BAMT CONFERENCE 2026 - DRAFT PROGRAMME

SATURDAY

Time	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	Auditorium 3	Auditorium 4	Auditorium 5	World Cafe (Networking Space)
08:50-09:00	**REGISTRATION**					
09:00–10:00	**Keynote 1: Navigating Uncertainty with Optimism: The present and future of Music Therapy (Prof Kat McFerran) (R)**					
	Identity, power & belonging in Music Therapy	**Early Years, Children & Families**		**International**	**Adolescence, SEMH, LD and Autism**	
10:00–10:30	"Experts at being who they are": Exploring a Neurodiversity Paradigm informed approach to Music Therapy practice with Autistic people through lived experience perspectives **(Hilary Davies) (R)**	Nurturing Notes – exploring the role of group Music Therapy in supporting babies and their families who have recently discharged from neonatal intensive care (NICU) **(Ruth Hunston, Jessica Grieve) (R)**	Embodied and multimodal interdisciplinary practices to foster shared understanding and collaboration between a atherapist **(Tara Roman, Rachel Porter) (R)**	Community Music Therapy in a post-industrial city: identity reconstruction among older adults in Foshan, China **(Ren Xie) (R)**	Music Therapy and participatory music practices with autistic girls and women; how a developing understanding of female autistic experience is shaping the landscape of practice within different cultural and multicultural environments. **(Juliet Wood, Monica Subiantoro, Ireisha Anindya, Beth Williams, Ruth Herbert) (NR)**	
10:30–11:00	Reading the Room: Mapping Power Dynamics in UK rapy Practice **(Marianne Rizkallah) (R)**	sic Therapy service to the NICU **(Kate Fawcett, Ben Scanlon-Harris) (R)**		My Intercultural Journey: Becoming a Music Therapy sor Based in Japan **(Okiko Ishihara) (NR)**		
11-11.25	**Morning Break**					
11.25-11.55	They don't understand: rethinking advocacy, gnition and identity in Music Therapy **(Kirsty Jane) (R)**	"Can you see me?" - "We see you." How a young person's choice to share video extracts from their sessions with their teaching staff influenced the therapeutic relationship and invited a triadic support approach into the Music Therapy **(Jessica Tomey, Kate Lyons, Niri Rajkanna) (NR)**	"Part of the village": from community music to therapeutic practice – a longitudinal journey of **(Alphonso Archer) (R)**	**Technology, AI & Digital Futures** Guiding musical engagement in a digital age: rethinking the role of the Music Therapist **(Bradley Austin-Keiller) (R)**	The Enduring Self in the Midst of Change: 10 years of Music Therapy Supporting a Young Man Living with e **(Daisy Williamson, Maria Minns) (R)**	
11.55-12.25	ltural humility; a practice beyond (good) intentions **(Natalia Alvarez-Figueroa) (R)**	A benign cycle: An exploration of therapists' and classroom practitioners' lived experiences of the Safe&Sound Phase 2 Music Therapy consultation research project in five UK SEN chools **(Lisa Margetts, Cressida Lindsay, Jennifer Read, Rosetta Thring) (R)**	Opening the door: beginning therapeutic relationships hildren and young people in hospital **(Katya Herman) (R)**		TikTok#1 Trending: An Exploration of the Adolescent Algorithm in Music Therapy Within Child & ntal Health Services **(Jessica Donoghue) (R)**	
12.25-12.55					I Want to Sing Again": A Co-Produced Reflection on Music Therapy, Learning Disability, Trauma, and **(Ioanna Zervoudaki, Amelia) (NR)**	
12.55-13.35	**Lunch**					
13.35-14.05	**Lifetime Achievement Awards (All delegates)**					
	Research, Evidence & Knowing	**Early Years, Children & Families**		**Mental Health**	**Adolescence, SEMH, LD and Autism**	**World Cafe - Early Years, Children & Families**
14.05-14.35	Journey of bridging practice into research: exploration ating disorder treatment **(Annie Heiderscheit) (R)**	Listen to me: the infant's voice in Music Therapy and early relational care **(Belinda Lydon) (R)**	Music Therapy and DDP (Dyadic Developmental rapy) - a joint approach **(Louise Brown) (NR)**	Establishing group Music Therapy within an adult al health home treatment team **(Leon Geis) (R)**	The Centrality of Reflective Practice When Systems Are in Flux **(Benjamin Bradley, Madeline Duedal, Órla Casey, Barbara Duckworth, Elinor Everitt) 20 MINUTES (R)**	Working with sexual violence through Music Therapy: changes, ty and authenticity **(Hannah McCarthy, Emma Jones) (NR)**
14.35-15.05	What can Music Therapists offer to music and health aluation? **(Giorgos Tsiris, Nicky Haire) (R)**	Giving Young Children a Voice in Music Therapy: Using Musical Frameworks for Direct Feedback **(Alexandra Bossom, Claire Flower) (R)**		Playlist not for play, but to keep away **(Max Ryz) (R)** **Research, Evidence & Knowing**	**Mental Health** Short-term Music Therapy in acute and crisis: apting practice in a changing landscape **(Sreeraj Kollarukandy) (R)**	
15.05-15.35	A proven path – Musicare; building on an evidence en approach for MT to support older adults **(Sophie Williams) (R)**	Rethinking Music Therapy provisions in a financially changing landscape within education settings **(Gemma Lenton-Smith, Robert Simonis, Rebecca Gleave) (R)**		One size does NOT fit all Evolving MT approaches for older adults in residential care **(Victoria Turner) (R)**	From Silence to Song: Bridging inner conflict and neural repair through the integrated used of psychodynamic and neurologic Music Therapy or a patient with Guillain-Barré Syndrome **(Amanda Thorpe) (R)**	

15.35-16.00	**Afternoon Break**					
		Training, Supervision & Workforce Futures	**Music Therapy Structures, Ethics & Creativity**		**Palliative Care**	**World Cafe - Re-imagining possibilites, collaboration & technology**
16.00-16.30	Navigating ethical complexities in collecting feedback Music Therapy services **(Katya Herman, Hannah Hayes, Claire Fraser-Tytler, Melanie Thomas)** **(R)**	Collaborative online international learning: partnership between SUNY New Paltz and the University of Bergen **(Kathleen Murphy, Viggo Krüger)** **(R)**	Long-Term Music Therapy Following Brain Injury: Clinical Value Beyond Measurable Change **(Irene Lo Coco)** **(R)**	Robots, regulations and responsible practice: using AI with HCPC standards **(Ellie Ruddock)** **(R)**	From dissociation to memory: MTs' perspectives on voicework with women coping with sexual trauma **(Aviya Riabzev, Susanne Metzner)** **(R)**	
16.30-17.00			Reflecting on the public sharing of Music Therapy session ɛent **(Stella Hadjineophytou, Marianne Rizkallah)** **(R)**		Music Therapy in children's palliative care: rative family and practitioner voices **(Victoria Kammin, Julie Russell)** **(R)**	
				Re-imagining possibilities, collaboration and technology		
17.00-17.30		Educational practice and supervision in Music Therapy etween the USA and the UK **(Catherine Warner, Karen Goodman)** **(R)**		Independent but not alone: connecting the dots of self-Music Therapy **(Crystal Luk-Worrall, Panayotis Ntourntoufis, Rachael Forder, Jessica Tiso, Larisa Neculai)** **(R)**	Crossing paths in palliative care: a shared journey between the UK and Romania **(Lois Vaduva, Bob Heath)** **(R)**	
17.30-18.00						

ROUNDTABLES	**ORAL PRESENTATION**	**PECHA KUCHA**	**WORLD CAFE**	**CREATIVE SUBMISSION**	**WORKSHOP**

(R) Sessions that will. be recorded and available on-demand for one month after the conference
(NR) Sessions that will not be recorded

SUNDAY

Time	Auditorium 1	Auditorium 2	Auditorium 3	Auditorium 4	Auditorium 5	World Cafe (Networking Space)
09:00–10:00	**Keynote 3: Navigating the Music Therapy Landscape: Considering the challenges and opportunities facing the profession in the UK - Panel: Rebecca Ellis (Jessie's Fund), Sarah Hodkinson (Shooting Star Children's Hospice), Crystal Luk-Worrall (Clap & Toot), Laura Shuttleworth (Northern Ireland Music Therapy Trust) & Ray Travasso (Suffolk Music Therapy) (R)**					
	Research, Evidence & Knowing	**Early Years, Children & Families**		**International**	**Adolescence, SEMH, LD and Autism**	**WORLD CAFE - Palliative Care**
10:00–10:30	Music Therapy in the NHS: measuring what matters in earning disability care **(James Duggan, Alexandra Lowman) (R)**	The 'School starters' group: successes, challenges and learnings from a pilot project in an NHS child development service **(Jack Hudson) (R)**	Diverse voices: feasibility and acceptability testing a manualised MT intervention for the treatment of lective mutism in young children **(Kate Jones) (R)**	Music Therapy in Malta: transforming landscapes through the Arts **(Rosetta Debattista, Jess Rymer, Katie Bycroft, Arianne Spiteri Cremona, Cynthia Bonnici, Jack Barker) (R)**	Neurologic Music Therapy® with autistic clients: a new lens in a changing landscape of understanding sensory and movement differences in autism **(Emma Bailey, Mary-Clare Fearn, Esther Mitchell) (R)**	Navigating the safe and effective use of AI in Music Therapy education **(Karyn Stuart-Rohm) (NR)**
10:30–11:00	What can be learned from family carers, a researcher and a MT clinician co-producing together an online MT programme for family carers of people with Huntington's disease? **(Evelyn Mason) (R)**	Togetherness, Hope, Accomplishment: An exploration of learnings from establishing a choir in a UK women's prison **(Jane Lings, Naomi Hill) (NR)**	Quantifying the Effect of Music Therapy on Behaviours that Challenge for Children with Dravet Syndrome: Development and Validation of a Clinical Behavioural Observation Tool **(Leanne O'Keeffe) (NR)**		Insecure Placements: Establishing and maintaining a music therapy service for children and adolescents with SEMH g and parameters **(Martha Nicholls, Grace Gladston) (R)**	
11:00–11:20	**Morning Break**					
				Training, Supervision & Workforce Futures		
11:20-11.50	The home as a therapeutic space: impacts on boundaries in Music Therapy practice **(Anna Jacobs) (R)**	The Evolving Landscape of Music Therapy in Neonatal Where We Are and What's Next? **(Emma Kenrick, Jess Grieve, Ruth Hunston, Dean Wood, Hannah Hayes) (R)**	From Evidence to Invitation: A Practitioner Framework for Supporting Parent–Infant ships **(Georgina Roberts) (R)**	Creating new Music Therapy Assistant roles as a way to develop fessional landscape **(Juliet Wood, Rav Narula, Rebecca Gleave, Gemma Lenton-Smith, Rosie Robinson, Beth Hartshorne, Karen Diamond) (R)**	ABC-f: Arts for the Blues for Children and Young People **(Marcus Bull, Ken Fletcher, Vicky Karkou) (R)**	
					Palliative Care	
11.50-12.20	Including children in research: ethical considerations **(Kathleen Murphy, Viggo Krüger) (R)**				irituality, death and loss in a changing world **(Amira Ehrlich, Professor Giorgos Tsiris, June Boyce Tillman, Sara Klinck, Amy Clements-Cortes, Nsamu Moonga, Amanda Thorpe) (R)**	
12.20-12.50	Where practice meets curiosity; cultivating a sustainable Music Therapy research culture **(Claire Flower, Tom Huet, Kirsty Jane, Regina Legarte, Luke Annesley, Jo Parsons, Katie McKinnon) (R)**	Equal Opportunities: Reframing Music Therapy as a ldren with Complex Needs **(Jonathan Pool, Claire Wood, Holly Hitchen, Jonathan Fever, Karen Twyford) (R)**	Listening together: experiencing a Music Therapy continuum for children's wellbeing in mainstream schools **(Rebecca Atkinson, Heather Walters) (R)**	Authentic co-production in Music Therapy principles, practice and possibilities **(Francis Myerscough, Peg Digitalis, Claire Grant, Joy Rickwood, Kayleigh Reid) (R)**		
					Training, Supervision & Workforce Futures	
12.50-13.20					he holding chain **(Tina Warnock and Joy Dando) (R)**	
13.20-14.00	**Lunch**					
14.00-14.40	**Keynote 2: Counting the moments – values and legacy in Music Therapy (Prof Giorgos Tsiris) (40 mins) (R)**					
	Technology, AI and Digital Futures				**Identity, power & belonging in Music Therapy**	
14.40-15.10	LIFT Music: Reimagining Musical Agency, Accessibility d Co-Creation in Music Therapy **(Stuart Grimshaw, Anthony Scarfe) (R)**	From kitchen disco to therapeutic bonding - how listening to music with children in residential care created a space for friendship, trust and inner strength **(Anna Macken) (R)**	Preparing for the ending from the beginning: a reflection on short term work within a Mental Health rt team **(Allyson Ryan) (R)**	What kinds of musicians will form the next generation of UK Music Therapists? Exploring the musical diversity of UK Music Therapy trainees 2021-25 **(Donald Wetherick) (R)**	Making the Case for New Music Therapy Provision in Forensic Mental Health Settings **(Richard Murison, Tom O'Reilly) (R)**	
		Mental Health				**WORLD CAFE - Identity, power & belonging**
15.10-15.40	What can EMDR draw from Music Therapy **(Crystal Luk-Worrall, Melanie Thomas, Claire Fraser-Tytler) (R)**		A World of Perspectives: International Collaboration in the Development of the Music Engagement Scale (MES) **(Vasiliki Tsakiridou, Alan Turry, Helene Turry, Manolis Basis, Paolo Pizziolo, Hok Tsun Ma) (R)**	From training group to clinical practice: learning from qualified Music Therapists about the longer-term impact of experiential arning groups **(Elien De Schryver, Claire Molyneux) (R)**		Navigating instability: identity and self-care in Music Therapy employment **(Hsini (Kelly) Wang, Hoi Shuen Chan) (NR)**
	Re-imagining possibilities, collaboration and technology					
15.40-16.10	Opening up access and freedom of expression with the Clarion – the first electronic instrument recognised by ABRSM **(Jonathan Westrup) (R)**	Found" Music Therapy Led Choir **(Emma Hamer) (R)**		"That's not who I pictured": Student reflections on Problem-Based Learning about Unconscious Bias **(Elizabeth Coombes, Beth Pickard, Joshua Davey-Stewart) (R)**	ime emergencies: the A CARE model **(Aviya Riabzev, Moshe Bensimon) (R)**	

16.10-16.30	**Afternoon Break**					
	Music Therapy Structures, Ethics & Creativity		**Music Therapy Structures, Ethics & Creativity**	**Identity, power & belonging in Music Therapy**		
16.30-17.00	Listening in multiple directions: live descriptive captioning in music improvisation **(Sonia Allori) (R)**	The language of change: relational frame theory as a mechanism in Music Therapy **(Ben Richardson) (R)**		Stigma or support? The lived experiences of disabled Music Therapists and Music Therapy students in the UK **(Hilary Davies, Beth Pickard) (R)**	An urgent call to action: the imperative to confront our white privilege **(Cressida Lindsay, Lottie McVicker, Bo Keeney, Grace Gladston, Leon Geis, Michaela de Cruz) (R)**	
		Early Years, Children & Families				
17.00-17.30		Meeting the Children Where They're at: Running Flexible Music Therapy Provision in SEMH **(Henry Bateman, John Gillard) (R)**		Music Therapy with displaced caregiver-infant dyads East and West **(Letitia Slabu, Elizabeth Coombes) (NR)**		
17.30-17.45	**Closing reflections and synthesis**					

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POSTERS

No	Presenters	Title of the Poster
1	Emine Elif Şahin	Beyond Therapy: Therapeutic Potentials of Community Music Interventions
2	Hyunah Cho, Scott Bannister	Musical Engagement and Wellbeing among International Students in the UK: Implications for Music Therapists
3	Annie Heiderscheit, Alison Short	How does music support physical and emotional therapeutic work inherent in the Hero's Journey in GIM
4	Lisa Margetts	Safe&Sound: Exploring reflexivity in Music Therapy consultation research in UK SEN schools.
5	Giorgos Tsiris, Bruce Armstrong	Environmental Music Therapy: Insights from a qualitative study in a hospice setting
6	Chris R. Millett, Viggo Krüger, Katrina Skewes McFerran	Co-Creating Change: A Scoping Review of Participatory Music-Based Interventions in Upper Secondary Schools
7	Nicky Ahadi	Potential benefits of music-based therapies on rehabilitation outcomes in people with multiple sclerosis: a systematic review
8	Willow Lowry	Broadmoor Porta-Studio: A Novel Music Therapy Approach to Improving Access in a High-Secure Psychiatric Setting
9	Sinead Hegarty	A Tapestry of Climate and Community: Student Research Project exploring Music Therapy as an element of community recovery following climate-related events.
10	Sam Scott	Memories & Melodies: Creating a Christmas Album with Older Adults Using a Portable Recording Station in Auckland
11	Okiko Ishihara, Yuriko Ichiki	From the Perspective of the Expressive Therapies Continuum Theory in Music Therapy: How are percussion instruments used in improvisation?
12	Priya Vithani	When the music fades: Exploring musical engagement as an indicator of mental health in Music Therapy for verbal adults.
13	Yen-pei Chen	Music, Actually: Piloting group music-making as an intervention to support mental wellbeing and prevent chronic work-related stress among corporate employees
14	Daisy Vatalaro, Carole Murphy	Unknown Futures: The Role of Music Therapy in the Life Journeys of Female Survivors of Modern Slavery
15	Vikram Kannan	A Study on the Effect of Receptive Music Therapy Interventions on State Anxiety and Patients' Perception of an Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Procedure
16	Vikram Kannan	Music Therapy in a De-Addiction Setting: Practice-Based Reflections on Patient and Family Support
17	Leonardo Muller-Rodriguez	SLEEP-ON: Personalised bedtime music and multimodal sleep–biology assessment in dementia caregivers - a feasibility reversal case series study
18	Einike Leppik, Marju Raju	Pilot project of music therapeutic concerts - participants' self-reported effects on mental well-being

19	Ruth Hunston, Jess Grieve	Nurturing Notes. How group Music Therapy offers support to infants and their families upon discharge from the neonatal unit.
20	Dominique Mirabella	Inclusive pathways - International music therapy students in the UK and the Graduate Visa Scheme
21	Karen Diamond, Seána Kerr, Rebecca Carey	Music Fundamentals Project: Developing Therapeutic Music Approaches in Early Years Settings
22	Elsa Hariades, Alexia Quin	Music Helps: How intercultural learning and digital innovation inspires caregivers to embed music into dementia care
23	Phil Clarke, Paula Hedderly, Anna Young	Remix Resilience – Realtime Digital/Analog Co-creation in Group Music Therapy for Young Peoples Mental Health
24	Sonia Karaszewska	The Use of Music Therapy to Support the Well-Being of Palliative Care Patients in Poland.
25	Alice Laing, Portia Velarde	Creative Collaboration in Group work
26	Hok-tsun Ma, Kingman Chung	From Crisis to Connection: The "Emotional Oasis Concert" Framework as an Integrative Music Therapy Response to a recent Tragedy across Clinical and Community Levels
27	Emily Man Ting Yeung , Cheung Kit Yang Carol	Music as Companion: A NOVA-Informed Protocol for Single-Session Music Therapist-Led Crisis Intervention in Post-Fire Transitional Housing
28	Vicky Guise	Exploring the Experiences of Multi-Disciplinary Team Working for Neurologic Music Therapists™ Supporting Adults with Acquired Brain Injury
29	Vicky Guise, Esther Goodhew	Give Me Time' - Exploring the Impact of a Collaborative Community Aphasia- Friendly Choir for Patients, Caregivers and Students
30	Georgina Roberts	Developing a Boundaried Practitioner-Facing Toolkit from Arts Therapies Research to Support Parent-Infant Relationships
31	Susie Renshaw	Repetition in Music Therapy. Repetition in Music Therapy - The positives and problems around repetition and routine. A discussion illustrated by case material.
32	Amanda Thorpe	From Silence to Song: Bridging inner conflict and neural repair through the integrated used of psychodynamic and neurologic Music Therapy methods for a patient with Guillain-Barré Syndrome