



Hello WFMT Members,

The #WCMT2023 International Scientific Committee is in the middle of reviewing congress proposals. We have received over 540 submissions from practitioners, educators, and researchers living in all parts of the world – maybe also from you! However, this is a blind review! That means, the 26 scientific committee members residing in 17 countries and in WFMT's 8 regions only see the title, presentation type, abstract, and description of each proposal and no names of potential presenters. We do this to avoid bias and also by making sure that all proposals have ratings from at least 3 reviewers. The evaluation rubrics (previously noted on the submission webpage) include the following 5 criteria that are weighted equally:

- Quality of the empirical work and theoretical foundation
- Implication for music therapy practice
- Originality
- Relevance to the theme, and
- Clarity and organization.

Additionally, the reviewers can leave a comment to me, the International Scientific Committee Chair, and to the primary presenters. All proposals are managed and accessed through an online reviewer portal set up by the ICSevents.com program team. Similar procedures and criteria were applied for the 2020 proposal selection, but fine-tuned and digitalized for the forthcoming 2023 World Congress of Music Therapy in Vancouver, Canada.

By August 31, 2022 each of the Scientific Committee Members needs to have reviewed about 60 randomly assigned proposals. Sounds like a lot of work, right? Yes, and all of them volunteer their knowledge, expertise, and time. Therefore, I am immensely grateful for their commitment to create a high-quality #WCMT2023 program for you! So, if you see them at the #WCMT2023 give them “thumbs up, ” a smile, or a word of appreciation.

During the months of September/October, we will review the ratings and comments, then prepare the notification letters. **Should you have submitted a proposal, you will hear from us by October 31, 2022.** After presenters confirmed their congress participation, we will finalize the schedule and program.

I am looking forward seeing you in Vancouver, Canada next summer!

Dr. Petra Kern

#WCMT2023 International Scientific Committee

Petra Kern, Ph.D., MT-BC, MTA, DMtG
Chair, International Scientific Committee

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