

## **Supportive Materials**

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## **A. Letters of Support**



Department of Art  
 School of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
 Campus Box 57  
 Milledgeville, Georgia 31021-4400  
 Phone (478) 445-4572  
 Fax (478) 445-6038

June 14, 2010

Dear Chesley Mercado,

This letter is in support of the proposed Master of Art Therapy program. The Department of Art at Georgia College & State University would like to be an enthusiastic resource for those wishing to pursue this major. We have fully equipped painting and printmaking studios and state of the art digital facility housed in Maylar Hall, which would allow for graduate level Printmaking (ARTS 6110 Printmaking), Printing (ARTS 6111 Printing) and Digital Arts (ARTS 6110 Digital) courses to be taught by our current, well-qualified instructors.

Please contact me if more information is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Fisher".

William Fisher  
 Associate Professor, Chair  
 Department of Art

Milledgeville • Macon • Warner Robins

Georgia College & State University, established in 1924, is Georgia's Public Liberal Arts University.  
 University System of Georgia

September 22, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to support the proposed Master of Arts in Art Therapy program in Georgia. We have been in need of an in-state program to train art therapists for some time. I went to the University of Louisville to receive my Master of Arts in Art Therapy as they offer in-state tuition for Georgia students through the Academic Common Market. Fortunately, I was in the position to move temporarily out of state.

I, as well as many of my art therapy colleagues, receive queries each week from people interested in getting a degree in art therapy. We have not collected data on the number of queries, but I know for myself that I address an average of five queries a month and have done so for many years. Most of these people are unable to move out of state for their training and some choose other paths to study, despite their desire to be art therapists.

I primarily work in the GNETS (Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support) system for the South Metro Program. I am aware that Fulton and Clayton County schools hire music therapists for the students in special education. At present, I believe I am the only art therapist hired in the Clayton County schools. South Metro also serves South Fulton and South Atlanta City Schools. Fulton County does employ adaptive art teachers to serve the population with special education services. However, I have recently become aware that these adaptive art teachers have no training in adaptive art. It is simply a label they receive once they begin to work with classes with special education students. It is my belief that art therapists could serve in this position more proficiently than someone without training. Georgia is one of the few states to have a GNETS program throughout the state. I believe there are art therapy positions just waiting to be created and filled throughout these various centers in our state.

The Red Cross provided grants for survivors of hurricane Katrina to receive therapeutic services. Among the approved services was art therapy from a Registered Art Therapist. A license was not required as registration was recognized as our profession's credentials. I note this because I do believe art therapy is a valued and recognized profession.

I have been working as an art therapist in Georgia for 24 years. I have had no difficulty getting a job as an art therapist and have created positions as well. In addition to my work at South Metro, I provide services as an outreach Art Therapist to Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. I provide art therapy services to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta through Callanwolde and Starlight Starbright Foundation. I also provide bereavement art therapy services through Hospice of Northeast Georgia Medical Center.

It is my firm belief that an in-state Master of Arts in Art Therapy program in Georgia would be filled to capacity each year with eager students willing to use their inherent creativity to convince Georgia that art therapy is alive and well. They will possess the drive and creativity to convince our community of the necessity and benefit of art therapy.

Sincerely,

Jenny Welty-Green, Ed.S, ATR-BC  
Board Certified Registered Art Therapist

Dr. Mercado,

I am currently a student in art therapy. I live in Georgia and attend a distance learning program at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods college in Indiana. I do so because I have tried for twenty years to work out a way to get into this profession through the Georgia colleges. I have a BA in Economics from Agnes Scott College and a BFA in Fine Arts from Georgia State University. I will have my Masters of Art Therapy after I finish the program at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. I know of three other students from Ga. -two in the Atlanta area and one in Thomasville, Ga. who are also attending this out of state program. In addition, I know of two other people in Atlanta who are preparing their application for admission this coming year. In every case, these people are unable to move to another state for this program, but believe in its validity enough that they are willing to travel to Indiana to get the education needed. Those who are able (those who are unmarried and able to move) have gone to Florida, New York, Louisville, Washington, D.C., Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Santa Fe, Boulder, and other cities which have very strong programs in this area.

It really is not a matter of not having applicants, it is a matter of educating the Board of Regents to the validity of this work. Emory University has a program whereby its family/community practice residents spend four weeks as an observer participant in the art therapy program for cancer patients and survivors at the Wellness center in Atlanta. There are a number of evidence based studies that demonstrate the effectiveness of art therapy in the medical model as well as the mental health realm. I have witnessed several interns pass through this program and they are amazed and ask us, "where do I send my patients for this type of intervention?"

The more art therapy is promoted among the medical, mental health, and educational counseling and therapy populations the more demand there will be in Georgia. This modality is used extensively in other parts of the country. Where it is taught, the hospitals, clinics, and public mental health in communities around them use the interns and the registered therapist extensively. It has proven to be an effective short term delivery model for use in all places where mental health is employed, as well as the more extensive long term insight oriented therapy. It is effective in treating PTSD in our war veterans as well as rape and crime victims, and disaster victims. It is especially effective with adolescent, children, and the growing elderly populations. It has particular application to the developmentally delayed.

The American Art Therapy Association has set out requirements that include the necessary basic requirements for an LPC as well as the additional training for art therapy. This field is not one that simply adds a picture to a talk therapy session any more than music therapy adds music to a talk therapy session. Art therapy requires understanding of the use of art materials and the brain's unique use of images to be effective.

I became interested in Art and its use as therapy in 1988 when my father was ill. I have tried many ways to become trained. However with a family of four children, I could not leave the state. I went back to school at Georgia State to explore art and how I might apply it. I volunteered at the Gwinnett county medium security prison and discovered how powerful art was. Two years ago, I applied to The University of West Georgia for a masters in Psychology because I knew their humanist and existential approach to art therapy was an excellent preparation. However I was told that I would be too old by the time I graduated to get a job and therefore I should continue to seek places to volunteer my time and talents. I was 58 years old. I took the money I would have gladly spent in Georgia and am spending it in Indiana. There, my abilities, grades and achievements were more important than my age. It is my business what I do with my education; whether I work in private practice, with other therapists and counselors, or in an institution. I will practice art therapy.

I relate this to you because as an education program, I have some concerns that it will be limited in its availability, either through age restrictions, or by not being available to those who work. Most of the 75 students in my group at Indiana are changing their careers to become an art therapist. Through the limited semester residential requirements, and the use of the internet for connections with our professors, research, and assignments, the program has students from as far away as China. (Yes, they travel to the campus every semester.) Most of the students come from the surrounding states. They have jobs and families and cannot quit to re-train. The students and prospective students from the Atlanta area going to Indiana, all have children or family concerns and would need to have a program that is available in a distance learning format (not to be confused with "on-line" courses). This is a growing concern as our society and economy endures many changes in job availability. People need to be flexible and education institutions need to be flexible also.

This program will bring in many students. I am part of a student networking on line group and I can tell you there are many people looking for AATA approved schools. Georgia will get many students when the program becomes AATA approved because we would be the only one for the southeast. (The Florida program is taught as a part of the educational department.) This is a fast growing profession. We have many practicing art therapist in Georgia, especially in the Atlanta area. In the last few years, we have added large number of new members who have moved here to take jobs in community centers, or have developed community mental health centers through grants and private money. These jobs could have gone to Georgians if the training had been available.

I am glad you are looking into the possibility of offering this Master's program in Georgia.

Sandra Tate

## **B. Results of Needs Survey and Examples of Inquiries**

## Summary of Survey “Interest in Art Therapy”

n= 26

(others (15) answered on the first format which had errors in formatting so they were not analyzed)

### Question 1:

**What is your level of interest in attending a Master of Art Therapy program?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>
Not Interested	0%
Curious need to know more about the program	20%
Interested and would like more information	40%
Definitely would enroll in an available program	40%

### Question 2:

**If interested in pursuing a Master of Art Therapy degree program, please indicate your preferred start date.**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>
This year	33.3%
1-2 years from now	53.3%
3-4 years from now	6.7%
5-6 years from now	6.7%
N/A	6.7%



**Question 3:**

**Below are some possible factors which might influence your decision to enroll in a Art Therapy Masters program. Please indicate the strength of influence these factors may have in deciding whether you would either presently or in the future be interested in enrolling in an Art Therapy Masters program.**

<b>No Influence</b>	<b>Slight Influence</b>	<b>Some Influence</b>	<b>Definitely an Influence</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Location in the State of Southeast Region of U.S.	0.0%	6.7%	13.3%	<b>80.0%</b>
Tuition & Fee Levels	0.0%	13.3%	20.0%	<b>66.7%</b>
Method of Program Delivery	0.0%	13.3%	40.0%	<b>46.7%</b>
Reputation of GCSU's Art and Music therapy Programs	13.3%	6.7%	26.7%	<b>53.3%</b>
Availability to Continue Professional Work While Enrolled	7.1%	0.0%	35.7%	<b>57.1%</b>
Opportunities for Clinical/Field Placements	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	<b>50.0%</b>

**Question 4:**

**If you did enroll in an Art Therapy Masters Program what would be your preferred method of program delivery?**

<b>No Preference</b>	<b>Some Preference</b>	<b>Preferred</b>	<b>Definitely Preferred</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Traditional Format Face to Face Format	14.3%	28.6%	21.4%	35.7%	0.0%
Partially on-line (Blended Program)	0.0%	42.9%	28.6%	28.6%	0.0%
Totally on-line	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%	0.0%
Weekends	23.1%	30.8%	15.4%	30.8%	0.0%
Summer Only	36.4%	45.5%	18.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Evening Format	15.4%	38.5%	38.5%	0.0%	7.7%
Daytime Format	33.3%	33.3%	8.3%	8.3%	16.7%
Fall and Spring Term Only	69.2%	15.4%	7.7%	0.0% (0)	7.7%

**Question 5:**

**If Georgia College & State University offers a Masters Degree in Art Therapy program would you be interested in enrolling?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>
Yes	73.3%
No	0.0%
Maybe	26.7%
N/A	0.0%

**Question 6:**

**If Georgia College & State University did not offer a Masters degree in Art Therapy, would you attend an institution that did?**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>
Yes	50.0%
No	7.1%
Maybe	42.9%
N/A	0.0%

**Question 7:**

**If you answered "yes" to the question above, what university or college will you consider?**

Florida State University
Pratt Institute, St. Mary of the Woods
St. Mary's of the Woods, IN
Any Program in Georgia
Florida State University
Florida State
Florida State University

## Examples of Inquiries

### Example 1

From: Gyun Hur [gyunhur@gmail.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 2010 12:37 PM  
To: Chesley Mercado  
Subject: Interested in Art Therapy

Dear Dr. Chesley Mercado,

My name is Gyun Hur. I recently graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design with Sculpture MFA. I went to University of Georgia for my Painting BFA, and currently working on my studio work and tutoring art. Past years, I always have been involved in teaching children and my love for the children and some of their inner struggles would break my heart. Several incidents led me to become very interested in Art Therapy and have been researching about the field and talked to one art therapist in Atlanta about this pursuit.

As I understand, Georgia College & State University is proposing to have an Art Therapy major (graduate?) starting 2011. I would be very interested in pursuing this degree at the school and would like to get more information about it. Would there be prerequisite classes I would have to take (i.e. Abnormal Psychology) since my only background is art? Is there a volunteer position that you can refer?

It would be great to hear from you to learn more about Art Therapy. Thank you for your time and help in advance.

Warm Regards,

Gyun Hur  
[www.gyunhur.com](http://www.gyunhur.com)  
[www.gyunhur.blogspot.com](http://www.gyunhur.blogspot.com)

## Example 2

From: Karen Bufford [yellowfawnmedia@att.net]  
Sent: Saturday, April 17, 2010 9:19 PM  
To: Chesley Mercado  
Subject: Interest in Art Therapy Graduate Program

Hello, my name is Karen Bufford and I was given this email by the Ga Art Therapy Association. I was wondering if there was a possibility of GCSU offering an art therapy program in the near future?

Thank you for your time,

K bufford

## Example 3

From: Melissa Durden [melissa8530474@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2010 1:13 AM  
To: Chesley Mercado  
Subject: Art Therapy Program

Dr. Chesley Mercado,  
I am in search of a Grad School that offers Art Therapy. I came across this information on the Georgia Art Therapy Association Web site and wanted to know if Georgia College will be offering a program soon?

<http://www.gnosisarts.org/gata/faq.html#9A>

**Are there any Master's degree programs in Art Therapy in Georgia?** There are currently no schools in Georgia offering a Master's Degree in Art Therapy, however... **Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA is proposing a Master of Arts in Art Therapy Program.** It will be a collaborative degree between the School of Health Sciences (Music Therapy) and the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Art Dept). Once approved, this program is slated to begin in 2010. Contact Dr. Chesley Mercado for more info.

Thanks,  
Melissa Durden  
Vidalia, GA

#### **Example 4**

From: Kaitlyn Hannah Landers [kaitlyn\_landers@ecats.gcsu.edu]  
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 12:04 AM  
To: Chesley Mercado  
Subject: Re: FW: Art Therapy

That is great to hear! I was also wondering if you would suggest a minor in psychology or dual major in it and art?

Chesley Mercado wrote:

Your email went to my junk account. I am sorry for the delay in responding. Yes, we hope to have a Master of Art in Art Therapy here by 2012. It is still in planning so I don't much more. Stay in touch. Dr. M

-----Original Message-----

From: Kaitlyn Hannah Landers [mailto:kaitlyn\_landers@ecats.gcsu.edu]  
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2010 3:37 PM  
To: Chesley Mercado  
Subject: Art Therapy

Good afternoon,

I'm Kaitlyn Landers, a freshman here and I am interested in art therapy and I was given your name. Valerie told me that you were heading up the program, I was just wondering if it is still in the works.

Thanks,

Kaitlyn Landers

#### **Example 5**

From: Meshai Dixon [meshai7@hotmail.com]  
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 4:47 PM  
To: Chesley Mercado  
Subject: RE: Art Therapy Program

Hello again,

I am working on enrolling in art classes this fall and was curious to know if you all are still planning on offering the art therapy classes for 2011?

Thank you,  
Meshai

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From: chesley.mercado@gcsu.edu  
To: meshai7@hotmail.com  
Date: Wed, 28 Oct 2009 20:25:31 -0400  
Subject: RE: Art Therapy Program

I'm glad you are interested in Art Therapy. It will probably be 2011 or 2012 before the program begins. Your undergraduate degree can be in anything. However, there will be some prerequisites. You will need 18 hours of Studio Art and 11 hours of Psychology. You will have one year while in the program to complete these but it is really better to start now so you can concentrate on the art therapy courses. The master's is 45 semester hours so it will take 2 academic years and 2 summers to complete anyway.

Will you complete this survey about your interest?

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=p8UNf\\_2bcxrrmH1zj9atJqlg\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=p8UNf_2bcxrrmH1zj9atJqlg_3d_3d). thanks. Dr. Mercado

Chesley Sigmon Mercado, Ed.D., MT-BC  
Chair, Department of Music Therapy

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From: Meshai Dixon [meshai7@hotmail.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2009 7:28 PM  
To: Chesley Mercado; meshai7@hotmail.com  
Subject: Art Therapy Program

Ms. Mercado,

Hello, my name is Meshai Dixon-Olivares and I received your email address through the Georgia Art Therapy Association website. I noticed that your university is slated to offer Art Therapy in 2010. I was wondering if you could tell me a little more about the program. My Berry College B.A. (Rome, GA) dealt with Anthropology, Communications, and International Studies - the focus of which was on human rights, diverse cultures, and cohesiveness between individuals and groups. Additionally, I was a member of the college dance troupe and participated in yoga classes. My musical classes were all prior to college. If this is problematic, please inform.

Currently I am employed as a Victim Advocate at the International Battered Women's Shelter and have found that I would like to do more to help individuals on a deeper and more creative level, and Art Therapy highly interests me as the vehicle to deliver this assistance.

Thank you in advance for your kind assistance in this matter, and I look forward to your reply!

With Gratitude,

Meshai Dixon-Olivares  
445 Lakeside Circle  
Covington, GA 30016  
678.677.0295

**C. Coordinator of Art Therapy Job Description and Existing Faculty Vitas**

## **Coordinator of Art Therapy Job Description**

**Purpose of Position:** Under the direction of the Chair, Music Therapy Department, the Coordinator of Art Therapy is responsible for the daily operation of the program. Duties include monitoring curricular, enrollment, and physical needs of the program. This position includes departmental, college, and university duties as assigned.

The Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Art Therapy has the following responsibilities:

1. Know and abide by the policies and procedures in the University Catalogs and the Academic Affairs Handbook.
2. Publicize programs and recruit new students.
3. Recommend the admission of applicants into their graduate degree programs.
4. Process all paper work ensuring the student is admitted into the appropriate graduate classification and is informed of that classification in writing within thirty (30) days of admission into a degree program.
5. Coordinate the advisement of every student under the Coordinator's supervision during pre-advisement, pre- registration, and registration periods.
6. Monitor the offering and scheduling of courses each semester and make recommendations to the dean and department chair based on the needs of students.
7. Approve applications for candidacy and change of program on designated forms.
8. Prepare and maintain complete student files in order and up-to-date, either as the student's adviser or through the student's adviser.
9. Initiate recommendations, using petitions, for students with special requests or under exceptional circumstances either as the student's adviser or through the student's adviser.
10. Send copies of all records and paper work pertaining to applicants and students each time a decision is made affecting the students to the Registrar's Office.
11. Approve graduate students immediately prior to each graduation and clear the final list of graduates with the Registrar's Office one day prior to graduation.
12. Coordinate, for the Provost, with department heads and graduate student advisers the resolution of any issue relative to graduate policies and procedures, degree requirements, course development and course offerings when appropriate and/or necessary.
13. Approve independent study contracts after determining that they are comparable in workload and quality to regular scheduled courses.
14. Approve changes in majors between graduate programs on the designated forms.
15. Teach Art Therapy courses.
16. Supervise student clinical placements and community sites.



## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Douglas R. Keith, PhD, MT-BC**  
**Assistant Professor of Music Therapy**  
**Georgia College & State University**

### Contact information

261 Lakeside Drive  
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061  
(478) 414-4392 (home)  
(478) 387-6513 (cell)  
[drkeithphd@gmail.com](mailto:drkeithphd@gmail.com)

Foreign Languages: Fluent in speaking and writing German, and in reading and speaking French.

### Education

**Temple University**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Doctor of Philosophy in Music Therapy, 2005  
Dissertation: Understanding music improvisations: A comparison of methods of meaning-making

**Temple University**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Master of Music Therapy, 1997

**University of Georgia**, Athens, Georgia; Bachelor of Music (Major: Music Therapy), 1990  
Music Therapy internship: Rhineland State Hospital, Düsseldorf, Germany, April 1992  
Population: Adults in psychiatric care

### Certificates Held

**Certification Board for Music Therapists**  
Board-Certified Music Therapist

**New York State Education Department, Office of the Professions**  
Licensed Creative Arts Therapist

**Nordoff-Robbins Center for Music Therapy, New York**  
Certificate in Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy

### Teaching Experience

**August 2003 – present**      **Assistant Professor of Music Therapy, Georgia College & State University**, Milledgeville, Georgia; Tenure date: August 2008. Projected promotion to Associate Professor: August 2009. Teach undergraduate and graduate music therapy courses, supervise practicum students, advise undergraduates in the music therapy program, maintain scholarly activity, provide service to university and other communities.

**September 2000-May 2002** **Doctoral Teaching Assistant, Temple University,** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Taught and co-taught undergraduate music therapy methods classes; supervised students in clinical fieldwork.

**September 1995-May 1996** **Graduate Teaching Assistant;** Co-taught undergraduate music therapy methods classes; supervised students in clinical fieldwork.

### **Clinical Experience**

#### **Georgia College & State University Music Therapy Clinic**

Provide music therapy services to two individual clients (Jan 2006 - present)

#### **The Rebecca Center for Music Therapy, Rockville Centre, NY**

Provided music therapy services to children and youth with developmental disabilities; developed outreach program to local Community Center; supervised undergraduate music therapy interns and practicum students (August 2001 – July 2003).

#### **Housing Works, Inc., New York**

Provided music therapy services to groups and individual clients (June 2001 – July 2003).

#### **Hebrew Academy for Special Children, Brooklyn, NY**

Developed a music therapy program for preschool-age children with developmental problems; provided services at two private schools; provided in-services to staff; supervised undergraduate and graduate students in clinical practica (January 1998 – July 2000).

#### **Cobble Hill Nursing Home, Brooklyn, NY**

Provided music therapy services for nursing home residents in a research study (December 1996 – March 1997).

#### **Rhineland State Hospital, Düsseldorf, Germany**

Provided music therapy services for adults with psychiatric disorders in a state hospital; supervised music therapy students from degree programs in Germany and the Netherlands (August 1992 – August 1995).

### **Scholarship and Creative Activity**

#### **Research in press**

Keith, D., Russell, K., & Weaver, B. (2009). "The effects of music therapy as a nursing intervention for the inconsolable 32-40 week critically ill infant." *Journal of Music Therapy*.

## **Refereed Publications**

Keith, D. (2007). Understanding music improvisations. In A. Meadows (Ed.), *Qualitative inquiries in music therapy (Vol. 3)*, pp. 62-102. Gilsum, NH: Barcelona Publishers.

## **Select Non-refereed Publications**

Keith, D. (2006). [Review of the monograph *Qualitative inquiry in music therapy, vol. 1*]. Nordic Journal of Music Therapy (online version). [http://www.njmt.no/bookreview\\_2006067.html](http://www.njmt.no/bookreview_2006067.html)

Keith, D. (2003). "The Silk Road." Composition for piano and children's percussion. In M. Ritholz and C. Robbins (Eds.), *More themes for therapy* (pp. 114-117). New York: Carl Fischer.

## **Select Other Writings**

Tüpker, R. & Weymann, E. (2005). "Morphological Research in Music Therapy." In B. Wheeler (Ed.), *Music therapy research (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)*, pp. 429-439. German-English translation edited by Douglas Keith.

Keith, D. (2004). "Creative Music Therapy with Adult Clients: Meaning, Intervention, and Interpretation." *Musicing: the Newsletter of the International Association of Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapists*.

Keith, D. (2002). "Improvisation: A Hermeneutic Comparison of Three Sources of Meaning: Client, Therapist, and Co-Constructed." Unpublished Manuscript, Temple University.

Keith, D. (2001). "Meaning-Derivation in Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy." Unpublished Manuscript, Temple University.

## **Select Presentations**

Music therapy and inconsolability: Interdisciplinary research in the NICU. Co-presented at the National Conference of the American Music Therapy Association, St. Louis, MO, November 2008.

The effect of music therapy as a nursing intervention for inconsolability. Co-presented at the Magnet Conference of the American Nursing Credentialing Center, Salt Lake City, UT, October 2008.

Online and distance learning in music therapy education: Undergraduate and graduate perspectives. Panel presentation at the National Conference of the American Music Therapy Association, Louisville, KY, November 2007.

Wikis and spreadsheets and docs: A new generation of online collaborative tools. Presentation at the National Conference of the American Music Therapy Association, Louisville, KY, November 2007.

The 2006 AMTA Technology Survey: An Analysis. Poster presentation at the Southeastern Regional Conference of the American Music Therapy Association, Memphis, TN, March 2007.

The Improvisation Assessment Profiles. Co-presented at the National Conference of the American Music Therapy Association, Kansas City, MO, November 2006.

Understanding music improvisations: A comparison of methods of meaning-making. Presented at the Third International Symposium for Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy, Meinerzhagen, Germany, June 2006, and at the Southeastern Regional Conference of the American Music Therapy Association, Louisville, KY, March 2006.

### **Research in progress**

Keith, D. & Weaver, B. The effect of a nursing-driven music therapy intervention on preterm mothers' milk volume and fat content.

### **Grants Awarded**

10/20/2008 (Co-PI, 50%)

The effects of a nursing-driven music therapy intervention on preterm mothers' milk volume and fat content. Research grant from the MEDCEN Foundation, Macon, GA  
Total grant: \$14,000

3/1/2007 (PI, 75%)

The effects of music therapy as a nursing intervention for inconsolable preterm infants. Research grant from the Medical Center of Central Georgia, Macon, GA  
Total grant: \$4175

### **Professional Memberships/Activities**

#### **American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) 1989 – present**

Academic Program Approval Committee (APAC). Member-at-large 2005 – present  
Communications & Technology Committee (chair, 2005-2007)  
Student Advisor to the Southeastern Region (Spring 2008 – present)

#### **Music Therapy Association of Georgia (MTAG) 2003 – present**

Secretary, 2006-2008  
Vice president, March 2008 – present

### **Service**

#### **Service to the GCSU Music Therapy Program**

Coordinator of Continuing Education in Music Therapy (Spring 2007 – present)  
Organizer of annual music therapy student concert (October 2005 – present)

## **Service to the GCSU School of Health Sciences**

Graduate Committee (Fall 2008 – present)  
Committee on Cultural Diversity (Fall 2007 – present)  
Performance Appraisal Steering Committee (Fall 2006 – present)  
Undergraduate Committee (Fall 2003 – Spring 2007); Member, Fall 2003 – present;  
Secretary, Spring 2003 – Spring 2005; Chair, Fall 2005 – Spring 2007

## **Service to GCSU (University level)**

Student Research Conference Planning Committee (Spring 2007 – present)  
International Education Committee (Fall 2007 – present)  
Shared Leave Committee (Spring 2007 – present)  
Institutional Review Board (Spring 2005 – present); Chair (Spring 2007 – present)  
Academic Appeals Advisory Panel (Spring 2005 – present)  
President's Commission on Diversity (Fall 2004 – present)  
Alternate Dispute Resolution Committee (Spring 2006 – Spring 2007)

## **Select GCSU Events**

### **2008-2009 Academic year**

- Workshop on "Promotion & Tenure," September 2008
- Fall Fest 2008
- Guest lectures in classes of colleagues in kinesiology, October 2008
- GCSU Orchestra – performed in concert, November 2008

### **2007-2008 Academic Year**

- School of Health Sciences Diversity Symposium, March 12  
Subcommittee organized this event for SOHS students and faculty
- Presentation at School of Health Sciences "Brown Bag" research lunch  
November 2007
- Open House of the International Education Center, August 2007
- Fall Fest 2007
- Spring Fest 2008
- Honors Day 2008
- Undergraduate Commencement 2008
- Breakfast on the intersection of religion & social justice, Feb. 2008
- GCSU Flagg Social Justice Award Banquet, March 2008

### **2006-2007 Academic Year**

- New Faculty Orientation: served as mentor
- Fall Fest 2006
- Spring Fest 2007
- Study-Abroad in Germany, June 2007

### **2005-2006 Academic Year**

- Symposium & Panel discussion, *Meeting Healthcare and Emotional Needs of Marginalized Persons*, Fall 2005.
- Graduate Student Recruitment Open House, March, 2006
- Fall Fest 2005
- Spring Fest 2006

### **2004-2005 Academic Year**

- Peer review for foreign-language faculty member, March 2005
- New Faculty Orientation: Book discussions, August 2004
- Fall Fest 2004
- Spring Fest 2005

### **2003-2004 Academic Year**

- Drumming Circle, GCSU Residence Hall, April 2004
- GCSU Concert Band Performances, April 2004

### **Service to the Profession**

Abstract editor for AMTA National Conference Program (2005 – present)

### **Service to the Public**

- Director, Milledgeville Singers' Guild, Fall 2007 – present
- Organist, Episcopal Church of the Redeemer (Greensboro, GA), Fall 2005 – present
- Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta Centennial Music Subcommittee, Summer 2006
- Men's Caregivers' Support Group, February 2006 – January 2008
- University System of Georgia Domestic Partnership Coalition, 2004 – 2005

### **Conferences Attended**

#### Conferences of the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA)

National Conference, St. Louis, MO	November 2008
Southeastern Regional Conference, New Orleans, LA	March 2008
National Conference, Louisville, KY	November 2007
Southeastern Regional Conference, Memphis, TN	March 2007
National Conference, Kansas City, MO	November 2006
Southeastern Regional Conference, Louisville, KY	March 2006
National Conference, Orlando, FL	November 2005
Southeastern Regional Conference, Charleston, SC	March 2005

Southeastern Regional Conference, Chattanooga, TN	March 2004
National Conference, Minneapolis, MN	November 2003
National Conference, St Louis, MO	November 2000
National (and world) Conference, Washington, DC	November 1999
National Conference, Cleveland, OH	November 1998

National Association of IRB Managers (NAIM)

National Convention, Atlanta, GA	May 2008
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International Association of Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapists

Third International Symposium, Meinerzhagen, Germany	June 2006
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### **Continuing Education**

Continuing Music Therapy Education (Select)

The circle of arts integration: Music therapy & creative movement (January 2009)

Dance therapy: An introduction to healing through movement (April 2008)

Improvisation in music therapy: Back to the basics (August 2008)

A biopsychosocial approach to music therapy in cancer care (January 2008)

The Improvisation Assessment Profiles: Research and clinical applications (November 2006)

Research Ethics

NIH training in humane treatment of human subjects (January 2005)

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## **I. Education**

- 1995** Doctor of Education: Leadership  
Nova Southeastern University  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
- 1985** Master of Science in Music Therapy  
Radford University  
Radford, Virginia
- 1979** Bachelor of Music Therapy  
Shenandoah Conservatory of Music  
Winchester, Virginia

## **II. Certification**

- 2003** GCSU Graduate Faculty authorization
- 2001** Faculty authorization for AMTA approved colleges and universities:  
Graduate
- 1985** Board Certified with the National Certification for Music Therapists, Inc.
- 1985** Faculty authorization for NAMT approved colleges and universities:  
Undergraduate
- 1979** Registration with the National Association for Music Therapy

## **III. Professional Experience**

- 2009** Position title changed to Chair, Department of Music Therapy.  
12 month employee instead of 10. Duties remain the same
- 2005** Promoted to Associate Professor. Granted tenure  
Georgia College & State University
- 2002-present** Director of Music Therapy/Assistant Professor of Music  
Therapy/Associate Professor  
College of Health Sciences  
Georgia College & State University



Milledgeville, GA

- ❖ Responsible for the mission, short- term and long-term goals, and outcomes of the Music Therapy Program, undergraduate and graduate programs. This includes program components, curriculum development, physical plant, and vision.
- ❖ Responsible for budget planning and implementation
- ❖ Community liaison for service learning, clinical experiences and community service, contracting with community agencies, and providing services in Georgia, nationally and internationally.
- ❖ Spokesperson in the community for Arts Therapies and representative of College of Health Sciences
- ❖ Responsible for the leadership, design, implementation, and evaluation of core music therapy programming, courses, and special projects:
- ❖ Supervision of Music Therapy faculty (2 full-time[Tenure track, lecturer], 2 part-time: 1 administrative assistant):
- ❖ Primary student adviser and faculty advisor for the MT Society and student activities:
- ❖ Participation in the School of Health Sciences and GCSU committees and activities: Chair of subcommittee of GCSU Strategic Planning process: Chair of School of Health Sciences Strategic Planning Committee
- ❖ Grant writing for special projects.
- ❖ Re-design and implementation of the Master of Music Therapy degree program and on-line courses.
- ❖ Design and implementation of new Minor in Movement Arts Therapy program.
- ❖ Design and implementation of new Minor in Creative Arts Therapies
- ❖ Design and submission for Master of Science in Art Therapy degree program. (tentative date Fall 2011)
- ❖ Recruitment and marketing for undergraduate and graduate programs.
- ❖ Teaching load of undergraduate and graduate music therapy courses and supervise clinical placements.
- ❖ Provide direct music therapy services and music to 2 individuals, Brantley's Assisted Living, other area nursing homes, college women's group, oncology survivors group.
- ❖ Designed and implemented a total music program for Adults with Developmental Disabilities in 2000. There are 4 groups and a full-time music therapist was hired at the agency as a result. Designed a lighting system for hand bells for this program that is patent pending.
- ❖ Responsible for recording a CD each year for student original music.

**2000 – 2002**

Assistant Professor of Music Therapy  
Georgia College & State University  
Milledgeville, GA

- ❖ Responsible for the design, implementation, and evaluation of core music therapy courses; student advising; supervision of clinical placements of students; departmental and campus-wide committees; music therapy research; participation in music therapy professional organizations; community service in Milledgeville which consists of designing and implementing sessions for adults with developmental disabilities, Boys &

Girls club, individual clients; Faculty Development Training in Web CT ,website creation, PowerPoint; design of Study Abroad Program; Board of Directors for Big Brothers, Big Sisters and Baldwin Association for Persons with Developmental Disabilities.

- 1997 – 2000** Executive Director of Lancaster County Council of the Arts  
Lancaster, South Carolina
- ❖ Responsible for the short and long term goals of the organization, administration of daily operation, human and capital resources, fundraising, budget, supervision of staff, community partnerships, special events and on-going programming for children, adults and senior citizens. Extensive grant-writing. Designed, secured funding, and implemented community arts programming for children and adults with disabilities residing in Lancaster and Chester counties of South Carolina. Resigned to take the GCSU position.
- 1987-1997** Director of Creative Therapy  
Western Carolina Center  
Morganton, North Carolina
- ❖ Supervision of 9 creative arts therapists and specialists. Administrative responsibilities for budget, programmatic components, and staff. Administrative responsibilities in other areas of total consumer living. Committee membership in local and state organizations. Part of team that designed and implemented Signature Group Home, Studio XI, and Center for Creative Expression. Served on planning committee to promote western NC arts. Clinical supervisor for music therapy interns. (Resigned to implement dissertation in a community setting)
- 1988-1997** Adjunct instructor of Music Therapy  
Mars Hill College  
Mars Hill, North Carolina
- 1985-1987** Music Therapist/Clinical supervisor  
Catawba Psychiatric Hospital  
Catawba, Virginia  
(Resigned to pursue administrative position)
- 1983-1985** Community Arts Program Coordinator and  
Graduate Assistant in Music Therapy  
Radford University (Completed degree)
- 1980-1983** Music Therapist/Clinical Supervisor  
Western Carolina Center  
Morganton, North Carolina
- 1979** Clinical Internship in Music Therapy  
Broughton Psychiatric Hospital  
Morganton, North Carolina

#### IV. Recent Major Workshops and Presentations

- 2010** “We’ve Come a Long Way: the Future of Distance Education for Graduate Music Therapy Degree Programs”. American Music Therapy Conference. November 20<sup>th</sup>. Cleveland, Ohio
- 2008** “Breast Education for Women with Developmental Disabilities” Georgia Developmental Disabilities Conference. October 10
- 2007** “Pursuit of Happiness: Person-Centered Planning through Arts” American Music Therapy Association Conference: Louisville, Kentucky. November 17
- “Pursuit of Happiness: the role of the arts in person-centered planning for persons with intellectual disabilities” Trinity College: Dublin, Ireland November 8
- “Spirituality of Drumming”. High Street Church, Macon, Georgia , October 7
- 2006 \*** “Service Learning in Music Therapy: Creative Expressions”. National Service Learning Conference: Georgia College & State University, November.
- 2005** “My Journey with Angelo: ALS and Music Therapy” American Music Therapy Association Conference: Orlando, Florida
- “Community Music Therapy”: SER-AMTA conference: Louisville, Kentucky: March
- 2004** “Renewing Your Creativity”. Georgia Activity Therapy Association Rock Eagle, Eatonton, GA
- “Music Therapy in the Public Schools”. Baldwin County School Personnel
- 2003** “The Use of the Somatron for Health: Meeting a Wide Spectrum of Needs” Presented at American Music Therapy Conference: Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2001** “The Community’s Role in the Lives of Persons with Developmental Disabilities: University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland
- “Gateway to Creativity: Design and Implementation of Arts Programs” Presentation given for the Georgia American Association for Mental Retardation. GC&SU
- “Music Therapy in the treatment of Substance Abuse” Georgia Activity Therapy Association Rock Eagle, Eatonton, GA
- “Views of Music Therapists on Healthcare Changes” Presented at American Music Therapy Conference: Pasadena, California

“Changing Views for Changing Times: The Views of Music Therapists on Effectiveness, Satisfaction, and Happiness in the Workplace”.  
Conference: Southeastern Region of the American Association of Music Therapy: Knoxville, TN

2000 “Why Use the Arts with Persons with Disabilities”  
Conference: Creating Environments for Success 2000  
Charlotte, North Carolina

## V. Recently Published or in progress

Mercado, C. & Mercado, E. (2006)“ Effects of Somatron on Aggressive Behaviors of Patients in a Skilled Nursing Home Center” *Music Therapy Perspectives* Spring/Summer 2006.

Mercado, C. & Curtis, S.(2004) “Community Music Therapy: A Pilot Program”.  
“Voices: A World Forum of Music Therapy. November 2004.  
<http://www.voices.no/>

Mercado, C. *Leadership and Management in Music Therapy: The Natural Role of the Music Therapist as Administrator*. Publisher: Linus Publications. 2010 ISBN 1-60797-140-2

Mercado, C., Griffin, K. & Mercado, E. Pursuit of *Happiness: person-centered planning using the arts with adults with intellectual disabilities*: accepted for Publication with revisions: Journal of Intellectual Disabilities 2010.

Mercado, C. & Hudson, A. *Music Therapy in Palliative Care*. Study in progress. Anticipated publication Summer 2010

**Personal Publication:** Mercado, C. & Mercado, E. ( 2007) “Through My Eyes: The Art of Juanita H. Sigmon”. Coffee table book of art.

## VI. Recent Grants

**2010:** Komen Race for the Cure: \$10,000.00 to create a virtual tour of a mammography center for women with intellectual disabilities.

**2009:** Komen Race for the Cure: \$4,053.00 to provide Breast Education for Women with Developmental Disabilities in 7 counties in Central Georgia. Expanded scope of grant in 2008

**2008:** Komen Race for the Cure: \$3000.00 to provide Breast Education for Women with Developmental Disabilities in Baldwin County, Georgia

**2007:** Coverdale Grant: \$2000.00 for marketing materials for Creative Expressions Performing Groups for Adults with Developmental Disabilities.

**2000-2006:** Georgia Council of the Arts: Grassroots: \$1000.00 each year for implementation of Creative Expressions Performing Groups for Adults with Developmental Disabilities in Baldwin County, Georgia

## **VII. Professional Development Activities:**

**Spring 2001:** GCSU Faculty Development Workshop: WebCT

**Fall 2006:** GCSU Faculty Development Workshop: Assessment strategies in Higher Education.

## **VIII. Current Professional Activities**

- Phi Gamma Sigma Professional Society
- Music Therapy Association of Georgia: President
- Southeastern Region Music Therapy Association: Chair, Government Relations Committee
- Baldwin County Association for Persons with Developmental Disabilities: Board of Directors: Officer
- Baldwin Big Brothers Big Sisters: Past Board Member
- Central State Hospital Division of Developmental Disabilities Human Rights Committee
- Board of Directors: Enola Group Foundation, Morganton, NC