



World Federation of Music Therapy

Dear WFMT members,

It's here!!! Happy World Music Therapy Week!!! From ***April 10- April 15***, music therapy clinicians, educators, researchers, and supporters from around the world come together to celebrate 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 is highlighted.

The WFMT holds an annual photo competition during this time. This year, 45 photos were submitted from individuals around the world and over a thousand and five hundred votes were received. A panel consisting of three Council members from different regions reviews the submissions and determines the winning photo from the top three photos based on three criteria, i) Creativity of the photo, ii) Quality of the photo in creating awareness or advocacy for music therapy, and iii) Amount of votes the photo received. The top three photos and the winning photo will be announced on our social media platforms this week! Please stay tuned! Thank you to everyone who submitted a photo.

I invite you to join us in this celebration by engaging in reflections, collaborations, and celebratory and advocacy events/activities together. May we be inspired and refreshed by the mutual supportive energies that circulate within our community.

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

While we enjoy this week's invigorating events, let us not forget about the call for bid proposals for the 2029 World Congress of Music Therapy. All current full organizational members of the WFMT are eligible to submit a congress proposal. 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. We encourage you to grasp this opportunity and look forward to hearing from you!

### **A call out for nominations for the Chair of the IDEA Commission position**

Due to the recent resignation of our IDEA Commission Chair, Dr. Sue Baines, the WFMT would like to take this opportunity to put out an open call for suitable candidates to fill the Chair of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Commission position. We deeply appreciate Dr. Baines's valuable contributions to the Council and are truly grateful for her strength and wisdom.

If you or you know of any colleagues who may be interested and suitable for this position, please do not hesitate to submit your nomination. Individuals seeking nomination to positions on Council may be self-nominated or nominated by any member, or any member of the Council. To submit a nomination, please follow the steps below:

- Send in the CV of the nominee and your rationale for nominating the

candidate to [secretary@wfmt.info](mailto:secretary@wfmt.info) and [president@wfmt.info](mailto:president@wfmt.info) by ***Friday, April 26, 2024***. For those nominating themselves, please send in your CV and list 2 references with email addresses for contact.

- Potential candidates will be voted on by the current Council
- The candidate who receives the most votes will be contacted and appointed by the President.

According to the Bylaws ARTICLE III. Section 3.5, should a casual vacancy occur on Council, as a result of a resignation, the President will have the authority, with approval of the Council, to appoint a person to serve for the remainder of the term. In an attempt to initiate a transparent and unbiased process and ensure equal opportunity to fill Council positions, we have decided to extend this open call to our members.

The IDEA Commission is a newly added commission this term hence, the mission, goals and objectives of the commission are to be determined by the new Commissioner. If you have further questions about this role, please feel free to contact me at [president@wfmt.info](mailto:president@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.

In peace and harmony,

Vivian Chan

**President** | **World Federation of Music Therapy**

E: [president@wfmt.info](mailto:president@wfmt.info)

W: <https://www.wfmt.info/>