donna Marie Beck, music therapy department chair, granted an interview to WDUQ 90.5 FM of Pittsburgh, in which she and Burdell discussed the impact of community drum circles. To listen to this interview, visit the Duquesne University Mary Pappert School of Music website at www.music.duq.edu.

Our major project for the spring semester has been the annual production of the male pageant known as *Mr. Music Man*. Though primarily a fundraiser for the music therapy club, the event also provides an opportunity to educate the audience about our field. Representatives from each of the music departments compete in such categories as talent, interview, and apparel. Based on the contestants' performances, faculty judges will award the title of Mr. Music Man. The pageant is now five years running and has established a reputation as a night of fun and laughter for students of any major. This event, along with our tote bag fundraiser, facilitates higher attendance rates at national and regional music therapy conferences.

Tina Hodaba

Duquesne University



“Duquesne students have donated their time at the regional level as well, volunteering both at MAR Passages and this year’s regional conference.”



Update from Elizabethtown College

Music therapy at Elizabethtown College is keeping busy this spring.

As we do every spring, we are planning and organizing for our annual Music Therapy Awareness Week here at the college. Some activities that we have planned: a coffee house, an "Educate the Com-

munity" day, and our "Open Door Recital" for all children, regardless of disabilities. This is a big week for us and we are all looking forward to it. We also looking forward to coming to conference at the end of March. We just received funding from the Provost and we are also planning to do some fundraising

to go to Ocean City. We are also staying active at Masonic Village with the Adult Daily Living Center by leading music experiences every other week.

Lauren Willard

Elizabethtown College

E-town College plans an "Educate the Community" day and another "Open Door Recital."

Update from Howard University

The Howard University Music Therapy Club is slowly regaining its power after several years of inactivity. The club plans to perform some community service activities before the end of the semester and will

be leading some music activities at a local Adult Day Care center near the end of April.

Shea Roane is our interim spokesperson. We hope to be able to become more

active with students in the region. Happy spring to all!

Donna Washington

Assistant Professor

Howard University



Howard University's Music Therapy Club makes a comeback.

Update from Immaculata University

With the addition of several freshmen and a new faculty member, Dr. Anthony Meadows, the Immaculata University Association of Music Therapy Students is going strong. In the fall semester, we participated in fundraising opportunities and hosted a karaoke booth as well as the dunk tank at the annual University Picnic. We also held our annual Coffee House, a free open mic night for all Immaculata students during which the club sold homemade baked goods. We were also blessed to have an amazing guest speaker, Helen Shoemark, from Australia. Her lecture and discussion, complete with video of actual sessions of her work with premature and at risk infants, made for a very valuable learning experience and we appreciate her taking the time to talk to us.

We also had several wonderful service projects this fall. We are still volunteering our time, as we do every year, to visit with, sing to, and play for the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters that reside in a nursing home on the college's campus. Around Christmas time, we also volunteered at Paoli Hospital, where we sang Christmas carols in several units in the hospital. It was a very merry Christmas. We ended the semester with our first ever Jam Night, held half way through finals week. It was a time to de-stress, get to know each other better, and make beautiful music.

Although not all of the planning is done yet for this semester, here's what we have lined up so far: the club continues fundraising for conference by

selling chocolate covered pretzels during February and selling great music t-shirts designed by an Immaculata student. In terms of service, we plan to continue our hospital tour at Chester County Hospital where we will host sing-alongs. We will also be providing music activities at the Head Start program in Coatesville, Pennsylvania.

We are very excited about the MAR Conference in Ocean City and have a record eleven members attending. We hope to see you all there!

Erika Renzi

Immaculata University



Immaculata students get the chance to learn from a guest speaker from Australia

Update from Montclair State University

The Music Therapy Student Organization at Montclair State has gotten off to a great start this semester! We have a very enthusiastic group of students this year and it has really helped our club to grow and increase its level of activity. In addition to our meetings, we are going to start having jam sessions together. The vice president and I are also planning a mixer for sometime in the spring.

One of our main interests is service projects. In February several MT students visited St. Joseph's Children's Hos-

pital and did music activities with the children there. It went really well and we will be returning in April.

In March, we will be holding a percussion workshop led by a very special guest, a professional drummer who is particularly interested in spiritual drumming and the relationships between music and the rhythms of the body. This is a really exciting opportunity for us and should be a big success! Currently this is the only workshop scheduled for the club, but we may organize one with a local

dance therapist as well.

Many of our students are anticipating the conference in Ocean City. The vice president and I have been actively encouraging our students to become members of AMTA and get involved in professional events, and it sounds like we will have a good turnout for the conference!

Becca Hasselbrook

MTSO President

Montclair State University

From jam sessions to service projects, students at Montclair continue to share their passion for music with others.



Update from Slippery Rock University

As mentioned in the fall newsletter, Slippery Rock University's Music Therapy Club is seeing a new horizon in the history of their club. At the start of the semester, we had three new students pick up music therapy as a major and the club is now standing strong with 26 members (five of them being guys). Towards the end of last semester, we were very privileged to have Lauren Stern, a well known art therapist in Pittsburgh, come and speak to us about her work with people experiencing eating disorders. Future programs we are looking to host include a vocal improvisation workshop and also the possibility

of partnering with the American Sign Language Club on campus to put together a day-long workshop. Aside from conference, which we are very excited for, we have a lot of fun and exciting things happening. Recently we had the opportunity to visit four high schools in western Pennsylvania to get the word out about music therapy. It was a great experience with a lot of students showing interest. We are currently in the process of planning a karaoke/coffee house in our ski lodge which will be open to the entire campus. Drum circles will be held once a month, often facilitated by percussion

instructor Dr.

David Glover. We are also looking to take a trip to Pittsburgh where we hope to visit the school for the blind and volunteer at a local orphanage. Some fundraising ideas for the semester: a music department t-shirt and gourmet drinks (hot chocolate, coffee, tea). So as you can see, just because the snow tends to slow life down in Slippery Rock, it's not going to slow us down. Hope to see all of you in OCEAN CITY!

Bonnie Jean Buzzard

Slippery Rock University

Slippery Rock students spread the word about music therapy at four high schools in western Pennsylvania.

Update from Temple University

Temple University's music therapy club is composed of mainly new members this semester, but we have been working hard to make everyone feel welcome and still get things accomplished.

This year, we have held two pot luck dinners to help with club bonding. A great way to meet and discuss the Temple Music Therapy program, club members shared our fieldwork experiences and answered questions from underclassmen. We have also had two guest

speakers, faculty members Dr. Darlene Brooks and Dr. Ken Aigen, who enthralled us with their stories and presentations.

This semester we have been working hard to raise funds to attend the regional conference. One of our master's students, Susan Steen, and her band Outset performed a concert to help us raise money. We also had a Valentine's Day-themed bake sale, complete with a fundraiser called "Find your best match in Boyer."

Our next event is a presentation by co-president Emily Hilinski about finding sheet music resources online.

We have 14 members attending conference, and could not be more excited for our budding club to experience what music therapy is all about.

Kim Blanchette

Co-president, TU MT club

Temple University

Students at Temple have been "working hard to raise funds" to send 14 music therapy club members to conference.

MARAMTS Scrapbook Committee Report

The Scrapbook Committee accumulated photos and memorabilia from all school clubs, and large events within the region. MT Program Directors at all eighteen schools were invited to share a quote or song lyrics, portraying the voted scrapbook theme "The

Music Within." Students serving on the first ever committee: Bonnie Buzzard, Laura Getz, Liana Hadi, Erika Renzi, Scott Ruland, Mary Woods and Scrapbook Committee Chair Gretchen Chardos. The Scrapbook Committee had an interesting start with only thirty

dollars in the MARAMTS Budget. Thankfully Treasurer Tiffany Carr found other funds within the budget allowing for higher quality materials and supplies. Thanks to the MARAMTSEB and everyone for their contributions and creative support!

MARAMTS Service Committee Report

The Service Committee patiently pursued various ideas for service project. Regardless, the final decision for a collection drive hopefully will be well-attended and supported at the MAR-AMTA Conference in

Ocean City, Maryland. Students serving this committee: Erin Hedden, Mary Hellings Jodie Koplin, Abby Park, Mary Woods and Service Committee Chair Gretchen Chardos. The Service Committee would like

to thank the MARAMTSEB, Cynthia Breese, Nina Galerstein, Kathy Murphy and Niki Runge for their advice and encouragement.



AMTAS on Facebook

American Music Therapy Association Students (AMTAS), our national student organization, has recently created a group on Facebook. Now you can continue ignoring your schoolwork and

classmates while staying updated about national fundraising and student scholarships. Just search for AMTAS on Facebook.com.

If you do not already

have an account, you can sign up for free on the website.

Also, check out AMTAS at...

www.ser-amta.org/amtas



What is GoodSearch?

GoodSearch is an online search engine that supports over 32,000 charities. Every time someone uses GoodSearch to look for something online, the organization will donate to a specified school or non-profit.

Recently, AMTA has activated an account on GoodSearch. This means that every search you do online could help raise money for AMTA.

How does it work?

Simply go to www.goodsearch.com, click under "Who do you GoodSearch for?" and type in AMTA, then start searching!

Every search made on GoodSearch raises \$0.01 for AMTA.



Support AMTA
with every
online search
you make!

"Thank You" to All MARAMTS Committee Members!

Service
Gretchen Chardos*
Erin Hedden
Mary Hellings
Jodie Koplín
Abby Park
Mary Woods

By-Laws
Kimberli Cooper
Erin Hedden
Katie Norman
Jillian Tolman*
* denotes committee chair

Scrapbook
Gretchen Chardos*
Bonnie Buzzard
Laura Getz
Liana Hadi
Erika Renzi
Scott Ruland

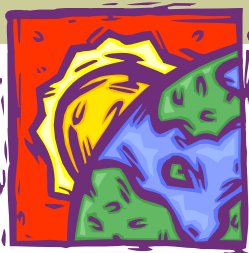
Fundraiser
Meryl Barns
Tiffany Carr*
Tina Hodaba
Shawna Vernisie
Lauren Willard

Swap Shop
Becca Hasselbrook
Stacey LaFountain
Erika Renzi
Jillian Tolman*

Many thanks
to all
committee
members for
all that they
do for our
student
organization

MID-ATLANTIC
REGION
ASSOCIATION FOR
MUSIC THERAPY
STUDENTS

mar-amta.org



Thanks for reading!



Thank you for all
of your support.

Feel free to
contact the
2006-2007
MARAMTS
executive board
with any
questions or
comments you
may have.

President: Gretchen Chardos
chardosg@duq.edu

Vice President: Kevin Hahn
hahnk@etown.edu

Secretary: Maryellen Fairchild
fairchildm@etown.edu

Parliamentarian: Jillian Tolman
beaneriu@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Tiffany Carr
the_tc_connection@yahoo.com

Student Affairs Advisor: Joke Bradt, PhD, MT-BC, LCAT
jbradt@temple.edu