



WFMT BUZZ

From the desk of Dr. Anita L. Swanson



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Happy New Year!

We are so excited to enter the year of our first in person World Congress since the pandemic began. We certainly look forward to visiting with you in Vancouver in July. In the meantime, we will be hearing from some of our spotlight speakers over the next few months. To start this series off, Kezia K. Putri, MMT, MTA, MT-BC shares some of her thoughts with us.

Wishing you all the best in 2023!

Dr. Anita L. Swanson, MT-BC
WFMT President





Kezia K. Putri, MMT, MTA, MT-BC
Music Therapy Program Coordinator (Universitas Pelita Harapan, Indonesia)

What are you looking forward to at the World Congress?

I'm looking forward to networking with other music therapists and exploring more on the development of music therapy globally.

Describe some of your background that led you to doing the work you are now (in relation to your spotlight topic)

I am Indonesian, got my Bachelor of Art in music therapy degree from Indonesian university and my MMT from a Canadian university. Since 2020 I have returned to Indonesia to take on the role of music therapy undergraduate program coordinator for Universitas Pelita Harapan, Indonesia. With this role, I am involved in networking with not only local and international music therapists, but also all sorts of professionals with different backgrounds. I have the opportunities to promote the practice of music therapy through seminars and workshops, as well as fun inter-professional projects. I am also currently involved in the creation of Indonesia's first music therapy association.

Do you have a future professional goal for your yourself?

I would love for music therapy to get recognized by Indonesia's ministry of health, for the practitioners to come from more parts of Indonesia, and for the practice to be more interweaved with the diverse Indonesian cultures.

What do you feel are the greatest needs in our profession at this time?

A stronger global connection. A more accessible training program that for countries like Indonesia will eventually lead to a more accessible music therapy sessions for the public.

What benefits do you see in coming together as a global music therapy community at the World Congress?

When we are only focusing on one perspective, sometimes it's easy to get fixated on it, and this will get us stuck and often times make us feel like we are fighting things alone. When in fact, sometimes the issue we are facing globally might have similarities. "Crossing the borders", looking at different perspectives from our global connections will give us a fresh point-of-view that might give us the answer.