

A.M.T.A.

American Music Therapy Association Students

www.amtas.org



Happy Fall / Winter to all of you!

The year 2013 is almost over and we look back on an active year filled with amazing AMTAS projects.

The Annual AMTA Conference in Jacksonville, Florida happened, and many students travelled down South to learn and network with professionals and students.

This newsletter is for you, to learn about all the wonderful things students of AMTAS have done all around the country.

Enjoy!

Diandra Russo, AMTAS Secretary 2013

Fall Newsletter 2013

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AMTAS Officers 2013



From Left to Right

Ethan Schmidt, President – Ellen Trammel, Vice President – Kayla Hamilton, Treasurer- Melissa Heffner, Parliamentarian-
Diandra Russo, Secretary – Nicole Hahna, Advisor

The AMTAS Executive Officers have been meeting on a monthly basis over the course of this past year, preparing for the Annual AMTA Conference. We all individually have been fulfilling our duties such as overseeing scholarship submissions, updating our very own AMTAS homepage, revising and editing the bylaws, proposing a new budget, compiling newsletters, contact information and facilitating conversations among the students of AMTAS.

At the conference we held multiple meetings along with the regional presidents and regional advisors, sharing regional reports and working on implementing changes to make our student organization as efficient and beneficial as possible.

We are all appreciative for the opportunity to serve you all, and wish the next year's executive officers another productive year.



We would like to thank all the regional presidents, their advisors, and all of you students of AMTAS, for all the amazing projects and incredible advocacy for music therapy, that you have done over this past year, all around the country.

We are the future of our profession!!



SAAB Members at SAAB Meeting 2013, Jacksonville Florida



AMTAS Officers at the AMTA Board of Directors Meeting, Jacksonville, Florida

Regional AMTAS Reports

New England Region

Greetings from the New England Region! Conference was an amazing experience for all who attended, leaving with some incredible memories. How can you even forget a drum circle of over 200 people, right? The networking opportunities were also perfect for our turnout of about 9 students as well as new and experienced professionals down in Jacksonville this past weekend. The region sent two of these students to conference through two \$400.00 scholarships, awarded to Berklee College of Music students Tessa Kaslewicz and Bobbi Jo Vandal. Our focus Regional Project right now is our service trip to the Grand Cayman Islands this coming January during Support Our Youth Month to run an after-school music therapy camp along with day trips to local hospitals and youth programs. After our 6 regional students return from Cayman we plan on focusing our service projects locally until April, hopefully establishing some regular sites for future Executive Boards to continue. Check us out at <https://www.facebook.com/neramtas> and <http://www.neramtas.org/> !!

Great Lakes Region

The Great Lakes Region has been working on two projects this year. Our regional project is MY Musicians, which is a grant for a music program in need. We want to give \$400 worth of instruments to the grant recipient. So far, we have three schools nominated. We hope to have the recipient chosen by January of next year. We received \$400 from AMTAS as part of a scholarship to fund our project! Thank you so much!! Our second project is University Liaisons. For this project, the GLR-AMTAS board gathered contact information from every college music therapy club president. We plan to develop a link on our website for incoming presidents to fill out their contact information. We hope that this will strengthen communication within the region as well as increase student conference attendance. We are currently working on next year's passages, for which we will offer four scholarships for student registration. I have to say, it was great hearing what all the regions have been up to over the last year. Our profession has a bright and awesome future. See you all (or should I say y'all?) next year, in Louisville!

Melissa Schumann Neitzel

President of GLR-AMTAS

Western Region

Activity in the western region has been dynamic this fall! We've been renovating our website (www.wramtas.org), developing an email database, writing internship spotlights, hosting virtual master classes, collecting photos and reports from our university representatives, and planning our regional conference.

Due to geographic obstacles, I was forever alone from the western region at AMTAS national conference meetings until I tracked down a California student. However, students from other regions were very welcoming and took me under their wings. Nevertheless, our region won a \$200 scholarship to upgrade our anymeeting.com membership, thus enabling us to start recording virtual master classes again! A special thank you to some of the students from Wisconsin and Texas for all of your kindness, and to Burrito Gallery in downtown Jacksonville for cooking the 3 quality burritos I ate over the course of my trip.

The deadline for our new "First-Time Attendee Student Scholarship" is coming up on December 16th. This award's goal is to provide opportunities for students who have not been able to attend a regional conference before, and to increase interest in attending our regional conference. At the 2013 conference, there were 38 early student member registrations. The goal for the 2014 conference in Portland is to exceed that number. We are hopeful for a high number of students at the 2014 WRAMTA conference because, after all, "the dream of the 90s is alive in Portland."

- Candice Bain
WRAMTAS President

Southwestern Region

Hello everyone! The Southwestern Region is happy to say that we have a very active group this year. We had about 20 students attend AMTA's National Conference in Jacksonville, Florida which was a blast! SWAMTAS has been busy putting together an Internship Directory that will allow future interns to contact past interns about the different sites within our region. We have also created a new scholarship to help more students attend our Regional Conference. All of our schools have been busy inviting guest speakers, holding mini conferences, and doing a plethora of community service all the while spreading the word about music therapy. And you can't forget fundraising! We are constantly coming up with clever ideas to help fundraise for our school clubs and our region. You can keep up with what's going on by joining our Facebook group: SWAMTAS.

Midwestern Region

In our efforts to start up big exciting projects for our region to partake in, we realized that there is not a lot of communication happening among the schools, making it very difficult to make progress. As a board, we decided to take a step back and simply get everyone talking. The current project involves reaching out to all schools and encouraging involvement and active participation on a regional level, so eventually we can move forward with larger endeavors. We have moved from a Facebook group to a "Like" page (Midwest Music Therapy Students), and we are working on becoming more active in the twittersphere (@mwrstudents). We even created a Pinterest page (<http://www.pinterest.com/mwramtas/>) to spread and generate ideas, provide inspiration, and share resources. The ultimate goal would be to create a blog that is a unifying community for regular communication, sharing ideas, inspiration, experiences, successes, resources, and anything music therapy related.

We have one fundraiser underway in which the funds will go to sending a student to the 2014 regional conference in Springfield, MO. Contest guidelines will be forthcoming soon, so stay tuned! Visit <http://www.youcaring.com/tuition-fundraiser/music-therapy-student-scholarship/102892> to help out!

AMTAS Parliamentarian

Hello AMTAS Members,

It was a privilege to serve as Parliamentarian for AMTAS this year. I learned a lot through this experience, and I'm very grateful to have had it.

We had two very busy and very successful business meetings at the AMTA National Conference in Jacksonville, FL, in November. I made several very necessary and important changes to the AMTAS Bylaws, including grammatical and content issues, and all proposed changes were approved by the AMTAS membership. A request for the consideration of using gender-neutral language in the AMTAS Bylaws was presented, and it was decided to have next year's Parliamentarian take on that task. You can anticipate that subject to be discussed at next year's AMTAS business meetings. The new 2014 AMTAS Bylaws should be available on the AMTAS Website very soon.

I am very excited for all that the new Executive Officers will accomplish in the coming year.

Good luck to all of you as you are finishing up your semesters. And have a wonderful holiday season!

Melissa Heffner, 2013 AMTAS Parliamentarian

Meet the AMTAS Officers 2014



→ From Left to Right →

Robert Aguilar – Parliamentarian

Candice Bain – President

Megan Kling – Secretary

Vienna SA – Vice President

Ryan Rebagay – President Elect

Audrey Manis – Treasurer (not in the picture)

Resources for Students



Join the

AMTAS Facebook Group...

... A place for conversations, questions and an exchange of Music Therapy related treats.

@AMTAS



#AMTAS

www.amtas.org

The AMTAS Homepage is a great resource for students to find scholarship information, standing committee's application forms, links to the regional AMTAS pages and any other information about the activities of AMTAS.

!!!New!!!

Check out the **InternPodcast Series**, learning all about the application process and life as a music therapy intern from current interns for future interns!

Blog: We just launched a student & intern blog to facilitate easy communication: Ask questions and be part of conversations with your peers!



AMTA 2014 National Conference

in Louisville, KY

**"Pursue Your Passion for Music Therapy"
Please save the date:**

**Thursday, November 06, 2014 - Sunday,
November 09, 2014**

World Congress of Music Therapy

July 7 - 12, 2014

Vienna, Austria

Scholarships

Please watch out for the yearly available STARS scholarships on amtas.org.

Updates and more information will follow soon!

Get Involved Standing Committees

Students have a voice on the Standing Committees of the American Music Therapy Association!

Please consider to become a student representative on a standing committee!

Check amtas.org for nomination forms!