




**WFMT BUZZ**  
From the desk of Dr. Anita L. Swanson



World Federation of Music Therapy  
Federación Mundial de Musicoterapia

**October 2021**

October 1, 2021

Hello World Federation of Music Therapy members!

This month we have the pleasure of learning about music therapy in the Western Pacific Region. Dr. Jin Hyung Lee, Western Pacific Regional Liaison, shares with us.



Greetings to fellow music therapists from around the world!

I am pleased to share exciting MT-related news from three countries in the Western Pacific Region of WFMT through this month's Monthly Buzz. The Western Pacific Region had an exciting start of the year 2021 with an inter-organizational collaboration on creating the World

Music Therapy Day music video. Members organizations from Hong Kong, Phillipines and Korea Participated in creating this highly musical and vibrant video. If you want to watch the video again, please click here. <https://youtu.be/tcGltSMqpdg>

### News from Hong Kong



Members of HKMTA (Image credit: HKMTA Website 2021)

The Hong Kong Music Therapy Association members are working very diligently to promote the profession of music therapy. Following is a news update sent by Vivian Chan.

Hong Kong is known to be a dynamic and vibrant city in many ways, and such can be used to describe the group of Creative Arts Therapists in Hong Kong. This group comprises of music therapists, art therapists, expressive arts therapists, drama therapists, and dance therapists in Hong Kong who share a tight-knitted culture, gather once every other month or two for clinical sharing, presentations, and mutual support. The group began with less than 10 members back in 2010. Today, it has grown to become a group that has more than 30 members and are working together for the collective professions to be included in the Government of Hong Kong's Accredited Scheme for healthcare professionals.

Currently, all creative arts therapies in Hong Kong are not subject to statutory registration and are "self regulated" under the principle of professional autonomy, whereby the respective professional bodies administer a registration system and promulgate a membership list. Such lists may be used by the public and potential users to identify and seek service from suitable personnel or organisations.

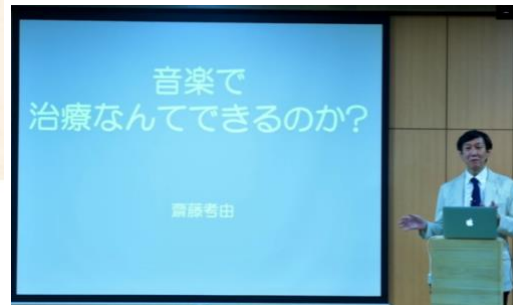
To better inform the public and service users, and to promote a high level of service standards for healthcare professionals who are not yet subject to statutory registration, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region launched The Accredited Registers Scheme for Healthcare Professions ("AR Scheme") in December, 2016 under the principle of "One Profession, One Professional Body, One Register". The AR Scheme identifies healthcare professional bodies that meet the prescribed standards, and enables members of the public and patients to make informed choices about the provision of local healthcare services. Currently, audiologists, clinical

psychologists, dietitians, educational psychologists, and speech therapists are among those entered in the scheme.

In pursuit of the AR Scheme, the group of Creative Arts Therapists came together and officially established itself as the "Hong Kong Creative Arts Therapists Council (HKCATC)" in April, 2021. While there is still a long way ahead in the preparation and application process of the AR Scheme, the collective effort is making headway in this initiative to bring our professions forward in its local development.

### News from Japan

The Japanese Music Therapy Association continues to host nationwide music therapy events online since last year. In October of 2020, they hosted the first-ever online annual conference. A total of 1909 music therapists, students, and other professionals in related fields attended the conference. The program included a keynote lecture by Dr. Kenneth Aigen, two special lectures, and 14 seminars covering a wide variety of topics. Some seminars focused on issues relating to music therapy practice in Japanese culture. The 15th World Congress, which was held in Tsukuba, Japan in 2017, is one of the factors that music therapists in Japan became aware of the importance of cultural considerations.



20<sup>th</sup> JMTA Conference in 2020

JMTA has offered online training lectures for continuing education, and nine JMTA regions have also given online seminars in their regions. Some lectures/seminars covered challenges in music therapy practices in the COVID-19 situation.



21<sup>th</sup> JMTA Conference Information

The 21st annual conference of JMTA is currently in progress online. Attendees can access online seminars/presentations from September 25th to October 20th. I will upload news from this vibrant conference shortly!

### News from Korea (Republic of)

The National Association of Korean Music Therapists (NAKMT) embarked on numerous projects to provide quality educational and networking opportunities for its members and promote music therapy in Korea.



Online Meetings and Online Virtual Choir on Zoom

In terms of advocating for music therapy, board members of NAKMT formed a task force to carry out the following tasks: submitted a proposal paper to the Ministry of Health and Welfare to recommend music therapy as one of the health professionals to be included in the government-operated trauma centers; devised strategic plans to respond to the legislative movement to regulate psychotherapy practice and its state-controlled certification program; proposed inter-organizational collaborations for various organizations providing trauma care. This focus on



promoting music therapy as trauma care was in align with the national movement to expand its National Trauma Centers and its training and care programs.



21st NAKMT Online Conference

Within the past year, NAKMT hosted two On-line Conferences, one General Assembly Meeting, two Exams for Korean Certified Music Therapists (KCMT), and two Online CMTE courses for NAKMT members. NAKMT also hosted two meetings with directors of 15 music therapy degree programs in Korea to discuss music therapy education and certification and training issues during the worldwide pandemic. NAKMT will host the 2021 Online Informational Session regarding music therapy degree programs approved by NAKMT.

NAKMT plans to host a CMTE course specialized in trauma care provided by Dr. Gene Behrens titled “Neuro-informed Trauma Care Approach for Music” in November of 2021. NAKMT wishes to have a series of intensive workshops to train music therapists for trauma care as an initiative to promote music therapy as an essential health profession in this challenging time of a worldwide pandemic.

### **News about International Collaboration**

The Hong Kong Generation Next Arts (HKGNA), in conjunction with the Consulate General of four countries (Canada, Netherlands, S. Korea, USA), hosted the global online music therapy event called “Music Heals!.” This event featured renowned music therapists and music educators, including Dr. Ken Aigen (Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapist and Program Director of NYU/ Steinhardt Music Therapy), Dr. Irene Feher (Voice Professor at Concordia University’s Department of Music), Dr. Chong Hyun Ju (the Chair of Music Therapy at Ewha Womans University), Aaltje van Zweden (autism advocate and Founder of Papageno Foundation) and Mathieu Pater (the Head of Papageno Foundation music therapist project).

These lectures are freely available online at <http://www.hkgna.com/video/>. Please tune in for future news as HKGNA is planning to host the second “Music Heals” series this year!



That's all I have for now. I look forward to updating you with the latest MT-related news from other countries in the western pacific region. Please feel free to contact me with comments or questions. Thank you.

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Find more [regional news](#) on our website.

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