International Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy Symposium:
Music, diversity and transformation

Tuesday November 12th, 2019
Auditorio Mayor UCES:
Paraguay 1338
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Abstract
Nordoff Robbins music therapy was born from the pioneering collaboration between Paul Nordoff, an accomplished composer and pianist, and Clive Robbins, an innovative special educator. Their partnership began in 1959 at Sunfield Children’s Homes in Worcestershire, England. Today the specialized approach is practiced throughout the world by trained Nordoff Robbins music therapists working with a wide spectrum of clinical populations. Known also as creative music therapy (Nordoff & Robbins, 1977/2007), it is considered to be the original music-centered approach to therapy (Aigen, 2005), and is one of the longest established and most highly developed models of music therapy in the world.

This presentation will explain the essential characteristics of the approach and illustrate the method using recordings from music therapy sessions.

Bio
Dr. Turry is Managing Director of the Nordoff Robbins Center for Music Therapy at NYU Steinhardt. The first music therapist formally certified to run a Nordoff Robbins training, he is responsible for the Center’s overall administration, research, clinical services and the training program. On the faculty of several University programs, he is recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in music-centered clinical technique, as a clinician and as an instructor.

Dr. Turry has unparalleled experience in helping to support the development of music-centered music therapy training programs around the world. He led the development of Nordoff Robbins supervision programs in Japan, the Nordoff Robbins clinical program in Korea, and has led workshops on clinical improvisation in Denmark, Greece, Poland, Ireland and Italy. He was also a keynote speaker at the 8th World Congress of Music Therapy in Hamburg in 1996, the 13th World Congress in Seoul, Korea in 2011 and the First Music Therapy Conference in Hong Kong in 2018. He has lectured internationally on his work with a wide range of client populations including self-referred adults, psychiatric patients and those with neuro-diverse learning styles.
Bio

André is a bachelor of music (UFRGS, Brazil) having classical guitar as his major. He is specialist in music therapy (CBMRJ, Brazil), MA in Music Therapy (NYU), and PhD in Music Therapy (Temple University). At Temple U, worked as a teacher assistant (TA). Brandalise has been working as a music-centered clinician in the city of Porto Alegre where, in 1998, he founded the Centro Gaúcho de Musicoterapia. CGM was the main organizer of the 1st Brazilian Conference on Music-Centered Music Therapy (2003) and, with Qairoz, organized the 2nd Brazilian Conference on Music-Centered Music therapy (2008). Brandalise taught in several music therapy training programs in Brazil. He is one of the founders of AGAMUSI (Associação Gaúcha de Musicoterapia) and worked as its president from 1999 until 2003. He is the author of two books: Musicoterapia Músico-centrada (Music-Centered Music Therapy, 2001) and I Jornada Brasileira sobre Musicoterapia Músico-centrada (1st Brazilian Conference on Music-Centered Music Therapy, 2003). Brandalise has being invited to expose his work in several Brazilian States, in Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Colombia, and in the United States. He published articles in Brazil, Argentina, Norway, and United States.

Marcela Lichtensztejn
MA, MT-BC, LCAT, Nordoff Robbins Music Therapist
Diversity and Transformation: Current Developments in Nordoff Robbins Approach

Abstract

Since its beginnings, diversity and transformation have been central to Nordoff Robbins (NR) thinking. Diversity because each human being is unique and possesses strengths and inner potential which are unique as well. Also because the NR music therapist uses a sensitive and detailed creative combination of musical elements, idioms and styles to offer multiple windows of opportunity when reaching the client’s unique innate musicality. The transformation that is seen in the music reflects the client’s personal transformation; the process of unfolding the client’s inner creative potential results in personal growth and inner transformation, increasing autonomy, resiliency and dignity. Nowadays a wide spectrum of populations benefit from NR music therapy; the versatility of this approach has led to its adaptation to a variety of populations, work environments, and cultural contexts by embracing both: diversity and transformation.

This closing presentation will include excerpts about current developments based on foundational NR principles.

Bio

Marcela is the Director of the Music Therapy Program at the Health Science School in UCES and the Founder of APEM Vanguardía en Artes Aplicadas, Ciencia y Salud, Buenos Aires Argentina.

Marcela is the primary investigator in Argentina for the international multi-site research project LongSTEP of music therapy for premature babies and their families during hospitalization at the neonatal intensive care unit at the Hospital Fernández in collaboration with UCES.

She has been an invited lecturer in Europe, Asia, USA and Latin America to speak on her developments on Nordoff Robbins music therapy in neurorehabilitation, differential diagnosis for disorders of consciousness, neurodevelopment and neurodiverse conditions.

Marcela serves on the editorial board of the peer reviewed journal Music and Medicine (International Association for Music and Medicine) and has authored the book “Music and Medicine: The specialized application of music in health care” (Ediciones Elemento, 2009, Buenos Aires) in addition to several book chapters and journal articles.

Marcela gained her graduate degree in Music Therapy from New York University (2003). After graduating, she obtained her post-graduate Advanced Certification in Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy at the NR Center in New York. She also has a degree in musical arts, piano performance and music education.
Mariana Aslan
MM, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, Nordoff Robbins Music Therapist
The Primary Role of the Voice in Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy

Abstract
The NRMT approach is mainly recognized for a high level of musicianship related to the piano, but the use of the voice has been important since its origins/birth, especially to develop a relationship of therapeutic intimacy. Paul Nordoff considered singing a fundamental element in his work, and this appreciation was cemented by Carol Robbins, prominent member of the first generation of NRMT.

This presentation will focus on the importance of the use of voice to establish communication and relation, thus inviting the possibility of development, one of the foundational principles of the approach. Participants will be able to listen to and watch a diversity of clients through historical and contemporary clinical excerpts that illustrate the vocal work in Nordoff Robbins music therapy.

Bio
Mariana graduated with a Master of Art degree in music therapy from New York University. She earned her Bachelor in Choral Conducting in Argentina, and after moving to the US she received a Master of Music in vocal performance.

After graduating, Mariana pursued post-graduate training at the Nordoff Robbins Center and earned her Nordoff Robbins Level I Certification in 2015. At the Center, Mariana has worked with a diverse clientele, from early intervention to adults, including children and adults with special needs (autism, cerebral palsy, developmental delays), psychiatric diagnoses, and post-stroke rehab.

In addition, Mariana works currently for the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music. Her work involves children and adults with special needs and children at-risk, both in groups and individually, and in diverse settings - public and private schools, on site groups and private sessions. She has experience working in hospitals (NICU, SICU, palliative care, addiction), nursing homes, and summer programs for children with special needs.

Mariana has presented in the US and in Argentina, and supervises graduate students from NYU.

Min-Min Cheung
MA, MT-BC, Nordoff Robbins Music Therapist
"I want to fly, up so high!" When the Quiet Ones Learn to Play: Integration of the ABA Model with Music Therapy in China

Abstract
In China, the ABA method is the main method chosen when the child is given a diagnosis of autism. The core beliefs of ABA and NR music therapy are quite different but yet make a surprisingly effective combination. Why is that? This presentation will explore the relationship between ABA and NR music therapy through the case study of a child, discussing the challenges for both the therapist and the child, as well as the transformation.
Bio
Min-Min holds her Bachelor’s in Psychology and graduated with a Master’s degree in Music Therapy from New York University. After graduation she further completed her Nordoff Robbins certification from the Nordoff Robbins Center in New York.

Born and raised in New Zealand, she returned to New Zealand after her studies in USA. In 2017 she moved to China with the goal of expanding Nordoff Robbins in China, she is currently one of the only two certified Nordoff Robbins therapists in China. Along with her colleague – Taiyang Han they lead Nordoff Robbins China, an NRI recognized program in Wucailu School for Children with Autism – in Beijing China.

Noriko Hamatani
MA, Nordoff Robbins Music Therapist
Future Development of Creative Music Therapy in Japanese “Tatami Floor Culture”

Abstract
In Japanese tradition, a room has different roles and meaning in our daily lives, such as living room, dining room, bedroom, guest room, work space, etc. When designing music therapy interventions for clients, one of the important factors for music therapists to consider is the “therapy environment.”

In Japan, there is a cultural tradition called “Tatami” flooring, the well-known custom in Japanese houses of taking shoes off indoors. Therefore, it is common in Japan for children to take their shoes off during music therapy sessions. How does the meaning and effectiveness of music therapy differ from therapy held in an environment where clients keep their shoes on?

In the Japanese educational system, co-therapists (part of the therapy team with the primary therapist in Nordoff Robbins music therapy practice) occasionally become primary therapists as they relate to their clients through singing, speaking, and play therapy methods. The “Tatami” flooring culture plays an important role in building a therapeutic relationship between co-therapist and his or her client.

In this presentation, the music therapy process in this specific traditional culture will be discussed and illustrated with current cases.

Bio
Noriko graduated with a Master’s in Music Therapy from New York University, and gained her NRMT certification from the Nordoff Robbins Center for Music Therapy, USA. Currently manages a music therapy group “MTQ” and works in medical settings and with children with special needs.

Oksana Zharinova-Sanderson
MMT, Nordoff Robbins Music Therapist
Working in and with Music: Key Principles of the Nordoff Robbins Approach to Music Therapy and their Application in the Nordoff Robbins Practice in the UK
Abstract
In 1959, Paul Nordoff and Clive Robbins pioneered an approach to music therapy (Nordoff and Robbins, 1971) which is practiced around the world today. Since then expectations of music therapy have changed, both in the diverse environments within which we work and in the broader political climate. This presentation will revisit the key principles of this approach through examining contemporary and innovative Nordoff Robbins practice delivered by the music therapists working for Nordoff Robbins charity in the UK. The presentation will contain examples of the work from different client contexts, e.g. dementia, learning disabilities, mental health etc. It will demonstrate how this contemporary practice whilst innovative and flexible is deeply rooted in the core principles of the Nordoff Robbins tradition – a cultivated capacity to listen and hear in detail (Ansdell 1995), and an ability to respond strategically in ways which open up new possibilities for action (Ruud 2008).


Bio
Oksana is trained as a classical pianist in the Western Ukraine and as a music therapist at Nordoff Robbins in London UK. Her music therapy experience includes work in Berlin, Germany with traumatised refugees and torture victims and in Manchester, UK, delivering, setting up and managing sustainable music therapy projects in diverse client contexts, including neurological rehabilitation, special needs, dementia, oncology and mental health. Oksana was involved with the development of the Manchester base of the Nordoff Robbins Masters programme in the UK and is a tutor and supervisor on it. She also works extensively as a supervisor of the Nordoff Robbins music therapy practitioners across the UK.

Oksana is currently working as a Director of Music Services (Quality Assurance, Chief Practitioner and International Development) for Nordoff Robbins in UK.

Tom Naess
Nordoff Robbins Music Therapist
Paul Nordoff and Clive Robbins in Norway: Their Personal and Professional Inspiration, Influence and Importance for Music Therapy Development and Bridge Building

Abstract

This presentation will go through Paul Nordoff and Clive Robbins’ pioneering work in Norway, which left a trace for future generations of music therapists. Films on early work will point out essential techniques and theories related to their developments.

Bio
Tom is an Associate Professor in Music Therapy, Norwegian Academy of Music. He is also a composer and music therapist with a Diploma from Nordoff Robbins, London in 1974. He has published several books and collections of songs for developmental and learning skills, as well as books on easy ways of building pop and rock band for people with special educational needs. Tom has worked as a music therapist with mentally handicapped and psychiatric patients.