 Welcome to the AMTAS Newsletter Spring 2018

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Introduction

Hello, AMTAS members! We hope your Spring semesters have gone well and were full of enriching experiences. This year, AMTAS has decided to continue to distribute our Newsletter in its traditional form as well as periodic blog updates. We hope our publications work to provide ideas and inspiration for your own region, as well as helpful information. Stay posted for more blog posts.

"The purpose of AMTAS will be to promote, foster, and advance the education and training of its members."
**New England Region** held their Regional Conference in Westbrook, Connecticut, where they elected a new board, including a new role of parliamentarian. At conference, two Conference Scholarships were raffled off to David Nicholson from Berklee College and Carolyn Artesani from Lesley University. Two $75 Scholarships were given to Mellany Gomez from Anna Maria University and Jung Zoey Weng from Berklee College of Music. On top of their Regional Conference, Berklee College of Music held a number of "mini conferences" throughout the spring semester for their music therapy students what were open to all. They also received a $100 AMTAS grant which went to funding their second annual open mic fundraiser at the LOFT at Berklee College of Music. This fundraiser included raffle prizes, a bake sale, and a featured performance from the Nate Chung Project. With this fundraiser, they raised $220, which went to two conference scholarships.

**Mid-Atlantic Region** had another busy year as they are quickly preparing for their next Passages conference at Radford University in Virginia for the upcoming fall. They’ve revamped their scholarship application scoring process, awarding four undergraduate scholarships, one graduate scholarship, two club scholarships, and three intern scholarships at their 2018 Regional Conference. At Regional Conference, they were also successful in selling their new merchandise, coffee mugs. They also elected their first Public Relations Officer to their Student Executive Board, not to mention they also revamped their budget approval process. Their schools also fundraised money to be donated to the Momentum Choir of Western New York. They are currently brainstorming ideas that can be made to their organization moving forward, such as increasing communication throughout the "off-season" between conferences.

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**Great Lakes Region** had an incredible experience at their Regional Conference held in Ypsilanti, MI, their theme being Embracing Every Note: Celebrating Diversity in Music Therapy. Their annual Passages showcased four student speakers and two professional speakers, enriched by presentations, icebreakers, and a preview of this year’s advocacy song. One highlight of this conference was performing the Executive Board’s piggy-back song entitled "How Far We’ll Go" (Inspired by Moana’s "How Far I’ll Go") at the professional business meeting. Their outgoing Executive Board is proud of their past projects, such as the Gift of Music Grant.

**SouthEastern Region** had their annual Regional Conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee. At conference, students shared information through the research poster session, participated in student concurrent sessions, and held new board member elections for the 2018-2019 year. This past year, our board focused on multiple scholarship opportunities. We gave away one National Conference Scholarship, two Regional Conference Scholarships, and one AMTA Student Membership. Our regional project also focused on advocacy. Last year, we were awarded $100 from AMTAS to help further our advocacy efforts in our region. This upcoming year, we hope to help newcomer Belmont University start an annual advocacy program on their campus.
Regional Reports
cont.

**Mid-Western Region** had their annual Regional Conference in Iowa City, Iowa. Their members also organized their Passages conference, which consisted of three students presenters and their keynote speakers, CharCarol Fisher, presenting on advocacy and professional development. At conference, their new board members were elected: Ryan Smith as MWR-AMTAS President and Kailey Campbell as MWR-AMTAS Vice President. They are also proud to provide a grant to Jacob Sumpter from Concordia University, which allowed him to be the first representative from his school to attend a regional conference. Through their Music Therapy Notes fundraisers and penny wars, they raised roughly $200. They will continue to sell their music therapy notebooks at the upcoming National AMTA conference held in Dallas, TX. They are also planning to hold another Cadenza 5K at National Conference so be on the lookout!

**Southwestern Region** held their regional conference in Lubbock, Texas, with their keynote speaker being Dr. Deforia Lane. At conference, they had a well-attended student social event that was a huge success. As for scholarships, they were able to give out two scholarships: one $250 Undergraduate Scholarship to Aliya Gardea from West Texas A&M University, and a Senior Scholarship to Elizabeth Gifford from Sam Houston State University. They were also able to offer a free CMTE session to students and professionals about Ethical Considerations in a collaboration with the Opera Program at Texas Tech. During their student meetings, they were proud to have comic King, MT-BC come speak about diversity and inter sectionalism within the profession. One project for them this year was to challenge their individual schools to advocate for music therapy on their campus and community. They challenged each of their schools within their region to use their awareness week as a platform to complete this challenge. Southern Methodist University and West Texas A&M University both had stand-out awareness weeks that were covered through social media. SMU posted music therapy PSAs, hosted a drum circle, gave out donuts, and discussed music therapy, and ended their week with "Cafe SMUTY". WTAMU hosted a Music Thera (tea) Monday event with free tea and music therapy facts, played Music Therapy fact or Fiction in the student center, hosted an open jam session, and ended their week with a SINGO event. They also hosted a live music therapy session open to the public in one of their meetings with actual music therapy clients of a practicum supervisor in the area. In terms of their newly elected Executive Board, they are very excited for the upcoming year and the chance to ser
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 organization or region. Through our social media, see what students from all over the country are doing to promote music therapy. We also feature advice collected from various music therapists. You’ll also get to know members of the AMTAS Executive Board and all that we do. Make sure you're tagging us in all the great stuff you're doing so we can share it with the world!

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Thank you!