Arthur Flagler Fultz Fund Celebrates a Decade of Scholarship!

In 2008 the American Music Therapy Association celebrates a decade of scholarship thanks to the Arthur Flagler Fultz Research Fund. The Fultz Fund is made possible by a generous grant from David’s Fund and Tom and Lucy Ott.

This award was established in 1998 in memory of David Ott and it is named in recognition of the contribution made to music therapy by the late Rev. Arthur Flagler Fultz as the first Chair of the Research Committee of the association.

David Ott loved music. He played the piano, he loved the tuba. He was a journalism major – bright, adventurous, idealistic – whose future seemed as soaring as his favorite piece of music, Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy.” Then, at age 20, he contracted encephalitis. The resulting brain injury left him with severe and multiple physical disabilities, including loss of speech. But David’s mind, imagination and sense of humor stayed intact, and David stayed upbeat and optimistic. And, for the next 17 years – painful and frustrating, yet courageous – music became a form of therapy. It brought him peace and happiness; it was a unique means to express himself. When he died at Thanksgiving 1994, David was listening to “Ode to Joy.” In his memory, his parents, Tom and Lucy Ott, established David’s Fund to support and advance music therapy.

As an American Music Therapy Association member benefit, this is a $10,000 juried award open to association members in good standing. To date, the Arthur Flagler Fultz Research Fund represents over $100,000 in research scholarship funding. The original vision in 1998 was, through David’s Fund, to establish an annual AMTA research grant with the purpose of expanding and developing new music therapy interventions. Equally important, in our minds, was to build greater public credibility and acceptance of music therapy as a viable therapeutic method. That vision has not changed and may even be rising in importance.

The purpose of the Arthur Flagler Fultz Research Fund is to encourage, promote, and fund music therapy research and to explore new and innovative music therapy treatments. The Fund seeks to support research in the field of music therapy in the following areas:

- Clinical Research - To assess the efficacy of music therapy interventions and help define best practice.
Health Services Research - To assess the role of music therapy practice in the context of emerging health care delivery models.

Included in this CD are brief PowerPoint slide shows summarizing each of the scholars’ research. Several of the most recently awarded studies are in progress and results are expected in the future. The scholars spanning 1999 through 2008 are listed below.

2008 - Debra Burns, PhD, FAMI, MT-BC, Indiana University Department of Music and Arts Technology, Purdue School of Engineering and Technology, and the IU Simon Cancer Center, Indianapolis
Tony Meadows, PhD, LPC, FAMI, MT-BC, Immaculata University and the Joan Karnell Cancer Center, Philadelphia
"Listening and Locating: Understanding the Benefits of Music Imagery Experiences During Chemotherapy Infusion."

2007 - Abbey Dvorak, MA, MT-BC
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics
“Music Therapy Support Groups for Individuals Diagnosed with Cancer and their Families”

2006 - Xueli Tan, MM, MT-BC
Cleveland Music School Settlement
"Effect of Patient-Preferred Music, Relaxation Music, and Standard Care Environment on Patients in Intensive Care Units."

2005 - Christine Tuden Neugebauer, MS, LPC, MT-BC
Shriners Hospital for Children - Galveston
"Physical, Developmental, and Behavioral Outcomes of a Group Music and Exercise Program for Young Children with Severe Burns."

2004- Bryan Hunter, PhD, MT-BC
Nazareth College
"Music Therapy as an Adjunctive Treatment in the Management of Stress for Patients Being Weaned from Mechanical Ventilation."

2003- Suzanne Hanser, EdD, MT-BC
Berklee College of Music
"Music Therapy with Individuals with Dementia and Caregivers."

2003- Annette Whitehead-Pleaux, MAMT, MT-BC
Shriners Hospital for Children - Boston
"The Effects of Music Therapy on Pediatric Pain and Anxiety."
2002- Anne Lipe, PhD, MME, MT-BC
Shenandoah University
"Construct Validation of Two Music-Based Assessments for People with Dementia."

2000- Michael E. Clark, MME, MT-BC
Tennessee Technological University
"Effectiveness of Music Therapy in Ameliorating Symptoms Associated with Radiation Therapy."

1999 - Janice W. Stouffer, MT-BC
Penn State University - Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
"A Comparison of Music to Music with Mother's Voice on Physiological Responses, Level of Sedation and Requirements for Drug Therapy for Critically Ill Infants and Children."

On behalf of the American Music Therapy Association and the Arthur Flagler Fultz Research Fund, we wish to thank the many reviewers and Chairs of the Research Committee who participated in and oversaw the application review process over the past decade. The Chairs include (in chronological order):

- Alan Solomon, PhD, RMT, State University of New York, Potsdam
- Judith Jellison, PhD, RMT, University of Texas, Austin
- David Smith, PhD, MT-BC, Western Michigan University
- Carol Prickett, PhD, MT-BC, University of Alabama