



World Federation of Music Therapy

Dear WFMT members,

Happy 2024 to all around the globe! I wish everyone a healthy, safe, and blessed new year ahead. I send my warmest wishes to all.

### **World Music Therapy Week**

The World Music Therapy Week (WMTW) is celebrated from **April 10- April 15** every year, and this is approaching us very soon! Throughout the year, music therapy clinicians, educators, researchers, supporters around the world work hard to offer music therapy services and education to those we serve, to engage in research and advocacy activities to further establish and develop the profession, and to offer support to each other in the community. WMTW is a time when we can celebrate together what we do and gather our collective efforts to increase awareness of and advocacy for music therapy. It is also a time when global connectedness of music therapy, which can be especially important for developing countries, is highlighted. During this week, I encourage music therapists and music therapy supporters to engage in reflections, collaborations, and celebratory and advocacy events/activities together, and be inspired and refreshed by the mutual supportive energies that circulate within our community.

The WFMT will continue to host a photo contest during World Music Therapy Week this year. Stay tuned for more information on WFMT social media platforms. If you have any questions about the photo contest, please do not hesitate to contact our Public Relations Commission at [publicrelations@wfmt.info](mailto:publicrelations@wfmt.info).

### **Bid to host the World Congress of Music Therapy**

Another platform through which our global community supports each other is the World Congress of Music Therapy. This triennial event offers opportunities for professional enrichment, self-care, and collaboration; it is a place where colleagues around the world share and exchange information on the development of music therapy. All current full organizational members of the WFMT are eligible to submit a congress proposal. We are currently calling for bid proposals for the 2029 World Congress of Music Therapy. Interested organizations can submit your proposals to [pastpresident@wfmt.info](mailto:pastpresident@wfmt.info) by **May 1, 2024**. For more information on bid submission, please visit: <https://www.wfmt.info/events>.

This could be a once in a lifetime opportunity for your organization and will bring positive attention and awareness of music therapy to your country. WFMT encourages you to take on this opportunity and we look forward to hearing from you!

### **The WFMT Social Media and Website**

Social media and online platforms have become an integral part of modern society where people from all around the world communicate, interact, and exchange information. It has brought the world closer but it also has the potential to do harm. To ensure that the WFMT social media platforms continue to be a safe, kind, and compassionate space for all, we have introduced a [Social Media and Online Posting Policy](#). This document offers a set of guidelines for WFMT Council members, WFMT members, and the wider

community to follow when using and interacting on WFMT social media platforms. Together, we can foster a vibrant and inclusive online community for all.

Another recent update on WFMT's social media platforms is that the WFMT's Facebook group page will be discontinued on **February 26, 2024**. The WFMT Facebook Business page will continue to serve as the organization's only Facebook page. The WFMT Facebook pages have been one of the main platforms for WFMT members and the wider community to interact, exchange information, offer constructive comments, suggestions, and valuable resources, and share experiences. To better manage and maintain the safety, quality, and professional image of this platform, the WFMT has decided to combine the existing pages into one. We hope that this will translate to better efficiency, effectiveness, and improved communication between the WFMT and its members.

The Publications Committee and the Public Relations Committee are in the process of introducing a Facebook group on music therapy publications. The idea is for the group to function as a means for the music therapy community to interact and share information about music therapy publications. Likewise, the group will serve as a means for the publications committee to publicize and interact more directly with the general public about its activities. Please stay tuned!

The WFMT website continues to be updated regularly with new information. If you have any questions about the WFMT's social media and website, please feel free to contact our Public Relations Commission at [publicrelations@wfmt.info](mailto:publicrelations@wfmt.info).

Thank you for your continued support and your contributions to making this a safe, enriching, and vibrant community for all. I look forward to hearing from you to learn more about how we can continue to serve you, our professional community, and the wider global community better over the term.

With peace and blessings,

Vivian Chan

**President** | World Federation of Music Therapy

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