

AMTAS Newsletter

The American Music Therapy Association Students present what's happening in the regions.

Spring 2017



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Introduction

Hello, AMTAS members! We hope your Spring Semesters are going well and are full of valuable learning experiences. This year AMTAS has decided to distribute our Newsletter in its traditional form as well as periodic blog updates. We hope this publication serves as inspiration for your own region, but keep your eyes out for coming blog posts.

"The purpose of AMTAS will be to promote, foster, and advance the education and training of its members."



Did you know there are AMTAS scholarships?

There are scholarships available for students, interns, and professionals. Applications and due dates can be found online at www.amtas.org.



AMTAS Officer Reports

President: Hello! My name is Jamela Brown. I am serving as the 2017 president of AMTAS. I'm SUPER excited to serve you all and to see what this year has in store for us! Since December the Executive Board and I have met three times we have discussed our goals for the year as well as formed scholarship deadlines. As a board we have created several social media tags and have brainstormed methods for delivering the Newsletter as a blog and distributing the "Under the Canopy" Podcast. We have developed a progress plan for revamping the SAAB guidebook. We have set in motion ideas for creating the new AMTAS logo, and the T-shirt design and distribution plan are coming along nicely. We are currently in the beginning stages of devising a plan for the second, annual National Passages. I can't wait to rock and roll at conference! See you all there!

President-Elect: In January, I met with Jamela and set goals for this 2 coming year. I updated the

current standing committee representatives who wanted to keep their position from last year. In February, I sent out final emails to students about holding their positions from the previous year. In March, I updated the national school roster for new standing committee representatives to be able to apply for positions. I also attended our regional SER conference and was able to talk with presidents and help link their thoughts and ideas for the coming year.

Vice-President: In January, I updated the website with professional biographies of the 2017 AMTAS Executive Board, reorganized the official documents section, updated the Regional AMTAS information/logos, and uploaded the 2016 Bylaws. In February, I collected submissions for the 2017 Musette from other executive board members and published it on March 1st, 2017. I emailed regional presidents in March soliciting items for the 3 website as well as advocating for

each regional conference to utilize the AMTAS social media accounts. In April, I continued to update the social media accounts, website, and scholarship information. For the social media accounts, I have continued the "#MusicTherapyMonday" challenge as well as "#WordsOfWisdomWednesday" with advice collected from various music therapists who attended the 2016 National AMTA Conference. My further goals for this position include introducing each of the executive board members via social media for "Spotlight Saturday" as well as installing a monthly population intervention challenge on Instagram.

Treasurer: In December I took care of the website fee. I have had two meetings with the old AMTAS treasurer, where we discussed the main points of the position. In January I contacted AMTA. Our 4th quarter check and January bank statement were higher than last year, \$305.10, as well as the January Bank

AMTAS Officer Reports Continued

Statement. In March, I sold some of the remaining bumper stickers from the 2016 National Conference at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, as well as sent some to current AMTAS President Elect, Garrett, to sell at his regional conference. Regions should be receiving an email soon checking in on their fundraising and funds.

Parliamentarian: Hi AMTAS, just to quickly fill you in on what I've been up to, I have begun reviewing both Roberts Rule's of Order and the AMTAS bylaws. I made notes on potential revisions up through Article IV in the bylaws and will continue to seek feedback from my fellow 5 Executive Officers about bylaw revisions. My goals when revising

are to make the document as clear, concise, and consistent as possible. Additionally, I have begun the process of forming a committee consisting of each region's parliamentarian and myself in order to amend the voting procedure used during AMTAS elections. The committee will begin to hold meetings as soon as possible to formulate options for voting of which we will propose to implement at conference this coming November.

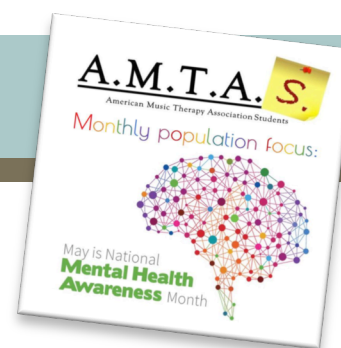
Secretary: Hello! My name is Zoe Levine, and I am so happy to be serving as your AMTAS secretary. As secretary, I have recorded and formatted the minutes for the 6 executive board meetings. I also requested newsletter submissions from all the regions

and managed the switch to a blog format for distribution to the regions and members. I compiled a master contact list of all the regional and national officers, and I created an "About AMTAS" flyer to be distributed to the regions with the SAAB guidebook. I am currently helping facilitate the creation of a new AMTAS logo. Finally, I am in the process of planning the conference podcast. This year the podcast will feature pre-planned stories from new professionals as well as glimpses of the student conference experience.

Focus on: Social Media

Get connected to music therapy students across the country via social media! AMTAS has a twitter account, Facebook page, and Instagram full of inspiration and ideas for your student org or region. Check out and use #MusicTherapyMonday to see what students from all over the country are doing to promote music therapy. #WordsOfWisdomWednesday features advice collected from

various music therapists who attended the 2016 National AMTA Conference. You can also get to know members of the exec board via "Spotlight Saturday" or share your experience with the monthly population intervention challenge on Instagram. Make sure you're tagging us in all the great stuff you're doing so we can share it with the world!



Twitter: @AMTAS

Facebook: American Music Therapy Association for Students

Instagram: @_AMTAS_

Website: www.amtas.org



Regional Reports

Every year our regions think of new ways to advocate, fundraise, and support their fellow students and the profession. Check out what these regions have been up to!

Great Lakes Region started their project for the year titled THE MUSIC THERAPY BEAT. This is a blog newsletter that includes a video and a podcast that is created by one of the schools in the region! Each year we offer THE GIFT OF MUSIC GRANT, which is awarded to a private practice owner deserving of the additional funds. This year we quadrupled our applicants and ended up choosing 2. Congratulations to Do Re Me Music Therapy in Minnesota and Life in Harmony Music Therapy in Wisconsin. At National Conference GLR-AMTAS held a LIP SYNC BATTLE FUNDRAISER to raise funds for the Gift of Music Grant and regional conference Reimbursement Scholarships. We raised over \$400 and offered 3 \$55 scholarships to students in the region. To win these scholarships, students needed to either submit a paper to present at Passages or a song that advocated for music therapy services. PASSAGES was held in March, and over 50 students attended! 6 students from the region presented on a variety of topics ranging from

how to choose what sessions to attend at conference to functional piano skills. Our Keynote speaker was John Hartman, NMT, MT-BC who discussed the importance of diagnostic differentiation. We held another LIP SYNC BATTLE at our GLR Conference and, again, made around \$400 to give the new executive board; a good start to next year!

Midwestern Region had a busy year as they hosted a passages conference with keynote speaker Piper Laird, MM, MT-BC and awarded three student scholarships. These went to Emily Stewart, Amanda Sciarabba, and Samantha Hinson. MWAMTAS also came up with three unique fundraisers. They had a Lip sync Battle, and they sold notebooks that included notebook paper, staff paper, graph paper, and motivational music therapy quotes. The board also designed specialty Jamberry nail wraps for music therapists.

New England Region held their 17th Annual Passages Conference. This year they welcomed non-music therapy students, especially medical

colleagues from neighboring schools. There were 117 in attendance from their three schools as well as Harvard, MIT, Northeastern, Boston University, Westfield State University, and local high schools. At National Conference, NER was awarded \$400 as part of the AMTAS



“Voices from the East” Presenters and Audience

Grant. NER presented two seminars that were open to the public. They were “Beyond Power, Privilege, and Oppression: Courage for Social Justice in Clinical Settings,” and “Voices from the East: Definitions and Experiences of Music Therapy in

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Asian Regions.” NER-AMTAS’s fundraiser and advocacy event was at the Italian American Club of Walpole. They raised funds to provide scholarships for music therapy students in the New England Region and advocated for music therapy to the local community. They had live music and food. Together with the GoFundMe page that was set up, they raised \$443. They provided three \$50 scholarships to each school in our region and two \$125 regional conference scholarships. They donated \$50 to a professional member who was in need and requested assistance for attending regional conference. Regional Conference was held at Newport, Rhode Island.

Southwestern Region had a successful year that culminated at regional conference in Fort Worth, Texas. They started conference with our second annual student social, followed by had a student passages conference with multiple students presenting on everything from advocacy to practicum experiences to research they were conducting. At conference they also adjusted the regional bylaws to better match the AMTAS and gave out three scholarships. SWAMTAS recognized and thanked their student SAAB advisor Michelle Kennemer for her service over the past 12 years.

Western Region held their conference in beautiful Broomfield, Colorado in conjunction with the Midwestern region. This year, WRAMTAS was able to provide four scholarships to students to help with conference expenses. These

scholarships were partially funded by fundraising efforts made by the board. This year’s fundraising items included bumper stickers and guitar picks. This year marked the first WRAMTAS Passages session. WRAMTAS has also created a new website which facilitates voting, university updates, internship spotlights, and much more. Check them out at www.wramtas.org, and be sure to check out their conference highlight video.

Mid-Atlantic Region had another busy year as they hosted their Passages Conference at Nazareth College. The conference featured student presentations on the transition from student to intern, the role of story telling and fantasy play in music therapy, and more. MARAMTS also awarded 6 student scholarships and three intern scholarships. This year for regional conference, they developed the Student Leadership Academy (SLA). The theme for this year’s SLA was building a successful private practice and owning a Music Therapy business, and students had the opportunity to visit and tour Music Therapy businesses and private practices around the Rochester area. At regional conference, MARAMTS once again provided an opportunity for students to sit and talk with a panel of professional Music Therapists, all at different stages of their careers. MARAMTS also organized the regional conference “Canning Project,” which collected funds for Music4More (music4more.org), a Baltimore-based organization that organizes instrument collections for children

that need them, as well as Music Therapy programs for veterans. At the MARAMTS “Swap Shop” each school shared a movement intervention that could be used in clinical settings.

Southeastern Region had an exceptional amount of participation this year. The region’s on-campus student organizations focused on community service, group cohesion, fundraising, educating and advocating for music therapy at a local level. This year their regional project focused on advocacy starting as close to “home” as possible. Each educational institution was called upon to create an “advocacy prom” at their school or add to their current advocacy work on campus. The idea is that future music therapists need to start advocacy at their own campuses. During Friday night of conference at Chapel Hill, NC some enthusiastic students made time during a very busy day to brainstorm and come together with voices from across the region. SER-AMTAS is excited for this next generation of highly enthusiastic and innovative music therapists to network and collaborate with to build a bright future for music therapy.



If you have any questions please contact a member of the AMTAS Executive Board

President, Jamela Brown: president.amtas@gmail.com

President-Elect, Garrett Weeks: presidentelect.amtas@gmail.com

Vice-President, Megan Sindeldecker: vicepresident.amtas@gmail.com

Parliamentarian, Kenny Farinelli: parliamentarian.amtas@gmail.com

Treasurer, Rachel Williams: treasurer.amtas@gmail.com

Secretary, Zoe Levine: secretary.amtas@gmail.com

Thank you!



*Keep an eye on the
website for AMTAS blog
posts coming soon!*



*Remember to pay you AMTA Student
Membership for conference discounts!*

