

# Nominees for Trustees for the BAMT Annual General Meeting, 12 October 2019

## Ali Rowley

Having served as a trustee of BAMT since 2016, I am presently Chair of the Governance Committee. My extensive legal background (I have over 30 years' experience practising as a barrister and in other senior legal positions), has given me an ability to understand and cut through "legal jargon" and to be able to summarise issues concisely and clearly to the Board.

A lifelong passion for music has developed into a deepening interest in music therapy, and I'm in the third year of studying part-time for an MA in Music Therapy. I play a number of instruments, am a qualified violin teacher, play in an orchestra and sing in two choirs, and am heavily involved in music in my local community.

I would relish the opportunity to continue to contribute to the effective governance and growth of BAMT.

## Marianne Rizkallah



In my three years as Trustee, BAMT has changed as an organisation. When I was elected to the role in 2016, my fellow board members and I found a charity that, while functioning, needed reform. Our work has focused on putting in place the policies and organisational structures to make sure that BAMT can now go on to become the organisation it needs to be.

Thanks to this work we are now in a position to build on these foundations and take the feedback of the membership on board to define BAMT's priorities for the future, what it means to its members and how we are going to deliver on our mission.

I worked with the Chair and other members of the Board to form the Governance Committee, of which I am a founding member. The chief responsibility of the Governance Committee is the health and good running of the organisation. Part of its remit is to ensure that all BAMT policies - safeguarding, health and safety, whistleblowing, measures to look after the Core Team and the membership as a whole - are in proper working order. What this will mean for members in the future is clarity over our procedures. BAMT can now run more effectively and therefore better serve its members. However, there is still more to be done.

I would like to serve as a Trustee for another three years to carry on this critical work to bring about further reforms and changes to strengthen the organisation and make BAMT membership mean more.

As the director of a growing music therapy company, and a member of staff at the Guildhall responsible for service evaluations and the promotion of music therapy, I feel I am well placed to understand the profession at large, its challenges and how BAMT must respond to them, and support music therapists.

I not only work as a clinician but I understand how to set up and run a successful service and promote music therapy in the wider world. I hope to be reelected as a BAMT Trustee for another three years to carry on this important work in order to make clearer the benefits to members of the progress made on issues behind the scenes to build a better organisation.

## Robert Wood



As a senior professional with many years' experience in charity sector communications and campaigning, I am eager to offer my skills to support the music therapy profession.

I heard about this vacancy through my wife, who has been a practising music therapist and BAMT member for nearly 20 years. Through her I have developed an appreciation of the power and effectiveness of the profession. I have also encountered music therapy in my professional career, having headed the communications team at a national children's charity that champions music therapy in its work. In addition, I am a keen musician in my spare time.

I currently work as the Head of Partnership Communications for the environmental charity WWF. The team I lead is responsible for managing and delivering the communications strategies for WWF's partnerships with companies including Coca-Cola, HSBC, M&S, Sky, Tesco and Unilever. Working alongside these brands, I develop and deliver high-impact consumer and business-to-business campaigns, drawing on my wide experience in communications, PR, crisis management and campaigning. The role also requires delicate relationship management skills.

Prior to WWF, I worked at The Children's Trust, a leading national charity for children with brain injury and complex neurodisabilities. I was responsible for all aspects of communications at the charity and delivered a number of key projects, including coverage on BBC Children In Need and in other national media outlets; a revamp of the organisation's fundraising and supporter materials; and the development of an award-winning information service for families. I was also responsible for coordinating the charity's campaigning and advocacy activities and worked closely with other children's organisations as part of the Every Disabled Child Matters group.

Through these roles, and previous positions in public relations and at the BBC, I have honed a range of skills that I believe would benefit BAMT and fulfil the criteria for this trusteeship. Having established a solid career in the communications field, it would be a privilege to be able to volunteer my expertise in support of your organisation.

## Helen Davies



My name is Helen Davies and I am applying for the role of Trustee with a heart full of music and a background in business.

From the first moment I sat down at a piano and played a violin aged 7, I have been aware of music's power to inspire, to energise, to reach beyond language, and to heal. Since then, I have attained Grade VIII piano (at 18), played the violin with the National Youth Orchestra, sang in the Whitehall choir and been an Associate Member of both the Music Teachers' Association and the Australian Music Therapy Association, and studied regularly at the Conservatoire in Sydney whilst living in Australia. I have been a member of BAMT since my return to the UK in 2011.

There is nothing I would have liked more than to be a music therapist. However life took me in a different direction, and instead I have run and transformed companies all over the world. I have specialised in strategic communications, the motivation of personnel and the overall positioning of global brands. In fact, the skills that I believe are necessary to support both the members and the organisation's growth have been replicated throughout my career.

To use my skills to raise the profile, enable better understanding of the work of music therapists and ultimately give the profession the respect it deserves would be a privilege.

In November, I am standing down from a Chair role so will have the time and energy to devote to another position. I would be delighted to offer my experience and expertise to BAMT to help further the immensely important work of music therapists. A role as Trustee would see my career meet my lifelong passion for music and my very strong belief in its therapeutic value.