Welcome

We warmly welcome presenters and delegates to the first Music Therapy Week Symposium at the University of Auckland’s Centre for Brain Research. We look forward to a stimulating afternoon of insights and ideas for future professional practice, collaboration and research.

Organising Committee

Professor Suzanne Purdy
Head of Speech Science, Centre for Brain Research, The University of Auckland
Lead researcher with the CeleBRation Choir

Professor Suzanne Purdy is Head of Speech Science in the School of Psychology at the University of Auckland. Her academic background is in psychology, speech science and audiology and she has research interests in the areas of communication disorders, auditory processing and therapies for neurological conditions such as Parkinson’s disease, mild cognitive impairment and stroke. She worked clinically as an audiologist before becoming an academic and researcher after completing her PhD at the University of Iowa in 1990. She was principal investigator for the SPICCATO (Stroke and Parkinson’s: Investigating Community Choir Engagement and Therapeutic Outcomes) study, working in collaboration with a team of researchers including music therapist Alison Talmage.

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Programme

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Presentations and presenters

CeleBRation Choir

Led by music therapists Alison Talmage and Shari Storie, the CeleBRation Choir is a singing group for people living with neurological conditions, their carers and volunteers. The choir was launched in 2009 as an initiative of the Centre for Brain Research, which brings together clinicians, researchers and the community.

The choir is the focus of the 2011 HRC-funded SPICCATO feasibility study, led by Professor Purdy. Current research is focusing on community engagement and the strengths and needs of existing and potential choir leaders offering Choral Singing Therapy, and participant experiences and the impact on health-related quality of life.

Website: http://www.cbr.auckland.ac.nz/choir
Find us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CeleBRationChoirNZ
Email: cbrchoir@auckland.ac.nz

Music therapy today: Professional practice and research in NZ and beyond

Music therapy is the professional use of music and its elements as an intervention in medical, educational, and everyday environments with individuals, groups, families, or communities who seek to optimize their quality of life (WFMT, 2011). New Zealand Registered Music Therapists work in health, educational, community settings and private practice, often in collaboration with other professionals, and draw on a wide range of theoretical models and methods.

Alison Talmage NZ RMTh is a music therapist, teacher and researcher, who has worked with individuals, families and groups across the lifespan. Alison is Chair of the Music Therapy New Zealand Council and a member of the NZ Music Therapy Registration Board.

The use of music therapy to support speech and expressive language development for pre-school children with special needs

Client-centred music therapy with individual pre-school children, involving playful but focused songs, behaviours and instrumental play, can enhance their speech and expressive language development. This presentation will discuss Masters research undertaken in 2011, along with reflections following four further years of developing clinical practice.

Shari Storie, NZ RMTh and Music Therapy New Zealand Council member, provides contract services in various settings across Auckland including mental health, neuro-rehabilitation, residential care, and with people living with disabilities.
Voice and Choral Singing Therapy: An SLT's perspective

International research is recognising and building our understanding of the motor and non-motor ‘alterations’ caused by Parkinson’s disease (PD) and how they can impact upon social communication skills and quality of life.

Robin Matthews is a senior Speech-Language Therapist and a PhD student at the University of Auckland. He has work in adult neuro-rehabilitation in the UK and NZ, with a special interest in Parkinson’s disease.

Finding a new voice: Southern Music Therapy

Kimberley Wade is the founder and owner of Southern Music Therapy, and works in private practice in Christchurch with people with neurological conditions. Kimberley leads the Cantabrainers Choir, a choir for people with neurological conditions, founded by Therapy Professionals in 2012.

Kimberley will present a brief clinical example (with video clips) of a client with aphasia and apraxia, who regains some speech and also finds a new passion and voice.

Singing Communities: He waiata, he waiata, he waiata

The future of schools of music is changing. Now, educators are helping communities sustain traditions, languages and music and we have the potential to create meaningful, culturally safe and sustainable interventions in the area of population health.

This presentation will discuss the importance of this emerging partnership between the School of Music and the community with particular focus on the intersection of the creative arts and population health, and learning cultures in schools.

Dr Te Oti Rakena trained as a classical singer at New England Conservatory, Boston, and received his Doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin, before commencing post-doctoral studies in Europe. He is currently the Associate Dean Māori and Pacific for the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries and Coordinator of Vocal Studies in the School of Music at the University of Auckland.

Tune In: Creating confident communicators through music therapy and speech therapy collaboration

As New Zealand’s allied health professions move towards increased collaboration, the Raukatauri Music Therapy Centre has begun to build connections with other disciplines to offer inter-professional programming. One of the most valuable relationships the Centre has developed has been with SLT Fiona Kenworthy. Fiona works with Raukatauri’s Jen Ryckaert to offer group therapy sessions for children that use speech and music therapy techniques to build vocabulary, stimulate learning, develop social skills and encourage personal growth.

This presentation will share how we have created interest in inter-professional services, demonstrate techniques utilised during sessions, share feedback from stakeholders and discuss future projects.

Jen Ryckaert NZ RMTh is Clinical Services Manager at Raukatauri Music Therapy Centre, which she joined after working as a music therapist, clinical professor and clinic manager in the US.

Fiona Kenworthy is a specialist SLT and Johansson Program provider. She runs a private practice and previously served as Clinical Educator at Auckland University.

An expressive journey: Music therapy for children with severe developmental disabilities

Children with severe developmental disabilities are often faced with the difficulty of being able to express what they hold within. By using two case studies as an example, the possibilities of expression for a child with severe developmental disabilities are examined, through Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy (also known as Creative Music Therapy). Every child is unique, and so are their musical journeys.

Min-Min Cheung NZ RMTh graduated in music therapy from New York University and is a Nordoff-Robbins trained music therapist. She works with children and adolescents, specialising in autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities.

Hit Connect: The work of the Music Moves Me Trust

Music Moves Me Trust was founded in 2015 in the Waikato. The group aims to offer high-quality interactive music, personal playlists and music therapy to people living with dementia in an effort to support function, access memory and connect with those around them. This presentation will focus on the music program they offer and also on the evidence base they are developing in order to support music therapy.

Dr. Vicki Jones is a GP who is currently training in palliative medicine with professional and personal experience of dementia.

Kath Woodley is a singing teacher and performer with a varied career who has completed her Masters of Music and is embarking on her PhD.

Helen McGann is a registered music therapist who has an undergraduate degree in creative therapies and completed her Masters of Music Therapy in New Zealand in 2012.

Book launch – Arts therapists in multidisciplinary settings: Working together for better outcomes

Drawing on the diverse experiences of art, music, drama, play and dance therapists, this book explores common issues faced by arts therapists working in multidisciplinary teams and the valuable results that can arise as a result of effective collaboration.

Caroline Miller (Editor) is a drama therapist and psychologist working in private practice in Auckland. In 2001 she became the inaugural co-director of the Whitecliffe College art therapy training programme. This is Caroline’s second edited book.
focusing mainly on New Zealand practice, and published by the high profile Jessica Kingsley Publishers, London.

Message of support from Music Therapy New Zealand

Music Therapy in New Zealand has much to celebrate. Not only are music therapists expanding the areas in which they work and developing collaborative partnerships, they are also researching and writing about their work. All of this is strengthening the status of music therapy as evidence-based therapeutic intervention with a range of client groups across the lifespan.

The mission statement of Music Therapy New Zealand is 'Making connections that realise the potential in people'. Music has a unique ability to facilitate this, but it also needs collaborators. As human beings, we need each other to survive. Babies collaborate with their caregivers to facilitate the kind of interactions that not only meet basic needs, but also enable their brains to grow. And, if you look and listen carefully, you will realise that many of these interactions are very musical.

Looking at today’s programme, it is exciting to see how many health and education professionals are embracing that fundamental need to collaborate in order to facilitate growth. I am confident that within these presentations, you will discover rich and diverse ways in which this is happening - here in New Zealand.

I would like to thank The Centre for Brain Research for their continued support of music therapy and congratulate them for hosting this event, so that this valuable work can be shared with a wider audience.

Wishing you a stimulating and enriching experience.

Heather Fletcher NZ RMTh
President, Music Therapy New Zealand
www.musictherapy.org.nz

For more information, visit cbr.auckland.ac.nz

Message of support from the Music Therapy Department Te Kōkī, New Zealand School of Music, Victoria University of Wellington

Tēnā koutou katoa.

Warmest greetings to the Music Therapy Symposium at the Centre for Brain Research, University of Auckland, on behalf of Dr Daphne Rickson, myself and the students on the Master of Music Therapy programme.

We are delighted to see this exciting opportunity to share the music therapy practices and research opportunities which have been growing in Aoteroa New Zealand in recent years, and are particularly proud to see the skills and initiatives developed by so many of our graduates from the Master of Music Therapy programme at Te Kōkī, NZSM.

We wish you a profitable and engaging symposium and send best wishes from Wellington.

Kindest regards,

Associate Professor Sarah Hoskyns, Director – Music Therapy programme

Dr Daphne Rickson, Senior Lecturer – Music Therapy
http://www.nzsm.ac.nz/study-careers/programmes/music-therapy