

MARAMTS

Spring 2008 Newsletter

Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Music Therapy Students

Special points of interest:

- Scholarship announcements
- Updates from regional music therapy student clubs and organizations
- AMTAS Info

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Letter from the Editor

Students of MARAMTS,

Wow! It feels like just yesterday that we all began embarking on this journey as a brand new, MARAMTS E-board, and now we are coming to a bittersweet end, looking forward to the election of our new officers and new e-board at this year's regional conference in Cherry Hill, NJ!

As I write this report and edit this newsletter, I can hardly believe how much has been accomplished this year. We introduced our new Sibling School Advocacy Project and fantastic fundraising gear—super cool notebooks and pens. (Don't forget to buy some at conference!) We are looking forward to our student Swap Shop this year, and last but not least, we are extremely excited to see increased and continued student involvement during the

year, as well as amazing advocacy work done by our chapter reps. Thank you chapter reps for all your hard work. It has not gone unnoticed!

At this year's AMTA conference in Louisville, KY, MARAMTS was represented by Abby Park, Gretchen Chardos, and myself. It was exciting to meet so many students and professionals from all the over the country (and even from other countries) and to boast a little bit about the many accomplishments of MARAMTS. And congratulations to Gretchen, who at the conference, was elected AMTAS president for the 2008 - 2009 year.

Speaking of AMTA and MAR, I must take this time to sincerely express my thanks and gratitude for this opportunity to serve as MARAMTS vice-president. I felt like I was in a uniquely special position because I spent a lot of time representing us in MAR

board meetings and were able to report to them to directly to speak to them about our accomplishments, and making our voices heard. Thanks to Brian Abrams and the entire MAR board for involving MARAMTS with such support and compassion.

And special thanks to Dr. Bradt for all of her hard work as our Student Affairs Advisor. We all really enjoyed working with you and appreciate all of the support you have given to MARAMTS.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the conference in Cherry Hill, NJ!

All the best,

Sherrye Dobrin

2007 - 2008 MARAMTS
Vice-President

Letter from the President

Happy Spring! I hope this letter finds you enjoying life no matter where you are. My name is Maryellen Fairchild and I am the current president for MARAMTS in the 2007-2008 academic year. Very soon, I will be handing off that position to another student in our region. Speaking of conference, the MAR regional conference is

coming up around the corner! It will be held March 27-29th in Cherry Hill, NJ. If you have not registered yet, you still can! Go to www.mar-amta.org for more information on the conference schedule and location.

It has been a very busy year for MARAMTS and MAR. This fall, chapter representatives from

each school met with the MARAMTS Executive Board at Marywood University. The meeting was a great success as different members of the group joined committees to work on SWAP Shop, by-laws, scrapbook, SSAP, and fundraising. The group worked very well together in deciding the fundraiser for this year's conference

Letter from the President (cont.)

as well as coming up with new and creative ideas for logos and quotes. Last year, our scrapbook was started and we hope to continue it this year! Please send information and pictures from your schools!

I hope you are excited to be part of the MAR region as it is the largest and most active region in the country. MAR would love you to represent our region at National Conference as well. The AMTA National Conference will be held in St. Louis, MO in November of 2008. I encourage you to think about attending, as it is a wonderful opportunity to interact with professional in the field as well as meet students from across the country. Ses-

sions will be a great learning opportunity as well and presenting would be great practice for students. In addition, AMTAS (the national student organization) provides scholarships through their program. Two STARS scholarships are available after application and provide conference registration fee as well as the next year's AMTA dues. The E. Thayer Gaston Writing Award is also available to students and interns who submit a paper/abstract/review of literature, something that they have studied and work on in school. The Gaston Award is monetary as well. For more information on these scholarships, please go to the AMTA website, www.musictherapy.org.

As always, MARAMTS is still working hard to give the students in our region a voice. Never hesitate to contact a member of the Executive Board if you have concerns about anything in the region. Thanks for your time and hope to see you at Regional Conference!

Maryellen Fairchild
2007—2008 MARAMTS
President



Letter from the Secretary

Hello Mid-Atlantic Region!

I hope everyone is enjoying their Spring semesters and getting ready for the Music Therapy conference that is in a couple weeks. I hope everyone is able to make it. I'm Becky Sullivan, a senior at Elizabethtown College, the secretary for MARAMTS

As secretary, I was responsible for creating the Fall Newsletter. The Fall newsletter is a good way to stay updated about what the music therapy clubs from schools in the Mid-Atlantic Region are doing, and all the members from Executive Board give an update as well. The Fall Newsletter also contains pictures from the Fall Business Meeting. If you haven't already checked it out the Fall Newsletter is posted on our website.

Another responsibility of the secretary is to keep communication between the chapter representatives throughout our region. Most of the communication is through the yahoo groups. Each of the chapter reps are invited to join the listserv and email messages are posted on the listserv as well as emailed to each member of the group. It is a great and easy way to communicate to everyone.

The secretary also is in charge of keeping minutes at each of the meetings, which include the Summer Executive Board Meeting, Fall Business Meeting, and the Business Meetings at conference this year. After the minutes are edited, they get sent to each of the board members and posted on the MARAMTS website.

My term for secretary ends at

conference and elections for new board members will be held, if anyone is interested in the secretary position and has any questions regarding the duties of the secretary or other topics please email me at sullivanr@etown.edu.

Thanks and I look forward to seeing you all at conference!

Becky Sullivan
2007—2008 MARAMTS
Secretary



Letter from the Parliamentarian

Hello Fellow Music Therapy Students

This year has been such a great experience, tiresome and stressful, but all the same, great. As the end of the "season" approaches, culminating with the music therapy conference at Cherry Hill I truly await the success of Sherrye Dobrin and my plan for swap shop. As a special opportunity for music therapy stu-

dents to share their surely brilliant insight into their own and others ideas, the swap shop may act as the kindling for the next great development in our field of study. I hope to see everyone of you there and may you all continue to learn and grow.

Eric Ross
2007-2008 MARAMTS
Parliamentarian



Be sure to stop by this year's Student Swap Shop! Friday from 12:30 - 1:30 pm.

Letter from the Treasurer

Greetings!

Regional Conference is around the corner and I look forward to seeing you all there! I have enjoyed being the MARAMTS treasurer for the 2007-2008 school year. We have had a great success fundraising at National Conference! Thank you to all who stopped by the booth and picked up some travel mugs and guitar picks. MARAMTS appreciates your support. We hope to have just as much success at our upcoming Regional Conference. The conference this year will be held in Cherry Hill, NJ. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for our new fundraising items. This year we will not only be selling travel mugs and guitar picks, but we will also have notebooks and pens available. The notebooks are silver with a musical logo on the front. The pens are green with the word music written across in a

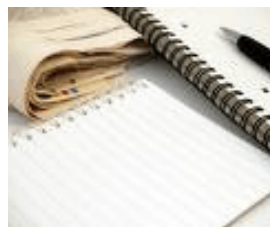
variety of languages. These items are sure to help us all have a place to write down our creative ideas! So, please make sure to stop by the MARAMTS booth during conference to check out our new fundraisers. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Putting together all of the fundraisers would not have been possible without the gracious help of others. I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered to serve on the fundraising committee: Gina Chemelli (Duquesne), Katelyn King (Duquesne), Dana Frisher (Montclair), and Liana Gabel (Fredonia). Your commitment so far and at the upcoming conference is a big help and I am very grateful to have had you on this committee. I would also like to thank everyone who applied for a MARAMTS scholarship. Congratulations to the winners!

Please remember that all sophomores, juniors, graduate students, and school clubs are welcome to apply for these scholarship opportunities. Keep this in mind for next year!

Thanks to all of the members on the MARAMTS board for a successful year. I am glad that I could be a part of this board and in doing so be able to meet you and so many other music therapy students. Thanks again and take care!

Abby Park
2007-2008
MARAMTS Treasurer



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

Letter from the Government Relations Chair

Greetings!

My name is Amelia Chapman, and I have been the Government Relations chair for the 2007-08 term. It has been a very busy year in this developing new position! I would like to start off by thanking the MARAMTS Executive board, Dr. Bradt, Carol Ann Blank, and Kathy Murphy for all their support, guidance and help throughout the year.

This year, the MARAMTS Executive board decided to focus heavily on Advocacy. With this in mind, we developed a new committee and ongoing project to increase communication and awareness within the Music Therapy students in the Mid-Atlantic Region. This project, the Sister School Advocacy

Project (SSAP), has had great response from the students. The first e-mail update was sent in February, and the second will follow in early March.

As Regional Conference approaches, I have been busily working in tandem with Carol Ann Blank, the MAR Government Relations chair, on a special student workshop with a focus on advocacy. During the session, we will explore several areas of advocacy. This workshop will outline a few very informative articles, provide opportunities for brainstorming and discussion, and give students a chance to complete an internet scavenger hunt!

Keeping with the Advocacy Theme, The SSAP committee will be canning throughout

conference to raise awareness of the work of Music Therapists in AIDS relief in South Africa. This advocacy project, "eMpTy your pockets for MT's in South Africa", will be raising funds to aid Marissa Covert and her colleagues in the Helping Hands program to purchase needed instruments and supplies for their upcoming return to South Africa in May.

It has been a pleasure to see how this position has evolved! I am excited to see how the Government Relations chair develops further in the future, especially in regards to SSAP.

Cheers,

Amelia Chapman

MARAMTS Government Relations

As Music Therapy students, it is very important to be a member of the American Music Therapy Association. The benefits are numerous and unique!

10 Reasons to become a member of AMTA:

1. Access to professional journals, newsletters, and updates
2. Reduced rates for conferences
3. The Member Sourcebook
4. Networking with other Music Therapists
5. The "Members Only" section of the AMTA webpage
6. Membership Dues are *much* cheaper for students.
7. Scholarship opportunities
8. Access to great pamphlets and fact sheets
9. Leadership Opportunities
10. You can help to expand the ever-growing field of Music Therapy!

For more information on other great benefits to becoming an AMTA member, please visit musictherapy.org.

From the Student Affairs Advisor

Joke Bradt, PhD, MT-BC, LCAT

Hi students!

I hope you are enjoying your spring semester. Many of you have been busy with fundraisers so that you can attend the conference. I am looking forward to seeing you all in Cherry Hill! Make sure to visit the MAR booth and buy some of the MARAMTS fundraisers because the more money MARAMTS raises, the more scholarships we can offer to *you!!*

Speaking of scholarships, this year MARAMTS offered again several student scholarships (AMTA dues + MAR conference registration fee) thanks to successful fundraising. And here are the winners:

Jenna Kellogg - SUNY Fredonia
Caitlin O'Reilly - SUNY Fredonia
Lore Herzer – Elizabethtown College
Michael Viega – Temple University
Mary-Ellen Smith - Temple University

This year's club awards (\$250 each) went to: **Elizabethtown College and Radford University.**

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

Finally, we received 7 Jenny Shinn Memorial Scholarship applications. The Jenny Shinn Memorial Scholarships are three \$500.00 awards that are offered by MAR to students who are interning in 2008. Three judges have been assigned to interview the top 6 candidates at the MAR conference and the winners will be announced at the end of the conference.

Keep your eyes open for new scholarship announcements in September. The applications are easy so make sure to apply!

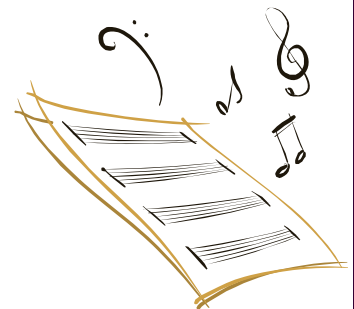
I hope to see all of you at the conference!

Joke Bradt

jbradt@temple.edu



Congratulations
to all of the
2007-2008
MARAMTS
scholarship
winners!



Update from Marywood

We are in the process of planning our annual Mr. Marywood Male Beauty Pageant which will be held on Monday, February 25th 9 PM-11:30 PM in the Crystal Room at Marywood University. This fundraiser will help us raise money for the club's trip to the Cherry Hill, NJ MARAMTS conference. We are raffling off door prizes from local business sponsors. 4 people from the Marywood faculty

are judging this exciting competition.

The Music Therapy and Art Therapy faculty at Marywood recently held a "Bagged Lunch Creative Arts Therapy Event". This was held at lunch time with faculty and students from the art therapy and music therapy departments. We learned how music and art may be simultaneously used

in therapy.

We are hoping to plan a social at a nearby restaurant during conference time for all present and former Marywood Music Therapy Students/Graduates.

Marywood
hosts Mr.
Male
Marywood
Beauty
Pageant!

Update from Duquesne

Duquesne will be sending 16 students to MAR conference this year. We all plan to participate in the Community-outreach Service project on Thursday Morning, and are very excited for this opportunity! To raise funds for this year's conference, Duquesne's Music Therapy Student Organization recently put on their annual Male Pageant, Mr. Music Man. This pageant is our primary fundraiser tool for the year, and

also serves to establish MTSA as a visible student organization on campus. We have also held two bake sales, and had a fundraiser dinner at Max & Erma's.

Duquesne's MTSA has also been active in community outreach projects. Students have maintained a relationship with Magee Women's Hospital by playing live music in the lobby, and in the Oncology unit there on a weekly basis. Duquesne also hosts a monthly

community drum circle, which is facilitated by its Music Therapy students. In the near future, MTSA will attend a job fair at an inner-city school to discuss Music Therapy as a Career and distribute pamphlets and fact sheets. MTSA will also be participating in Duquesne's annual Spring Clean Up to "redd-up" the communities surrounding the campus.



Duquesne
students hold
community
drum circles.

Update from Howard

The students at Howard University began the school year by starting a Music Therapy Club and planning activities to do throughout the semester. As a group we traveled to Greater Laurel Rehab Center and sung Christmas carols to the patients while walking through the halls and in and out of the rooms. The excitement and amazement on

the patients faces were well appreciated and the staff also enjoyed our caroling as well. Some music therapy students also had the opportunity to do practicums at the center as well. This gave them much experience as they went from room to room using music therapy to communicate and get verbal responses from long term patients who were

there for various reasons. We are excited for the things that we are planning to do in the near future as far as more community service projects and getting more involved in our major.

Howard students
sing Christmas
Carols with
patients at
Greater Laurel
Rehab Center.

Update from Elizabethtown College

Hello MARAMTS! Alpha Mu, the student music therapy organization at Elizabethtown, has been hard at work this past year. In the fall, we continued our monthly volunteering at Masonic Village, a local residential program for older adults. One Wednesday a month, we volunteer to run a recreational music group in the Adult Daily Living Center (ADLC). In addition, we put together a fall recital for Masonic Village where our students dressed formally and gave a jazz and Broadway recital on various instruments. Homecoming fundraisers were a success and the first semester quickly came to an end. We started off the spring semester with an Advocacy

Coffeehouse at Borders where we performed and spoke about how music therapy can be used with varying populations. Many pamphlets were taken and people asked plenty of questions. We decided to do a Valentine's Day Bake sale Fundraiser that worked very well. We handed out order forms to students and faculty and delivered the tasty baked goods on Valentine's Day. Our biggest project this spring is coming up quickly. The Open Door Recital is an annual even that our club puts on where children of all ages and backgrounds/diagnoses can come and enjoy a classical recital. We perform classical pieces on various instruments but incorporate costumes and

props to engage the children. This year we have the kids pretending to be the ocean waves, gofers, finding the green dog, and more. We are looking forward to again giving children a place where they can be who they are and enjoy a lovely recital. Alpha Mu will also be attending MAR Regional Conference in Cherry Hill, NJ.

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



Montclair plans second music therapy recital.

Update from Montclair

Montclair's Music Therapy Student Organization has been working very hard to expand and become more known on campus. We have had two bake sales raising over three hundred dollars, are planning our second recital in April. We are impatiently waiting for conference and are very excited to be this years 'hosts'.



Update from Slippery Rock University

On Professional Development Day we are sending club members to nearby high schools and advocating Music Therapy. We thought to get high schoolers informed about Music Therapy and hope that they will become more interested in the field.

Slippery Rock spreads the word to high school students.



**Congratulations 2008
AMTAS Executive Board
and Gretchen Chardos from
MARAMTS!**

2007-2008 AMTAS EB (from L to R): *Standing:* Dr. Petra Kern, MT-BVM, MT-BC, MTA - Advisor, Gretchen Chardos - President, Gabrielle Tee - Vice-President, Megan Cummins, MT-BC - Past President, Rose Fienman - President-Elect, Emily Izen - Secretary; *Kneeling:* Allison Reyburn - Parliamentarian, Christopher Combie - Treasurer.

**Look for
AMTAS on
facebook**

AMTAS

American Music Therapy Association Students includes interns, undergraduate, and graduate music therapy students who are members of AMTA. The Missions Statement of AMTAS follows: On a global level, AMTAS will increase awareness, involvement, and knowledge of music therapy students by fostering communication and growth in preparation for a professional career. View the AMTAS Website <http://www.ser-amta.org/amtas/> and our facebook group www.facebook.com. Plus, check out the AMTAS flyer MUsETTE & read more about the 2007-2008 Executive Board and their exciting plans!

AMTAS Notes:

- Join the facebook group for AMTAS!
- 2008 AMTA National Conference - St. Louis, MO - You should go!!
- Check out the website for AMTAS and apply for the STARS scholarship for this years conference!

Special thanks to all MARAMTS chapter representatives and committee members for all of your hard work! We appreciate you very much!

Thank you for all of your support.

**Feel free to
contact the
2007-2008 MARAMTS
executive board with any
questions or
comments you
may have.**

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Vice President: Sherrye Dobrin

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Secretary: Becky Sullivan

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Parliamentarian: Eric Ross

rosse3@mail.montclair.edu

Treasurer: Abby Park

park.abby@gmail.com

Government Relations: Amelia Chapman

ameliakc@gmail.com

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