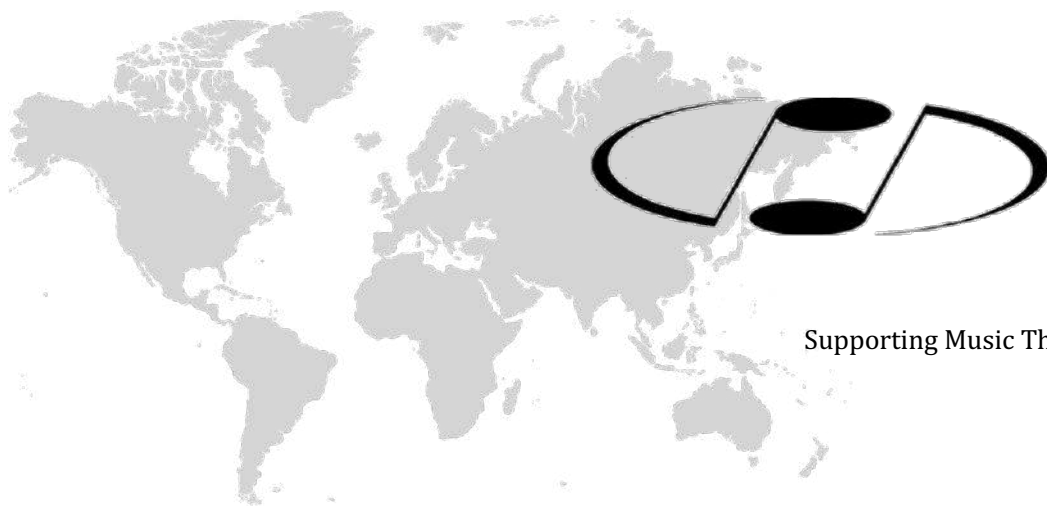


# World Federation of Music Therapy



Supporting Music Therapy Worldwide

## Annual Report July 2023 - June 2024

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#### **Greeting from WFMT President**

#### **Council reports**

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Commissioners: Clinical Practice | Education, Certification, and Regulation  
Global Crises Intervention | Publications | Public Relations  
Research and Ethics | Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access  
2026 World Congress Organizer

Regional Liaisons: Africa | Australia/New Zealand | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe,  
Latin America and the Caribbean | Canada and the USA | Southeast Asia,  
Western Pacific

## Greetings from the WFMT President, Ms. Vivian Chan

The 2023-2026 term did not have an easy beginning. It was met with a series of warfare and crises around the world while COVID continues to linger among us. Many have lost loved ones, family, and colleagues, and some are still living with fear and anxiety everyday. These are unsettling and unsafe times, and we are all affected by them. We acknowledge, sympathize, and empathize with the general trauma, pain and suffering people have had to endure over the past year, and we continue to extend our support to and hold space for those in need.

In the midst of these difficult times, it is inspirational to see that the perseverance and hard work of our colleagues around the world are beginning to come to fruition. Some highlights include: music therapy is now a profession that is recognized and regulated by the local government in Brazil after 20 years of persistent hard work; Singapore saw the launch of its very first Master of Music Therapy training program at the Lasalle College of the Arts, University of the Arts Singapore; and Music Therapy New Zealand will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary this coming September! Congratulations to our fellow colleagues in Brazil, Singapore, and New Zealand! There are many more stories of success and inspiration happening around us as we speak. Thank you to all our members around the world for your dedication and for spreading messages of hope and encouragement to our global community.

My vision for WFMT for the remainder of the term remains consistent: to bring the opportunity to practice music therapy and the benefits of music therapy interventions to people throughout the world. Furthermore, I would also like to see our global community become safe and harmonious once again. In the current state of the world, it is ever more important that we focus our efforts on the quality of our own well-being while advancing the profession. At the center of all our work is people. What we try to do as an organization, as a profession, loses its meaning and impact if we as people do not live out the values we proclaim. The values of the WFMT embrace diversity and inclusivity, and strive to promote equity. We aim to cultivate an environment that is safe and compassionate for everyone. We uphold kindness, humility, dignity, respect, and integrity as basic virtues and rights of every individual. I appeal to our members to join hands and rebuild our global community together.

In the following report, I bring to you the work of our Council over the past year as we continue to strive to live out our mission and carry forward the work in developing and promoting music therapy throughout the world as an art and science, and supporting the global development of educational programs, clinical practice and research to demonstrate the contribution of music therapy to humanity.

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/>

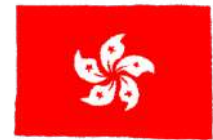




## President

Vivian Chan, MMT, MT-BC, MTA, BA, BFA(Hons)

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



As President of the WFMT, my role is to preserve the organization's mission and values, and to provide leadership, vision, and direction to the WFMT Council. I conduct and facilitate Council meetings as well as work with council members to determine the needs of the organization, profession, and membership, and to set term goals and ensure the continuity of Council work. I also lead the Council into informed decision-making on behalf of the WFMT membership and maintain regular communication with the membership regarding the business of the WFMT.

### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Scheduled, created agenda and facilitated three Council online meetings during the year (October 2023, January 2024, April 2024).
- Supported the Council in transitioning and settling into the new term.
- Assisted Commissioners in recruiting commission members and volunteers.
- Assisted and supported Commissioners in determining goals and projects for the term.
- Responded to email enquiries and requests about music therapy and WFMT as an organization.
- Scheduled and attended periodic meetings with Council members to discuss roles/tasks.
- Prepared Monthly Buzzes to update membership on WFMT Businesses.
- Collaborated with the European Music Therapy Confederation to host a webinar in celebration of the European Music Therapy Day.
- Created a celebratory video for Chile Music Therapy Day.
- Collaborated with the Public Relations Commission to organise and promote World Music Therapy Week.
- Collaborated with the Public Relations Commission to revamp and update the WFMT website.
- Supported and assisted the Global Crisis Commission in their initiatives to plan, organise, coordinate, and deliver crisis intervention and to offer support during crisis.
- Supported and assisted Regional Liaisons in identifying goals and needs of their region and developing networks to support their work.
- Assisted the Public Relations Commissioner with the management of WFMT social media platforms.
- Worked with the Public Relations Commissioner in devising the WFMT's Social Media and Online Posting Policy.
- Contributed to the revisions of the WFMT Responsible Conduct Guidelines.
- Initiated, executed, and followed through with processes to fill vacant positions on the Council with input and approval from the Council.
- Delivered a Keynote speech titled "Globalization and Localisation: Growth and Development of Music Therapy Around the World" at LaSalle College for the Arts, University of the Arts Singapore, for the launch of Singapore's first music therapy master's program.



- Coordinated and collaborated with the Public Relations Commissioner to prepare the WFMT Annual Report for circulation to the membership.
- Reviewed proposals and provided input for the 2026 WCMT bids.
- 
- Collaborated with The Italian Association of Music Therapy in planning for the 2026 WCMT and in drafting a Memorandum of Understanding between the WFMT and The Italian Association of Music Therapy.
- Attended to recommendations and grievances submitted to WFMT regarding the organisation and its Council members.

### Ongoing Activities

- Preserve the organisation's mission and values.
- Provide leadership, vision, and direction to the WFMT Council.
- Maintain communication with Commission Chairs and support Council members in their roles.
- Maintain communication with Executive Officers to discuss and manage operational matters of the organisation.
- Assist in recruiting new members.
- Collaborate with the WCMT 2026 organisers.
- Schedule and conduct online and in-person Council meetings.
- Support WFMT individual and organizational members.
- Appoint vacant positions on the Council with approval of the Council.

### Future Projects during the Term

- Present on WFMT at conferences and invited academic presentations.
- Support new projects and initiatives within the Council in accordance to needs identified throughout the term.
- Maintain existing relationship and collaborations with music therapy organisations and identify opportunities for new collaborations.
- Identify potential related professional groups to collaborate with.
- Deliver a short speech at the 50th Anniversary Hybrid Conference 2024 in New Zealand.

### ***In closing...***

Thank you for the honour and privilege of serving on the WFMT Council as President over the past year. It has not been an easy year navigating into the new role during a time when the world is experiencing instability and great tribulations, but I have been fortunate to have the opportunity to work with a group of dynamic, committed, and hard working team of professionals on the Council who dedicated many hours to the work of the organisation and supported me along the way to advance the profession globally.

In my role as the President, while my understanding of the strengths, challenges, and needs of our profession has been broadened, I have also been inspired by the many developments and growths happening in our profession around the world. There is still much learning and work to be done, yet there is also much to celebrate!

I look forward to continue my work as President to support and promote the global development of our profession with my colleagues on the Council, and to create and nurture an environment that promotes unity, mutual support, and growth within our global community.



## Past President

Dr. Anita Swanson

Email: [pastpresident@wfmt.info](mailto:pastpresident@wfmt.info)



### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Provided continuity and give support to the President and Council
- Advised the Council on matters of procedure and protocol
- Attended and participated in Council meetings
- Worked with the WCMT organizers in planning the next WCMT
- Recruited commission members
- Provided historical information
- Assisted potential WCMT 2029 bidders
- Received bids for WCMT 2029
- Chaired membership benefit committee; set meetings, organize, delegate
- Responded to all emails and communications in a timely manner
- Assisted Council with their responsibilities
- Listened to member concerns about lack of communication and action from WFMT; encouraged president to respond
- Listened to council concerns and relayed concerns to president while calling for action

### Ongoing Activities

- Assist Council
- Respond to communications

### Future Projects during the Term

- WCMT 2026 planning assistance
- Membership committee





## Secretary

Aksana Kavaliova-Moussi

Email: [secretary@wfmt.info](mailto:secretary@wfmt.info)



### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Presented highlights of the WCMT2023 for the Russian-speaking music therapists organized by the educational center named after N. Bechtereva (St. Petersburg).
- Answered and delegated emails from the Contact Us web-form
- Received and assisted with bids enquiries for WCMT 2029
- Participated in membership benefit committee meetings
- Responded to all emails and communications in a timely manner
- Assisted Council when needed
- Attended all council and officers meetings
- Sent meeting agendas, took and distributed meeting minutes
- Communicated with stakeholders via email
- Received membership enquiries, communicated with candidates, prepared and sent membership certificates, updated membership database and President monthly buzz database
- Attended Eastern Mediterranean regional Zoom meeting as a former Regional Liaison and a current secretary
- Communicated with council via email and other digital forms of communication
- Listened to members concerns about the limited communication from the WFMT and directed the messages to president and past president

### Ongoing and Future Activities

- Continue secretary tasks (membership, meeting agendas and minutes, contact us form)
- Continue engaging with stakeholders
- Continue being a part of the membership benefit committee
- Continue assisting council members when needed

#### ***In closing...***

It has been a pleasure working with the new council since July 2023. I hope to increase our membership during this term, and to continue promoting music therapy worldwide. It gives me hope to see interest from many countries to host WCMT in the future.



## Treasurer

Amanda Montera

Email: treasurer@wfmt.info



### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Transitioned accounts from outgoing treasurer to new treasurer
- Updated all related subscription accounts and services
- Maintained nonprofit business registration (updated every November)
- Filed federal taxes - 990N e-postcard
- Drafted new budget for 2023-2026 term
- Provided information to collect royalties from RILM

### Ongoing Activities

- Track expenditures using QuickBooks and manage WFMT budget
- Coordinate with Secretary to track memberships and membership income
- Maintain running budget tracker showing annual and total spending for budget categories
- Attended any Council and officer meetings via Zoom

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#### Account summary as of July 1, 2024

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Bank balance	\$25,786.65
PayPal balance	\$5,235.14
Total:	\$31,021.79

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### Future Projects during the Term

- Develop new fundraising ideas and revenue streams for WFMT in collaboration with the council
- Continue to update and maintain the Treasurer's Handbook
- Collaborate with Council to determine in-person meeting locations and expenditures for 2025 and 2026
- Collaborate with officers and council to explore ways for WFMT to be more involved in planning/hosting/financing the World Congress
- Collaborate with officers and council to further develop by-laws, policies, and procedures where there are gaps

#### ***In closing...***

It has been an honor and privilege to begin serving the WFMT as Treasurer this past year; my first time being a part of this organization. It is a truly special experience to get to collaborate with and learn from music therapists all over the world. The transition between treasurers was smooth and our financial status remains stable. Through the course of this term we will be revisiting the idea of in-person meetings each year, explore ways to increase the WFMT's revenue streams including new and unique fundraising ideas, and discuss ways we can participate more in the planning and potentially financing of World Congress every three years. This is a large undertaking that would greatly change the current structure for how World Congress is hosted/run and WFMT's involvement in it, and we are hoping to find some strategies we can implement for the 2029 World Congress.



## Executive Assistant / ASD

Kaitlyn Kasha

Email: [assistant@wfmt.info](mailto:assistant@wfmt.info)



### Current Members on Assembly of Student Delegates

- Alan Dinh (Australia / New Zealand)
- Lina Quraan (Eastern Mediterranean)
- Susanne Gruss (Europe)
- Oriosvaldo Travassos (Latin America & the Caribbean)
- Hannah Estrella (Canada & the USA)
- Napapas (Jeen) Horrungruang (Southeast Asia)
- Hershey Permano (Western Pacific)

### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Gathered representatives from all regions (except Africa)
- Supported the onboarding process for delegates through group and individual meetings
- Held regular meetings to support team building and planning for ongoing and upcoming projects
- Organized a schedule for regular social media content sharing and engaged with the Public Relations Commission to connect student and WFMT mainstream social media channels
- Created an introduction video with members of the ASD to introduce delegates and share the purpose and goals of the ASD with membership
- Closed the student Facebook group due to it no longer meeting the goals of the ASD
- Launched a Students of WFMT Instagram account
- Successfully engaged in a social media campaign and held a student panel presentation for World Music Therapy Week

### Ongoing Activities

- Engaging in an ongoing search for a student representative from Africa
- Increasing engagement with the new student Instagram account
- Supporting ASD delegates in their roles and with their ongoing responsibilities (blog posts, social media management and content, etc.)

### Future Projects during the term

- Continuing student and ASD involvement in World Music Therapy Week
- Planning student events at the World Congress 2026

#### ***In closing...***

It has been a valuable learning experience for me to become involved in the international music therapy community as the Executive Assistant of WMFT. I am inspired by the passion and energy that the student delegates bring to projects and conversations and I am looking forward to supporting them through the rest of the term and their planning for WCMT 2026.





## Clinical Practice

Puchong Chimpiboon

Email: [clinicalpractice@wfmt.info](mailto:clinicalpractice@wfmt.info)



### Current Members on Commission

- Cara Smith (Africa)
- Natalie Jack (Australia / New Zealand)
- Mia Bteich (Eastern Mediterranean)
- Rachel Sweet (Europe)
- Camila Siqueira Gouvêa Acosta Gonçalves (Latin America & the Caribbean)
- Naomi Davis (Canada & the USA)
- Keiko Shiokawa (Western Pacific)

### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Gathered members or representatives from each region.
- Scheduled and conducted meetings to discuss various topics.
- Established objectives and a vision statement.

### Ongoing Activities

- Brainstorming and developing activities or projects aligned with the goals and vision statement.

### Future Projects during the Term

- Researching for representatives of music therapy practitioners in each region or country to support the production of media that presents the image, strengths, and identity of music therapy services of the region. This presentation aims solely to advocate and is not for commercial purposes.

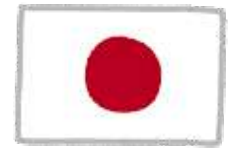




## Education and Certification

Dr. Kana Okazaki-Sakaue

Email: [education@wfmt.info](mailto:education@wfmt.info)



### Current Members on Commission

- Penny Warren (New Zealand)
- Francesca Rubbettino (Italy)
- Dr. Claudia Zanini (Brazil)
- Dr. Juan Pedro Zambonini (Argentina)
- Dr. Teresa L. Lesiuk (North America)
- Dr. Baishali Mukherjee (India)

### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Gathered members from different regions.
- Scheduled and conducted meetings to discuss various topics.
- Established objectives and a vision statement.
- Created a WFMT website video that introduced commission members for the 2023-2026 term
- Formed three working groups within the commission.
- Replied to various emails about the inquiry about the music therapy education database.

### Ongoing Activities

- Members are working, brainstorming and developing for the following projects aligned with the goals and vision statement.

### Future Projects during the Term

- Revise, update, and maintain the digital registry of music therapy
- Collect information and investigate current status about the regulation of music therapy around the globe
- Create a list and description about music therapy learning opportunities around the world
- Explore the potentials of offering a support system to established and developing music therapy programs

### ***In closing...***

It has been a wonderful experience to be in the new council for the 2023-2026 term. As a chair of the Education, Certification and Regulation commission, I hope to support our membership by offering as much information as possible that is needed for promoting music therapy worldwide.



## Global Crises Intervention

Dr. Indra Selvarajah

Email: [crises@wfmt.info](mailto:crises@wfmt.info)



### Current Members on Commission

- Gitta Strehlow (Germany)
- Mireya Gonzalez (Chile)
- Gene-Ann Behrens (USA)
- Lori Gooding (USA, left April 2024)
- Ai Nakatsuka (Japan)

### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Presented a spotlight session under the DEI strand at the WCMT 2023 titled “Behind Every Crisis is an Opportunity: Bridging Cultural Connections & Building Psychological Safety through Music Therapy & Cultural Diplomacy: Key Learnings from the WFMT Crises Intervention Work.”
- Presented and facilitated two sessions on the WFMT Global Crises Intervention work from 2020-2023, alongside commission committee members at the WCMT 2023.
- Vetted and assembled the WFMT Global Crises Intervention Commission (GCIC) committee and created the vision, goals, and overview for the 2023-2026 term.
- Participated in a panel on ‘Ethics in Music Therapy’ for the World Federation of Music Therapy and European Music Therapy Confederation during European Music Therapy Day, October 2023 (Co-presenters: Cheryl Dileo, Gro Trondalen, Indra Selvarajah, Eugenia Hernandez-Ruiz, Giorgos Tsisiris, Vivian Chan & Mitsi Akoyunoglou).
- Delivered a keynote speech on Perspectives from the WFMT Global Crises Intervention Commission: Music Therapy & Cultural Diplomacy for the Online Conference of Music Therapy (OCMT) in February 2024.
- Presented for the WFMT during Mexican Music Therapy Day organized by The Association of Mexican Music Therapists (AMME) on music therapy advocacy and development in under-resourced countries experiencing political oppression of minorities, following up on my spotlight session at WCMT 2023.
- Attended and actively participated in all online WFMT Council Meetings since the commencement of the new term.
- Initiated contact with music therapists affected by the emerging Israel-Gaza crisis to assess their situation and extend support in line with GCIC’s vision and WFMT’s mission to promote global music therapy through information exchange, collaboration, and action.
- Held meetings and discussions with a Middle East advisor and anti-terrorism expert on initial strategies for addressing the delicate situation in the Israel-Gaza crisis in preparation for WFMT’s GCIC work.
- Explored the feasibility of supporting fundraising efforts for humanitarian assistance (medical supplies, food, and water) to civilians caught in the Israel-Palestine crisis, following United Nations recommendations.
- Collaborated with the WFMT President to create an October Buzz notice and other social media posts to contact music therapists affected by the Israel-Palestine crisis.



- Initiated contact with the European Confederation of Music Therapy and worked with the Eastern Mediterranean regional liaison to document and relay the lived experiences of music therapists affected by the Israel-Gaza crisis to the WFMT Council.
- Facilitated initial discussions with Jewish music therapists from North America and Israeli music therapists under the ECMT to convey their needs to the WFMT Council.
- Chaired 12 meetings with the WFMT GCIC to prepare educational resources (informational handouts, videos, etc.) focusing on reducing trauma symptoms and promoting coping and resilience for WFMT members and their communities worldwide.
- Communicated with contacts in the Ukraine war crisis and extended GCIC educational and trauma coping resources in response to the ongoing war.
- Coordinated with Ciele Knox of the NICU Institute at Florida State University to explore providing specialized NICU support to premature infants affected by the Ukraine War Crisis.
- Revisited and refined GCIC's scope of practice to ensure alignment with WFMT's mission and recent project developments during the first year of the new term.
- Assisted WFMT Officers in evaluating and addressing public concerns submitted to WFMT and participated in discussions with other music therapy professional organizations as a follow-up to council meeting requests.
- Updated WFMT's social media platforms (Facebook and Twitter) to seek music therapists affected by crises worldwide on behalf of the GCIC.
- Responded to various email and social media inquiries related to music therapy, crisis intervention, and the WFMT.

### Ongoing Activities

- Answered calls to assess the needs of music therapists affected by flooding in Brazil and determined the scope of support the WFMT GCIC can extend (newly initiated, ongoing).
- Recorded videos and translated informational handouts and other materials on trauma reduction and coping resilience into several languages to cater to global music therapists' needs.
- Updated details for the WFMT Care Teams project in line with recent WFMT work developments.

### Future Projects during the Term

- Implement the WFMT Care Teams project upon completing the current phase of refinement with input from the GCIC committee.
- Implement an Impact Measurement Assessment to determine the real-world impact of WFMT GCIC initiatives.
- Implement Cultural Diplomacy initiatives as previously initiated under the 2020-2023 term to foster better cultural understanding and facilitate smoother communication and cooperation in conflict situations.

### *In closing...*

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve the WFMT in various roles over the years. In my second term as Chair of the Global Crises Intervention Commission, I am honoured to lead a powerhouse committee, including two past chairs and outstanding new colleagues. I sincerely thank the 2020-2023 committee members for their crucial contributions to our ongoing and future projects and look forward to pivoting the work of the WFMT GCIC so we can better serve the global music therapy, moving forward.



## Publications

Gustavo Schulz Gattino

Email: [publications@wfmt.info](mailto:publications@wfmt.info)



### Current Members on Commission

- Imogen Clark (Australia)
- Lina Riachy Haddad (Lebanon)
- Elizabeth Coombes (Wales)
- Lizandra Maia (Brazil/Denmark)
- Melita Belgrave (USA)
- Jenita Caren (India)
- Eun Sil Suh (Korea/USA)

### Accomplishments since July 2023

- New members of the Publications Commission from different regions worldwide
- Different subgroups work on different tasks at the Commission.
- Development of a plan regarding four different projects.
- New Music Therapy today board
- A new format of publication for Music Therapy Today – the Music Therapy Today Talks and Impact.

### Ongoing Activities

- Development of an open-access dictionary in music therapy.
- Creation of a WFMT podcast.
- Creation of regular webinars at the WFMT.

#### ***In closing...***

We are finalizing the new call for papers for the scientific journal Music Therapy Today for June 2024. In addition, the journal's new webpage will be launched. The Facebook group of the Publications Committee will be launched in the next few weeks. It will be a space to share the committee's activities and allow the music therapist community to communicate with the commission. Likewise, this Facebook group will enable people to speak about their publications and provide a space to talk about the topic of publications in an ethical and respectful manner.



#### **Music Therapy Today Editors**

Editor: Nuria Marsimian (Argentina)

Associate Editor: Aseel Jamal Massoud



## Public Relations

Ms. Martina Scognamiglio

Email: [publicrelations@wfmt.info](mailto:publicrelations@wfmt.info)



### Current Members on Commission

- Lulu Negota (South Africa)
- Maria Latysheva (Russia)
- Tassyia Tanzil (Indonesia)
- Kumi Sato (Japan)

### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Optimization of the Social Media of the WFMT - (Facebook Business Page, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, Youtube);
- WFMT Facebook Group closed;
- Publication of Social Media & Posting Policy;
- Fixed broken links on the new website regarding official documents such as reports, fact pages and regional information, regulations and forms;
- Organized the PR Commission's drive folder to streamline the work of the current term and the next terms to come;
- Retrieved useful documents and information from past Council members and created archives that will always be searchable by the PR Commission;
- Helped regional liaisons and committee chairs edit and upload their videos to our online platforms;
- Organization and leading of Photo Competition for the World Music Therapy Week 24 with Clinical Practice Chair and Latin America & the Caribbean Regional Liaison;
- Publication of a Video with information about World Music Therapy Week;
- Assisted in the preparation of the WFMT Annual Report 2023-2024.

### Ongoing Activities

- Attending WFMT Council Meetings;
- Chairing WFMT PR Commission meetings;
- Responding to communications from members and Council members and supporting them in any ways required;
- Completing the PR Commission with representative members of all Regions of the world;
- Managing the Website and Social Media Updates - Always providing the best updated info;
- Assisting all the Council Members, regional liaisons, and full-member organizations in disseminating news and in spreading their work on all our platforms;
- Updating about Regional Information Fact Pages with Regional Liaisons;
- Working on Website Design Changes and Improvement of the User Experience of the website;
- Collaboration with *Publications Commission: Creation of a thematic facebook group on Publications*;
- Collaboration with *Assembly of Students Delegates: ways to involve students in WFMT PR*;



### Future Projects during the Term

- Attending WFMT Council Meetings;
- To increase WFMT's online presence with a greater amount and variety of content;
- To update the wikipedia page;
- To create a Calendar with MT days in all countries and regions;
- To start the newsletter for members of the organization;
- To create an official media kit in different languages for the next World Music Therapy Week to be downloaded and shared by everyone.

#### ***In closing...***

This first year as Chair of the WFMT Public Relations Commission has been truly incredible. I am really happy to have been able to get to know so many fantastic colleagues and embark with them on this journey. Listening to the viewpoints of all the Council members, being able to build together with them new bonds and useful connections to grow the music therapy profession worldwide is something I am very interested in and will never spare myself for. I thank the entire WFMT Council for their tireless work despite the great responsibility we have as world representatives and the challenges we face. Thanks to the committee members I represent for their work, their promptness in responding and their always outstretched hand. I want to thank Kezia Putri too, who served our Commission from October 2023-April 2024. It is an honor for me to be part of this organization.



## Research and Ethics

Amy Clements-Cortes, PhD, RP, MTBC, MTA

Email: [research@wfmt.info](mailto:research@wfmt.info)



### Current Members on Commission

- Karyn Stuart-Röhm (South Africa)
- Megan Goodwin (Australia)
- Monica Overå (Norway)
- Eugenia Hernandez-Ruiz (USA/Latin America)
- Wiputh Kehasuwan (Malaysia)

### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Assembled the WFMT Research & Ethics Commission committee and created the vision, goals and overview video for the 2023-2026 term and published it on the WFMT website
- Presented on 'Ethics in Music Therapy' for the World Federation of Music Therapy and European Music Therapy Confederation, European Music Therapy Day, October 2023 (Co-presenters Cheryl Dileo, Gro Trondalen, Indra Selvarajah, Eugenia Hernandez-Ruiz, Giorgos Tsiris, Vivian Chan & Mitsi Akoyunoglou).
- Participated in the creation of the WFMT social media posting guidelines.
- Edited the WFMT Responsible Conduct Guidelines Document to reflect the WFMT Code of Ethics (2022).
- Interviewed music therapy researchers (one in English and one in Spanish) to create 2 research videos to add to the [WFMT Research Video Forum](#)
- Assessed codes of ethics from various global regions in music therapy & other related disciplines
- Created the first draft of the Responding to Ethical Issues Guidance document for WFMT Council to review
- Supported WFMT Officers in assessing and navigating concerns brought forward to WFMT by public and participated in consultations with external WFMT professionals.
- Attended WFMT Meetings online
- Chaired several meetings with the WFMT Research & Ethics Committee
- Provided WFMT updates on our social media sites (Facebook, & Twitter)
- Responded to e-mail inquiries and requests about music therapy, ethics, research and the WFMT
- Consulted on ethics and professional practice matters as prompted by written requests and letters





## Ongoing Activities

- Attend WFMT Meetings
- Chair WFMT Research & Ethics Commission Committee meetings.
- Respond to Email Inquiries
- Provide consultation with individuals regarding research and ethical conduct questions
- Seek and promote nominations of music therapy researchers to interview for the [WFMT Research Video Forum](#)
- Interview researchers and add to the [WFMT Research Video Forum](#)
- Edit the 2 video interviews for posting on the [WFMT Research Video Forum](#)
- Promote & grow awareness of the [Music Therapy Research Video Forum](#) & Code of Ethics documents to support music therapists in the 8 global regions
- Continue to develop existing and new resources to support ethical clinical practice and research in music therapy.

## Future Projects during the Term

- Edit the Responsible Conduct Guidelines
- Submit conference presentation proposal from the WFMT Research & Ethics Commission to a future music therapy conference in 2025 & 2026
- Assess potential changes to the WFMT Bylaws to reflect the Responsible Conduct Guidelines & Responding to Ethical Issues Guidance Document.

### ***In closing...***

I have enjoyed serving the WFMT over the past years in various roles. In my second term of holding the Research and Ethics Chair I feel honoured to have assembled another dynamic research and ethics committee with representatives from 4 global regions in addition to my region to work on our projects. I want to thank Xóchitl Palma who served on the Research and Ethics committee from July 2023-April 2024. It continues to be a pleasure to work with the entire WFMT Council in advancing the discipline of music therapy on the global scale.



## Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access

Dr. Sue Baines

Email: [equity@wfmt.info](mailto:equity@wfmt.info)



Dr. Sue Baines served as the chair of a new commission, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access, from July 2023 to February 2024.





## 2026 World Congress Organizer

Mariagrazia Baroni

Email: [worldcongress@wfmt.info](mailto:worldcongress@wfmt.info)



### Accomplishments since July 2023

- While attending the Vancouver Congress, promotion of the 18th WCMT 2026 began. Printing and distribution of a 'first announcement' of WCMT2026 at the 17th WCMT in Vancouver.
- Creation of the Congress website to provide some useful information such as travel directions, tourist information, etc. <https://wcmt2026.org/>
- Personal contacts were made with sponsors in Vancouver.
- Several meetings with *Planning Congressi Co.* (Bologna) to define an organizational plan (space, costs and timing).
- Site inspection of the congress venue to assess space (congress venue, congress hall for 1200-1500 participants, rooms for individual participant contributions, meals and congress side activities).

### Ongoing Activities

- Formalize the agreement between the WFMT and AIM
- Formalize the agreement between AIM and the PCO Planning

### Future Projects during the Term

- Contract with the congress venue.
- Start a first cost check to draw up the budget to be prepared by next months
- Define the number of participants based on maximum capacity



## Regional Liaison for Africa

Ms. Danielle McKinnon

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**Leave of Absence.**





## Regional Liaison for Australia/New Zealand

Dr. Alison Short

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**Report not received.**





## Regional Liaison for Eastern Mediterranean

Hisham Alhadrab

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### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Connected with the regional music therapists on a regular basis
- Held an online meeting for the regional music therapists and those who live outside of the region but have ties with it
- Started a discussion about the name change for the regional as it does not represent the entirety of it
- Involved with the Global Crisis and Intervention chair helping with humanitarian projects for music therapists in the zones of conflicts

### Ongoing Activities

- Continue connecting with music therapists in the region
- Continue discussion about changing the name of the region
- Continue a joint project with the GCIC
- Working with colleagues from the region to establish a MENA (Middle East-North Africa) MT Association. \*He requested to have a representative from each country to help writing the vision, mission, bylaws, etc. from the beginning of July 2024.





## Regional Liaison for Europe

Mitsi Akoyunoglou

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### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Sent several emails to representatives of Associations members of WFMT in an effort to put a team together.
- Organized a meeting with the representatives of Associations to discuss issues that need to be addressed that took place on December 11.
- Attempted to organize a second meeting in April, but no common available time and date for members was possible to find.
- Organized a webinar on the theme of “Ethics in Music Therapy” in collaboration with EMTC for the 15th of November, 2023, in celebration of the European Music Therapy Day. Invited guests were Cheryl Dileo, Gro Trondalen, Amy Clements-Cortes, Indra Selvarajah and Eugenia Hernandez Ruiz. The webinar was attended by about 100 participants and the webinar’s video had 294 additional views.
- Have replied to various emails about internship opportunities in Europe and about music therapy studies in Europe.
- Have sent emails to representatives of Associations with information needed for the fact sheets that need to be updated on the WFMT website and have followed through
- Attended the council online zoom meetings (October 2023, January 2024, April 2024) and two individual zoom meetings with Vivian (in September and in March)

### Ongoing Activities

- Have sent an email with a poll to find a suitable date and time to have the next (second) meeting in June with the representatives of Associations from Europe to discuss the possibility of a next webinar in the fall 2024.
- Sending emails to representatives to engage them more actively in the regional team.
- Replying to emails from students
- Attending council meetings

### Future Projects during the Term

- Continue with matters stated above
- Organize a webinar in collaboration with the representatives from Europe
- Establish communication with Mariagrazia to explore ways to engage in the preparations of the WCMT

#### *In closing...*

I feel deeply honored and grateful to serve for the WFMT council for the first time. This first year has been an exciting endeavor in establishing a bridge between the EMTC with the WFMT and in bringing European member associations in closer communication and engagement.



## Regional Liaison for Latin America & the Caribbean

Nicolás Espinoza

Email: latinamericacaribbean@wfmt.info



### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Contacted every association of music therapists and if not possible, a single music therapist or a music therapy student from each country of the region, identifying countries with music therapy such as Curacao or Suriname where we did not have prior information.
- Elaboration and analysis of the “Current State of Music Therapy in Latin America and the Caribbean”.
- I presented this analysis to the Latin American Committee of Music Therapy (CLAM).
- Writing an entry for the WFMT blog called “Delving Into the State of Music Therapy in Latin America and the Caribbean”.
- I created a video summarizing these findings as my RL presentation for the website.
- I participated as a jury for the Photo Contest during the World Music Therapy Week.
- I was invited to speak as the RL for the WFMT during the Mexican Music Therapy Day organized by The Association of Mexican Music Therapists (AMME).
- I participated in all Council meetings of the WFMT.
- I answered incoming mails from latin american and caribbean music therapists requesting regional information.
- I participate in the Membership Commission to improve WFMT’s member benefits.

### Ongoing Activities

- Participation in meeting of the WFMT and answering mails.

### Future Projects during the Term

- Record a series of short videos providing detailed information of several aspects of music therapy in the region, information such as: journals, training places, clinical placements, and regional approaches, models and methods.

#### *In closing...*

Strengthen and create relationships between current regional networks, associations, and single music therapists with the WFMT. Increase information to the world about the practices and knowledge of music therapy in Latin America and the Caribbean.





## Regional Liaison for Canada and the USA

Andrea Hunt

Email: [canadausa@wfmt.info](mailto:canadausa@wfmt.info)



### Accomplishments since July 2023

- As outgoing Treasurer, supported new treasurer in transition to her role with handover of accounts, documentation, and resources.
- Contacted presidents and other officers of both the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) and Canadian Association of Music Therapists (CAMT)
- Received updated organization information from the AMTA for refreshing the regional fact sheet for the WFMT website
- Responded to queries for clinical referrals and resources from both music therapists and client families
- In April, met with Hannah Estrella, student representative from the U.S. and Canada to the ASD to outline goals and future projects for the term

### Ongoing activities

- Collaborating with presidents of AMTA and CAMT to develop a new welcome video for the region for the WFMT website
- Continue to respond to clinical referral and resource queries

### Future projects during this term

- Continue to collaborate with Hannah Estrella on ideas developed in May meeting, e.g. researching indigenous music healing/MT practices to highlight to members, showcasing international collaborations and dialogues
- Develop a blog post reporting on the status of AMTA through leadership changes and organizational restructuring

### ***In closing...***

This is a transitional time for music therapy in the region, with changes at the national level of AMTA and with CAMT passing the baton after hosting the WCMT last year. I look forward to getting to know the leadership at both organizations and working with the ASD representative to showcase exciting developments and practices across the region. I believe the WFMT can be a strong resource for music therapists in both countries to strengthen and deepen the profession.



## Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia

Ms. Bhuvaneshwari Ramesh

Email: southeastasia@wfmt.info



### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Contacted some of the associations in Southeast Asia (Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia, India)
- Part of online courses to be started in Indonesia for music therapy

### Ongoing activities

- Processing a professional association for India
- Still processing the details and contacting music therapists in various place in Southeast Asia which include Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Myanmar
- Regular communication to emails that have been received
- Part of a Palliative conference that is being done by a hospital in Singapore and the Indian Palliative Care Association as part of being the regional liaison

### Future projects during this term

- Find the ways to connect and empower the countries in Southeast Asia that require support in having music therapy, training and sources for education

### ***In closing...***

It is a pleasure and an honour to serve as a commission member of the World Federation of Music Therapy. It's been an eye-opening experience from the last term in 2020 to 2023, in comparison to this term. This year has been a bit of struggle to get through and form a connection between the music therapists in the different countries in Southeast Asia. There are 4 countries with a professional organization and about 5 training programs in all these countries. Creating space and options to provide online education and training has been an option to provide support to the countries that were yet to have any specific person who wants to take up music therapy and build a foundation. It is an ongoing process and can prove to be positive by constantly connecting and finding the right places and persons to take this forward.



## Regional Liaison for Western Pacific

Jin Hyung Lee, PhD, KCMT, MT-BC

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### Accomplishments since July 2023

- Participated in the 17th World Congress of Music Therapy, Vancouver, Canada
- Collaborated with the congress organizer and commission members on sharing materials and photographs from the congress
- Exchanged email communications with representatives from member organizations in the region regarding the latest updates about professional development
- Provided information about music therapy programs and organizations in the region
- Contacted key individuals and stakeholders interested in developing a regional music therapy certification program
- Consulted a group of music therapists in Thailand in their planning of the inaugural meeting and formation of the new Thai Music Therapy Association
- Participated in the panel discussion at the “Shaping the Future of the Music Therapy Profession in Singapore: Anchoring and Launching” symposium on the topic of “Current Music Therapy Education and Training in Asia” in person in Singapore
- Communicated with individuals who requested information regarding MT degree programs in the region, connecting them with the corresponding program directors in the region of the inquirer’s interest
- Devised an invitation for establishing the Regional Support Team, to enhance communication and collaboration with the member organizations in the region

### Ongoing activities

- Continue to attend council meetings
- Continue to correspond via emails to/from WFMT
- Continue to answer email questions regarding music therapy activities in the region
- Continue to advocate for the development of music therapy in the region
- Continue to gather information about ongoing professional activities of each member organization in the region to update the WPR blog
- Continue to participate as a member of the Education and Certification Commission

### Future projects during this term

- Invite regional member organizations to recommend a regional care team member
- Promote active communication and collaboration with member organizations
- Provide necessary support to enhance the presence of music therapy in the region



***In closing...***

New educational programs and local organizations are emerging in the region, and I am highly excited about the potential for the development and expansion of music therapy. I hope to establish a seamless channel of communication and collaboration in the region so that this development can reach its maximum potential. By working together, I'm hopeful that music therapy in the region will not only grow but thrive on a solid foundation with high-quality service based on research, theory, and education.

Your colleagues are  
all over the world!!

