Melody Schwantes
Associate Professor, Music Therapy
Graduate Program Director
Hayes School of Music
Appalachian State University
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EDUCATION

2011	Doctor of Philosophy, Music Therapy, Aalborg University, Denmark	
2007	Master of Music Therapy, Music Therapy, Appalachian State University	
2001	Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, Appalachian State University	
2001	Bachelor of Music, Music Therapy, Appalachian State University	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE		
2023-present	Associate Professor of Music Therapy, Appalachian State University	
2018-2023	Assistant Professor of Music Therapy, Appalachian State University	
2016-2018	Senior Lecturer of Music Therapy, Appalachian State University	
2013-2016	Lecturer of Music Therapy, Appalachian State University	
2007-2013	Adjunct Faculty, Appalachian State University	
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE		
2023-present	Graduate Program Director- Music Therapy.	
2011-2013	<i>Director</i> , Scholars with Diverse Abilities Program, Appalachian State University Oversaw a 5-year federal grant awarded to the university to launch a post-secondary program for students with intellectual disabilities. Responsible for the fiscal budget, developing policies and procedures, and coordinating program vision with board of directors. Supervised employees and more than 70 volunteers.	

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2004- Present Music Therapist and Director, Joie de Vivre Music Therapy

Provides music therapy services for children with a variety of developmental delays utilizing a client-centered approach.

2002-2004 Music Therapist, Prameni OPS, Prague Czech Republic

Provided music therapy services to children with a variety of emotional and behavioral needs. Served as a music therapist for adults with mental health issues including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression, and anxiety. Directed educational outreach programs for local musicians and psychotherapists interested in utilizing music therapy techniques in their practices.

2001-2002 *Music Therapist*, Triangle Music Therapy

Provided inpatient music therapy services to young adults with traumatic brain injuries and older adults with a variety of needs stemming from dementia, depression, physical ailments, and cognitive impairments. Served as a music therapist within the school system to provide assessments for children with ASD. Provided community-based music therapy services to young adults with dual diagnoses.

CERTIFICATIONS

2001-Present Music Therapist- Board Certified (Number 06306)

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

2022	Intercultural Development Inventory- Qualified Administrator
2012	Guided Imagery and Music, Level II
2006	Guided Imagery and Music, Level I
2006	Intensive Spanish, La Ceiba, Honduras (June)
2006	Studied djembe, sabar, and kora in Dakar, Senegal (July-August)

TEACHING

PRE-INTERNSHIP COURSES TAUGHT

MUS 2050: Introduction to Music Therapy

An overview of the art and science of music therapy. Lecture and experiential components. This course is offered for majors and

non-majors.

MUS 2052: Exploring Music Therapy

GenEd course designed to investigate an understanding of the history, scope, and practice of music therapy.

MUS 2051: Clinical Skills

Basic practices of music therapy including: assessment, documentation, treatment planning, and the development of the music therapist.

MUS 3061: Functional Techniques in Music Therapy

Covers use of hand-held percussion in clinical work including instrument histories, simple arrangements, and use of Orff. Basic improvisation and movement to music.

MUS 3070: Developmental Music Therapy

Music therapy theories and techniques for working with children and adolescents.

MUS 3072 Models of Mental Health in Music Therapy

Mental health theories and the application of music therapy within each of the models.

MUS 3545 Culture-Centered Music Therapy

Study abroad program to the European Music Therapy Conference in: Vienna, Austria; Aalborg, Denmark; and Edinburgh, Scotland

MUS 3532 Music, Culture, and Dialogue

A general education course geared towards non-majors. Focused on music's evolution with various diaspora in the United States.

MUS 3900 Music Therapy Practicum

Application of music therapy techniques and practices.

MUS 4800 Clinical Research Project

Capstone project for all music therapy majors. Course utilizes collaborative supervision to cover quantitative and qualitative clinical research projects.

GRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT

MUS 5010 Research Methods in Music Therapy

Advanced research methods- objectivist, constructivist, subjectivist, arts-based, and mixed methods.

MUS 5050 Supervision in Music Therapy

Exploration of issues in supervision of music therapy students, interns,

and music therapists.

MUS 5051 Advanced Topics in Music Therapy

Investigation and examination of current trends, especially those related to advanced clinical practice in music therapy, including client assessment through music experiences and innovative treatment methods.

MUS 5062 Ethics and Anti-oppressive Practices in Music Therapy

An overview of ethics, multicultural theories, and anti-oppressive practices in music therapy.

MUS 5900 Advanced Practicum

Indirect supervision of Master's level music therapists.

MUS 5999 Music Therapy Thesis

CLINICAL SUPERVISION

2005-present Appalachian State University: provides direct and in-direct clinical

supervision of undergraduate and graduate students in various clinical

settings.

SCHOLARSHIP

Research Statement

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- Schwantes, M., & Hughes, J. (2022) Experiencing empathy in music therapy practice: A heuristics study. *Arts in Psychotherapy*, 79. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aip.2022.101897
- Tang, J., & Schwantes, M. (2021). Preliminary findings regarding American music therapy international service-learning programs: A survey study. *Nordic Journal of Music Therapy*, 30(4), 377–396. https://doi.org/10.1080/08098131.2020.1841822
- Bodry, K., & Schwantes, M. (2020). Critical interpretive synthesis of feminist music therapy literature. *Nordic Journal of Music Therapy*, *30*(2), 106–130. https://doi.org/10.1080/08098131.2020.1753230
- Schwantes, M. (2018). Polishing the rough edges: A copyeditor's perspective. *Voices: A World Forum for Music Therapy, 18*(2). https://doi.org/10.15845/voices.v18i1.988
- Grimmer, M., & Schwantes, M. (2018). <u>Cross-cultural music therapy: Reflections of music therapists working internationally</u>. *Arts in Psychotherapy, 61,* 21–32. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.aip.2017.07.001

- Schwantes, M. (2017). Community music therapy for college students with and without intellectual disability. *Music Therapy Today*, 13, 267–268.
- Schwantes, M., & Rivera, E. (2017). A team working together to make a big, nice sound: An action research pilot study in an inclusive college setting. *Arts in Psychotherapy*, *55*, 1–10. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aip.2017.01.011
- Hannibal, N., & Schwantes, M. (2016). Mentalization based treatment (MBT): A possible theoretical frame for music therapy practice in clinical psychiatry. Voices: A World Forum for Music Therapy, 17(2). https://doi.org/10.15845/voices.v17i2.897
- Economos, A., O'Keefe, T., & Schwantes, M. (2016). <u>A resource-oriented music therapy</u> assessment tool for use in a skilled nursing facility: Development and case example. *Music Therapy Perspectives*, *35*(2), 175–181. https://doi.org/10.1093/mtp/miw031
- Schwantes, M. (2015). Choosing the right interpreter: Reflections on my experience. *Voices: A World Forum for Music Therapy, 15.* https://doi.org/10.15845/voices.v15i2.820
- Schwantes, M., McKinney, C., & Hannibal, N. (2014). Music therapy's effects on Mexican farmworkers levels of depression, anxiety, and social isolation: A randomized controlled trial. *Arts in Psychotherapy*, 41, 120–126.
- Crain, R., Grzywacz, J., Schwantes, M., Isom, S. Quandt, S., & Arcury, T. (2012). Correlates of mental health among Latino farmworkers in North Carolina. *Journal of Rural Health*, 28, 277–285.
- Schwantes, M., Wigram, T., McKinney, C., Lipscomb, A., & Richards, C. (2011). The Mexican *corrido* and its use in a music therapy bereavement group. *The Australian Journal of Music Therapy, 22,* 2–20.
- Hahna, N., & Schwantes, M. (2011). Survey of music therapy educators: Implications for Feminist music therapy pedagogy. *Journal of Music Therapy*, 48, 289–316.
- Schwantes, M., & McKinney, C. (2010). Music therapy with Mexican migrant farmworkers: A pilot study. *Music Therapy Perspectives*, 28, 22–28.
- Schwantes, M. (2009). The use of music therapy with children who speak English as a second language: An exploratory study. *Music Therapy Perspectives*, 27, 80-87.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Fansler, V., & Schwantes, M. (2022). Pinning butterfly wings: Music therapy research as a colonial agent. In Colonialism and Music Therapy Interlocutors (Eds). *Colonialism and music therapy* (pp. 595–621). Barcelona Publishers.

PUBLISHED CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

- Schwantes, M., Jewell, V., Brackney, D., Yodis, C., & Smith, S. G.. Research and clinical protocols for telehealth music therapy for rural adolescents with type-1 diabetes in the US: A resource-oriented approach. Abstracts of the 11th Nordic Music Therapy Conference 2024: Let's face the music. *Dansk Musikterapi*, 21(Online Special Edition),76–77.
 - https://vbn.aau.dk/ws/portalfiles/portal/744459991/Book_of_Abstracts_NMTC24_The_D anish Journal of Music Therapy 21 Special issue.pdf

PUBLISHED DISSERTATION

Schwantes, M. (2011). Music therapy's effects on Mexican migrant farmworkers' levels of depression, anxiety and social isolation: A mixed methods randomized controlled trial utilizing participatory action research (*Doctoral dissertation*) Aalborg University, Aalborg, Denmark.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Smith, G., & Schwantes, M. (2025, September). Sounding relief: Music therapy as a non-pharmacological approach for rural adults with autoimmune disease and mental health challenges. World Art Therapy Festival, Prague, Czech Republic.
- Schwantes, M. (2025, September). Theory of regenerative music therapy: Promoting inner and outer sustainability. World Art Therapy Festival, Prague, Czech Republic.
- Jewell, V. D., Feiten, B., Thompson, A., Salinas-Muniz, V., Shin, J., Knezevich, E., Dostal, K., Schwantes, M., Abbott, A. A., & Qi, Y. (2024, October). Using a patient-driven rural T1D research agenda to create and test novel assessments and interventions [Poster presentation]. American Occupational Therapy Foundation Engage Summit, Alexandria, VA.
- Schwantes, M., Jewell, V., Brackney, D., Smith, S.G., & Yodis, C. (2024, June). Research and clinical protocols for telehealth music therapy for rural adolescents with type-1 diabetes in the US: A resource-oriented approach. Nordic Music Therapy Conference, Aalborg, Denmark.
- Schwantes, M., Brackney, D., Jewell, V. (2023, August). H(ealthy)U(se of)M(usic)ming for Health: Research protocol for telehealth music therapy for adolescents with type-1 diabetes [Poster presentation]. Research and Creative Activity at Appalachian 2023.

- Schwantes, M. (2023, March). Epistemologies: What are they, and what do they mean for music therapy. Southeastern Region of the AMTA Conference, Chattanooga, TN.
- Schwantes, M., & Hughes, J. (2022, June). Music therapists' experiences with empathy: A heuristics study. European Music Therapy Conference, Edinburgh, Scotland.
- Schwantes, M. (2022, June). Inclusive teaching practices in music therapy clinical training and supervision. European Music Therapy Conference, Edinburgh, Scotland.
- Schwantes, M., & Tang, J. (2022, April). International service learning: Preliminary findings of a survey study. Nordic Music Therapy Conference, Helsinki, Finland.
- Tang, J., & Schwantes, M. (2020, July). International service-learning and intercultural competence in music therapy: Preliminary survey findings. World Congress of Music Therapy, Pretoria, South Africa (presented online due to COVID-19 pandemic).
- McFerran, K., Stige, B., Hadley, S., Schwantes, M. et al. (2020, July). Hearing silenced voices. World Congress of Music Therapy, Pretoria, South Africa (presented online due to COVID-19).
- Schwantes, M., & Bodry, K. (2019, November). Incorporating social change in feminist music therapy: Review of the clinical literature. American Music Therapy National Conference, Minneapolis, MN.
- Schwantes, M., Gottfried, T., Chen, X., Coomans, A., & Hertrampf, R. (2019, June). "What a triumph!" The life of the PhD journey. European Music Therapy Conference, Aalborg, Denmark.
- McFerran, K., Stige, B., Schwantes, M., Gilboa, A., Rickson, D., & Oosthuizen, H. (2019, June). Voices resonating around the world. European Music Therapy Conference, Aalborg, Denmark.
- Schwantes, M. (2018, November). Examining levels of participation as a form of therapist reflexivity. American Music Therapy Association National Conference, Dallas, TX.
- Schwantes, M. (2018, October). *Music therapy through the lifespan*. Appalachian State University Pre-Health Conference. Boone, NC
- Schwantes, M. (2018, August). *Moving towards a decolonized perspective of music therapy research. Steps along the way.* Poster presented at the Nordic Music Therapy Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Schwantes, M. (2018, August). *Inclusive music therapy: Examples for young adults*. Nordic Music Therapy Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Schwantes, M. (2017, July). Community music therapy for college students with and without ID.

- 15th World Congress of Music Therapy, Tsukuba, Japan.
- Schwantes, M., & Rivera, E. (2016, November). *Community music therapy for college students with and without ID*. American Music Therapy Association National Conference, Sandusky, OH.
- Gilboa, A., McFerran, K., Schwantes, M., & Stige. B. (2016. July). *How fast and how dialogic should review processes of an open access music therapy journal be?* European Music Therapy Conference, Vienna, Austria.
- Hahna, N., Schwantes, M., Dunlap, A., Rebagay, R., Monje, J., Sanders, E., & Wilson, A. (2015, November). *I've got 99 problem (statements): Research with an empirical state of mind.* American Music Therapy Association National Conference, Kansas City, MO.
- Schwantes, M. (2015, March). *Transformative mixed methods research designs: Clinical applications in music therapy*. Southeastern Region of the American Music Therapy Conference, Columbia, SC.
- Schwantes, M. (2013, November). Sequential transformative mixed methods research:

 Applications for clinical music therapy research. American Music Therapy Association National Conference, Jacksonville, FL.
- Schwantes, M. (2012, February). *Using arts-based therapy to address immigrant and refugee health.* Paper presented as invited guest Minority Health Conference, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Public Health.
- Schwantes, M. (2011, November). Challenges to music therapy researchers: Designing and implementing mixed methods research. American Music Therapy Association National Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Schwantes, M. (2011, November). *The Mexican Corrido and its use in a music therapy bereavement group*. American Music Therapy Association National Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Schwantes, M., Wigram., T., & McKinney, C. (2011, November). *Participatory Action Research: One Method of Culture-Centered Music Therapy*. American Music Therapy Association National Conference, Cleveland, OH
- Schwantes, M., & Lipscomb, E. (2011, October). *Strengths-based mental health wellness: Assessment, intervention, and evaluation.* East Coast Migrant Stream Forum, Charleston, SC.
- Schwantes, M., & Hahna, N. (2010, March). Survey of music therapy educators:

 Implications for feminist music therapy education. Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association Regional Conference, Pittsburg, PA.

- Schwantes, M. & Hahana, N. (2009, November). Survey of music therapy educators:

 Implications for feminist music therapy pedagogy. American Music Therapy Association
 National Conference, San Diego, CA
- Schwantes, M. (2008, November). Meeting the needs of Latino clients: A cross-cultural music therapy approach. American Music Therapy Association National Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- Schwantes, M. & Lipcomb, E. (2008, October). *Using music therapy: Alternative strategies for addressing the mental health needs of farmworkers*. East Coast Migrant Stream Forum, Providence, RI.
- Schwantes, M. & Lipscomb, E. (2008, April). Addressing the mental health needs of farmworkers in culturally appropriate ways. Priester National Extension Health Conference, Raleigh, NC.
- Schwantes, M. (2008, March). *Music therapy with Mexican migrant farmworkers: A Pilot Study*, South Eastern Region of the American Music Therapy Association Regional Conference, New Orleans, LA
- Schwantes, M. (2007, September). *Keeping the music: Personal and professional goals*, invited presentation at the North Carolina Music Therapy Association, Raleigh, NC
- Schwantes, M. (2006, November). *Multicultural music therapy: A qualitative comparison of two training programs*, Poster presented at the American Music Therapy Association National Conference, Kansas City, MO

OTHER PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Brackney, D., Schwantes, M., & Jewell, V. (2023, April). Humming for health: Support for rural youth with Type-1 Diabetes, invited presentation, Sigma Theta Tau Honor's Society, Boone, NC.
- Schwantes, M. (2023, March). Culturally responsive advising, Academic Services for Student Athletes, Boone, NC
- Schwantes, M. (2022, November). Music therapy for Mexican migrant farmworkers, invited presentation, Queens University, Charlotte, NC.
- Bellows, E., & Schwantes, M. (2021, April). Inclusive teaching strategies in Appalachian studies, invited presentation, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC
- Schwantes, M. (2002, November). *Music and Movement*, special presentation, Priessnitzovy Lecebne Lazne a.s. (wellness spa), Jesenik, Czech Republic

- Schwantes, M. (2001, September). *Music therapy and pain management*, special presentation, Unicorn Bereavement Center, Hillsborough, NC
- Schwantes, M. (2001, March). *Interactive music therapy experience*, special presentation, Oncology Nursing Society, San Diego, CA
- Schwantes, M. (2001, February). *Music and wellness for stress management*, UCSD Medical Center, Staff Support, San Diego, CA
- Schwantes, M. (2001, February). *Music therapy for wellness*, special presentation, Society of Gynecological Nurse Oncologists, San Diego, CA

GRANTS AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

- Schwantes, M. Music therapy for people with autoimmune disorders. University Research Council Grant (\$4750)
- Jewell, V., Schwantes, M., Brackney, D., MacIver, N., Khairat, S., & Zhang, W. Revision in progress. [A grant application to the National Institute for Health, Music and Health: Understanding and Developing Music Medicine (R34 Clinical Trial Optional)].
- Jewell, V., Schwantes, M., Brackney, D., MacIver, N., & Zhang, W. (Submitted)
 [A grant application for a \$417,545 to the National Institute for Health, National Institute of Nursing Research, Music and Health: Understanding and Developing Music Medicine (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)]. Scored but not funded.
- 2019-2021 Graduate Research Assistantship Mentor (GRAM \$24,000)

 Awarded by the Graduate School to conduct research focused on inclusion within music.
- 2018 Office of International Education and Development Grant (\$1200)

 Awarded to participate in the Nordic Music Therapy Conference in Stockholm, Sweden
- 2017 Office of International Education and Development Grant (\$1200)

 Awarded to participate in the World Music Therapy Conference in Tsukuba, Japan
- 2008-2011 Research Grant, Aalborg University (approximately \$100,000 USD)

 Awarded a full research grant to complete a multi-phase, mixed methods music therapy study.
- 2003 Music Instrument Grant, Sigma Alpha Iota (approximately \$1000 USD)

 Awarded an instrument grant to purchase instruments for the music therapy program as a part of Prameni, Prague, Czech Republic.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2021	Most Helpful Faculty and Staff, Appalachian State University
2021	Inclusive Excellence Leadership Award- Center for Academic Excellence
2021	Southeastern Region, AMTA Research Award
2020	Most Helpful Faculty and Staff, Appalachian State University
2018	Recognized by the Office of the Secretary of Defense of the United States through the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Program
2017	Most Helpful Faculty and Staff, Appalachian State University
2012	Health Outreach Partners Innovative Practice Award
2009	East Coast Migrant Stream Forum Innovative Practice Award
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
2020	Digital Music Technology and Music Therapy (24 CMTEs; 4-week course)
2020	Columbia University (6-week course) Inclusive Teaching: Supporting All Students in the College Classroom

SERVICE AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY

UNIVERSITY

2025-present	Resonance Center Organizational Team
2023-present	Graduate Program Directors Committee
2023- present	Graduate Academic Policies and Procedures Committee Curriculum Subcommittee
2020- present	HSOM Music Therapy Advisor
2020- present	HSOM Library Committee
2013-present	Hayes School of Music, recruitment and auditions

2022-2024	Chief Diversity Officer's Advisory Board
2022	Cratis D. Williams School of Graduate Studies - Dean Search Committee
2021	Global Health and Safety Committee
2021-2023	Chair- HSOM-Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
2019-2022	Center for Academic Excellence- Inclusive Excellence Coordinator
2019-2022	Center for Academic Excellence- Inclusive Excellence Team
2018-2019	Department Personnel Committee- Hayes School of Music
2018-2020	Inclusive Excellence Liaison, Hayes School of Music
2016-2017	Hayes School of Music Dean Search Committee
2014-2015	Scholars with Diverse Abilities Admissions Committee
2014-2015	Music Therapy Search Committee
2012-2015	Diversity Celebration Planning Committee Advertising Subcommittee Member
2010-2017	Appalachian Sustainability Council 2010-2011 Equity and Diversity Subcommittee Member 2012-2014 Outreach Subcommittee Chair
2012-2013	Disabilities Research Cluster Member
Student Research Support	
(2027) (2026) (2026) (2025) 2023 2022 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2017	Thesis Chair, Landon Coroi Thesis chair, Ayden Tauzel Thesis chair, Alex Vilchis Dissertation Chair, Justin Butler Thesis chair, Claire Morison Thesis chair, Wiley Smith Thesis chair, Anna Laura McAfee Thesis chair, Katelyn Beebe Thesis chair, Alice Berry Thesis chair, Kendra Bodry Thesis chair, Jessica Donley Thesis chair, Kristin Neel

2016 Thesis chair, Miranda Grimmer

Thesis Committee Member

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PROFESSIONAL

2020- present	Guest reviewer: Nordic Journal of Music Therapy, Voices: A World Forum for Music Therapy, Journal of Grief and Loss
2018-2022	Music Therapy Perspectives, Associate Editor
2013-2021	Voices Editorial Board
2016-2020	Voices: A World Forum for Music Therapy, Copy Editor
2014-2018	Music Therapy Perspectives Editorial Board
2013	Reviewer for Arts in Psychotherapy
2013	Open review, Frontiers in Human Neuroscience
2018-2020 2011-2020	American Music Therapy Association International Relations, co-chair International Relations Committee Member
COMMUNITY	
2016-2018	Mountain Pathways Montessori School Board Member
2015-2017	Parent-to-Parent Board Member
2012-2013	Hospice Volunteer
2007-2013	Opposing Abuse with Service Information and Shelter (OASIS) Crisis Line Volunteer
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP	
2025- present	International Association of Music and Medicine
1998-2023	American Music Therapy Association
2008-present	North Carolina Music Therapy Association
2002-2009	World Federation of Music Therapists

Professional Development

Current Regenerators Leadership Academy

AY 24-25 Appalachian Leadership Development Program

March 2021 Towards a Pedagogy of Compassion: Why Student Laziness Does Not

Exist

October 2021 Inclusive Syllabus Design Framework

September 2022 OASIS Presents: Intimate Partner Violence 101

April 2023 Trauma-Informed Response to Disclosures: Training for Faculty and Staff

May 2023 Active Shooter Training, Appalachian State University
December 2023 Music as Medicine: The Science and Clinical Practice