



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

The Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®:

Mission and Standards of Affiliation and Practice (October 2023)

ACADEMY MISSION: to disseminate, advance, and protect the practice of Neurologic Music Therapy (NMT)® worldwide.

ACADEMY VISION: to promulgate NMT as the gold standard in music therapy practice and to increase availability of this gold standard in the healthcare arena.

ACADEMY PURPOSE: The Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy® was established in 2002 to advance the professional education and understanding of the scientific, evidence-based practice of Neurologic Music Therapy (NMT)®, and to facilitate the coordinated and cooperative efforts of Neurologic Music Therapists throughout the world. The Academy facilitates endeavors in the areas of continuing education, student training, research, information sharing, and reimbursement. The Academy is overseen by a Board of Directors and maintains an Advisory Council, Research Council, and International Liaison Council to advise on all matters related to the professional and scientific development of NMT. With the exception of the Research Council, the composition of the councils will be a majority of NMT clinicians.

Board of Directors: The Board is responsible for overseeing all activities of the Corporation including overall policy and direction. The Board delegates responsibility of day to day operations to the program director and the councils in order to:

- Protect the integrity of the NMT model
- Facilitate development and promulgation of the NMT model
- Promote responsible and ethical practice by Academy Affiliates
- Ensure availability of best-practice treatment for those seeking therapy

Advisory Council: The Advisory Council is a working body responsible for providing objective input, working support, and recommendations to the NMT Academy related to actions that impact the future direction and growth of NMT. To advise in order to:

- Protect the integrity of the NMT model
- Facilitate development and promulgation of the NMT model
- Promote responsible and ethical practice by Academy Affiliates
- Ensure availability of best-practice treatment for those seeking therapy



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

Research Council Purpose: To provide guidance, advocacy, and support for research related to NMT in order to continue building the scientific foundations for the clinical practice of NMT.

International Council Purpose: To act as a liaison between the Academy and the many places in the world where NMT is practiced, taught, and researched. They will advise by providing:

- Direct updates of the status, developments, and needs from the different countries where NMT is being practiced.

In 2014, the Academy for Neurologic Music Therapy® became a 501 (c) 3 organization whose mission is to disseminate, advance, and protect the practice of NMT worldwide. To this end, the Academy disseminates information about the evidence-based practice of NMT and provides opportunities for continuing education in NMT that ensure the best practice in the field. Individuals who successfully complete the International Training Institute in Neurologic Music Therapy through the Academy become affiliates of the Academy and are placed on a registry that is available to the public for purposes of identifying professionals who are committed to maintaining the highest standards of practice in NMT. The registry is international in scope, not only including clinicians and academicians in music therapy, but also other practitioners who have successfully completed NMT Institutes or Fellowships and are committed to promulgating best practice in NMT. The ultimate goal of the Academy is to maintain the integrity of best practice in NMT, and thus protect consumers of NMT and the public in general.

ACADEMY AFFILIATE STANDARDS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Initial acceptance into the Academy does not guarantee or ensure ongoing Academy affiliation. A Professional Affiliate of the Academy is expected to seek support and engagement within the NMT community and associated professions to ensure that they have the tools to practice effectively within the evidence-based treatment model of Neurologic Music Therapy. Those Affiliates who do not uphold these standards or who are found not to be properly representing themselves or the practice of NMT will be removed from the NMT registry.

All Academy Affiliates must:

- Practice within their professional scope of practice and seek support from the Academy and other NMTs, NMT Fellows, and Affiliated professionals to develop a deeper understanding of the use of the specific NMT techniques within clinical practice and to minimize erroneous representation of NMT.



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

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- Maintain appropriate professional and ethical standards of integrity and support in relation to other Academy members.
- Ensure that they do not represent themselves as a teacher/trainer of NMT and instead direct all persons interested in receiving formal NMT training to the NMT Academy.
- Be responsible for notifying the Academy when any of their contact information changes so that the registry may be updated in a timely manner in order for the public to identify trained practitioners in their area and to allow the affiliate to receive continued updates from the Academy (research, job listings, professional events).

Should affiliation status lapse, for whatever professional or personal reasons, the lapsed Affiliate can rejoin the Academy by participating in the NMT Institute Training, Fellowship, or professional development process as long as they have remained in good professional standing with the Academy (Accountability and Ethics).

NMT AFFILIATION CATEGORIES: The Academy maintains seven affiliation categories that define representation, responsibility, and the level of expertise and engagement in the practice of NMT: Neurologic Music Therapist (NMT), NMT Fellow, NMT Scholar, NMT Allied Professional, NMT Allied Professional Fellow, NMT Educator, and Student.

Neurologic Music Therapist

- 1) The Neurologic Music Therapist affiliate of the Academy must meet the following requirements:
 - Hold the MT-BC credential or in the case of those practicing outside the U.S., hold an appropriate music therapy certification or credential from their country
 - Have successfully completed a current NMT Institute Training in the last 5 years and/or has maintained 50 credits of professional development in the last 5 years
 - Properly represent the practice of NMT by operating within their scope of understanding and practice
 - Seek support through the Academy as needed in order to protect the NMT treatment model
- 2) The NMT is not a certification or credential: NMT is a designation earned by the completion of the NMT Institute Training and maintained by following the standards for Academy affiliation.
- 3) The NMT is encouraged to represent their NMT designation after their name and on all paperwork.

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, MT-BC, NMT

Long Ex: Music Therapist-Board Certified, Neurologic Music Therapist



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

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- 4) The NMT may represent themselves as an NMT for five years with the expectation of completing the professional development requirements no later than within the fourth year in order to maintain NMT status.
- 5) Should the NMT not complete the additional training requirements, nor contact the Academy within six months after the year in which the affiliation expires, the NMT will no longer be affiliated with the Academy and will be removed from the Academy Affiliate Registry.
- 6) If the NMT is unable to complete the professional development requirements, the NMT should contact the Academy Director no later than two months after the fifth year of their affiliation. Exceptions may be granted through a written request detailing the reason for the request and the plan for follow through inclusive of a specific timeline. Exceptions are granted at the discretion of the NMT Board of Directors or persons designated by the Board and will be made in writing to the Academy Affiliate with the detailed action to be taken and deadline for completion. If the deadline is not met, the Affiliate will be notified in writing that they have been removed from the Academy Affiliate Registry.

NMT Fellow

In addition to meeting the requirements to maintain the Professional Academy Affiliation, the NMT Fellow will go through an Advanced Fellowship clinical peer review process following their initial NMT training and every 5 years after that, in order to demonstrate their advanced knowledge and mastery of the Neurologic Music Therapy techniques. Evaluation or clinical work voted as pass or resubmit based on a 70% majority vote.

Requirements for the NMT Fellowship include:

CLINICIANS

Bring or send three (3) video examples of three (3) different NMT techniques you used with your clients and/or patients. These techniques need to be from at least two (2) of the three domains (e.g. sensorimotor and cognition). The recordings should be no more than one (1) year old. The overall presentation including all three videos should be 10-15 minutes in length. Be prepared to provide the diagnoses and background of the client, as well the functional goal(s) you are working on. Remember: You are responsible for having the proper institutional and/or client releases.

EDUCATORS

Bring or send three (3) video examples of three (3) different NMT techniques you taught to your students (e.g. that includes explanations, demonstrations, and student facilitation



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

with instructor feedback). These techniques need to be from at least two (2) of the three domains (e.g. sensorimotor and cognition). The recordings should be no more than one (1) year old.

RESEARCHERS

Presentations must include published data from at least one study of your own work that is either basic science or translational clinical research related to NMT. Presentations should be no more than 20 minutes in length leaving additional time for discussion.

The NMT Fellow is encouraged to represent their NMT designation after their name and on all paperwork.

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, MT-BC, NMT-F

Long Ex: Music Therapist-Board Certified, Neurologic Music Therapy Fellow

Affiliated Allied Professional (NMTAP)

- 1) The Affiliated Professional is available to those who meet the following requirements:
 - Allied health professional holding a certification or credential in a profession dedicated to treating a range of clinical populations
 - Have successfully completed an NMT Institute Training
 - Properly represent the practice of NMT by operating within their own profession's Scope of Practice while promulgating NMT as an evidence-based treatment model
 - Seek support through the Academy as needed in order to protect the NMT treatment model
- 2) The Affiliated Professional
 - Cannot carry the professional designation of NMT
 - Is not a professional music therapist after the NMT training
 - Is encouraged to integrate the materials and principles of NMT into their practice
 - Can, and should, represent themselves with the following designation:

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, PT, NMTAP

Long Ex: Physical Therapist, Neurologic Music Therapy Allied Professional

- 3) The Affiliated Professional is expected to practice within their scope of understanding and to seek support from NMTs, and NMT Fellows if available, to develop a deeper understanding of the NMT paradigm and its application within clinical practice and to minimize erroneous representation of NMT.



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

Short Course Allied Professional Participants:

- *The Academy often offers short course training related to a specific discipline (PT, OT, SLP) or domain (Sensorimotor, Speech/Language, Cognition). Professionals who only participated in short course training will be listed in a separate registry category. Short Course Participants are not expected to be able to apply the principles and materials of the full scope of NMT techniques to their practice, only select techniques most relevant to their professional training.*

NMTAP Fellow

In addition to meeting the requirements to maintain the Professional Academy Affiliation, the Neurologic Music Therapy Allied Professional Fellow will go through an Advanced Fellowship clinical peer review process within the first 5 years of their initial NMT training and every 5 years thereafter, in order to demonstrate their advanced knowledge and implementation of the Neurologic Music Therapy (NMT)® techniques. Evaluation or clinical work voted as pass or resubmit based on a 70% majority vote.

Requirements for the NMTAP Fellowship include:

CLINICIANS

Bring or send three (3) video examples of you implementing NMT interventions you have used with your clients and/or patients. If possible, these techniques should be three (3) different techniques from any of the three domains (e.g. speech/language, sensorimotor, cognition). The recordings should be no more than one (1) year old. The overall presentation including all three videos should be less than 15 minutes in length. Be prepared to provide the diagnoses and background of the client, as well the functional goal(s) you are working on. Remember: You are responsible for having the proper institutional and/or client releases.

EDUCATORS

Bring or send three (3) video examples of three (3) different NMT techniques you taught to your students (e.g. that includes explanations, demonstrations, and student facilitation with instructor feedback). If relevant, these techniques should be from at least two (2) of the three domains (e.g. sensorimotor and cognition). The recordings should be no more than one (1) year old.

RESEARCHERS

Presentations must include published data from at least one study of your own work that is either basic science or translational clinical research related to NMT. Presentations should be no more than 20 minutes in length leaving additional time for discussion.



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

The NMTAP Fellow is encouraged to represent their NMT designation after their name and on all paperwork.

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, PT, NMTAP-F

Long Ex: Physical Therapist, Neurologic Music Therapy Allied Professional- Fellow

NMT Scholar

In addition to meeting the requirements to maintain the NMT Professional Affiliation and the NMT or NMTAP Fellow Status, the NMT Scholar will demonstrate significant scholarly contributions to the field of Neurologic Music Therapy through research publications and conference presentations.

The NMT scholar will:

- Meet NMT or NMTAP Professional Affiliate requirements
- Successfully complete the NMT or NMTAP Advanced Fellowship
- Publish at least 1 scholarly peer reviewed research publication highlighting or supporting NMT
- Give at least 2 NMT-based professional presentations/year

The NMT Scholar is encouraged to represent their NMT designation after their name and on all paperwork.

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, MT-BC, NMT-S

Long Ex: Music Therapist-Board Certified, Neurologic Music Therapy Scholar

Short Ex: Johanna Doe, PT, NMTAP-S

Long Ex: Physical Therapist, Neurologic Music Therapy Scholar

NMT Educators*

- 1) In addition to meeting the requirements to maintain the NMT Professional Affiliation, and completing the Advanced Fellowship peer review process meeting the educator requirements (see above), the NMT Educator will:
 - Actively incorporate student training of the NMT model within their regular music therapy curriculum
 - Attend NMT Educators focused forums at least 3 times/year
 - Actively attend and contribute to NMT Global Meetings and Support Chapters (4 times/year)

***While individual educators may be NMT Educator Affiliates of the Academy, there are no specific NMT university degrees or university programs endorsed by the Academy. Individuals may only acquire the NMT designation through the Academy of Neurologic**



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

Music Therapy training programs. Additionally, all NMT affiliates must complete the required professional development necessary to maintain affiliation with the Academy.

Student Affiliate

- 1) The Student Affiliate status is available to those who meet the following requirements:
 - Are currently enrolled in an academic music therapy or other academic therapy/education/rehabilitation degree program
 - Have successfully completed an NMT Institute Training
 - Properly represent the practice of NMT
 - Seek support through the Academy as needed in order to protect the NMT treatment model
- 2) Music therapy students cannot carry the NMT designation or practice NMT until they have attained MT-BC status or the appropriate certification or credential in music therapy in another country.
- 3) The five-year duration for Fellowship participation begins at the date of professional credential receipt.
- 4) Students from other professions cannot integrate principles and materials from NMT until they have been credentialed or certified within their respective professions.

Students will be listed in the Academy Affiliate Registry as Student Affiliates until the Academy is notified that the Affiliate has achieved professional status. Notification should be sent to nmt@nmtacademy.co and should include the date of completion as well as proof of professional status (ie. MT-BC number, NPI number, License number).

***While individual educators may be NMT Educator Affiliates of the Academy, there are no specific NMT university degrees or university programs endorsed by the Academy. Individuals may only acquire the NMT designation through the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy training programs. Additionally, all NMT affiliates must complete the required professional development necessary to maintain affiliation with the Academy.**

NMT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: A Professional Affiliate of the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy is expected to seek support and engagement within the NMT community and associated professions to ensure that they have the tools to practice effectively within the evidence-based treatment model of Neurologic Music Therapy. Therefore, all professional affiliates of the Academy must complete 50 credits of continuing education/professional development within 5 years of completing their initial NMT training and every five years thereafter. Keep in mind that these hours may also contribute to required



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

professional development for other professional affiliations or credentialing bodies, e.g. CBMT, CAMT.

50 credits must be completed in at least, but not limited to, 3 of the following areas. Please note that Support Chapters are required.

Focused Forums (1 credits/mtg)

The Academy Focused Forums evolved from a Masterclass perspective. Forums are designed to provide affiliates an opportunity to discuss topics that are relevant to their specific needs based on their current professional roles and relevant ethical topics and responsibilities. Frequency and content will be determined by each individual forum. Focused Forums may meet either in person or through virtual means such as: Zoom, Skype, Google Hangouts, Facebook, or other social media options.

Targeted Forums include:

- University Educators
 - These forums will involve discussions among professors, clinical directors, and supervisors in the university setting related to relevant topics, such as curriculum and innovations in teaching.
- Graduate Students
 - These forums will be an opportunity for graduate students from various universities to discuss relevant topics and share information related to research projects and thesis/dissertation development.
- Allied Healthcare Professionals
 - These forums will involve discussions related to practicing NMT techniques within the context of professional scopes of practice as allied healthcare professionals. Topics may include interdisciplinary work with Neurologic Music Therapists and focused applications of relevant techniques related to different disciplines.
 - Physical Therapy
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Speech/Language Pathology
 - Nursing/Support Staff
 - Neuropsychology
- Population Based



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

- These forums will be led by NMT Fellows specialized in various populations in order to share clinical innovations and relevant information related to clinical practice and reimbursement.
 - Neurorehabilitation
 - Hospital Setting (multiple units)
 - Disorders of Consciousness
 - Hospice
 - Autism Spectrum Disorder
 - Developmental Delays
 - Neuro-geriatrics/Dementia Care
- Music Teachers and Educators (private lessons, school settings)

NMT Support Chapters (1 credit/mtg; 3 per year required)

NMT Support Chapters are a place to seek support and maintain engagement within the NMT community. These meetings serve as an opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the NMT paradigm. All affiliates of the Academy are required to attend at least 3 meetings/year and actively contribute to the meeting in ways such as asking questions, presenting on relevant topics, bringing clinical videos for discussion, and watching or reading relevant materials ahead of time. It is not required to attend the same support chapter every time, but it is important to choose meetings that will help expand your understanding and scope of practice in NMT. Monthly meeting schedules, locations, and links can be found at:

<https://nmtacademy.co/local-support-chapters/>.

Self-Study (Reading Publications, etc.) (up to 5 credits)

Academy Affiliates can earn self-study credits by completing independent or mentored activities such as:

- Reading publications in peer reviewed journals
- Reading relevant book chapters
- Attending relevant presentations
- Engaging in music lessons to enhance skills for therapy

All self-study activities should be reported on the Professional Development Report Form.



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

Clinical Supervision/Mentorship (A maximum of 12 credits of receiving supervision may be claimed for professional development. Note: 1 hour of supervision = 1 credit; up to 5 credits per practicum student/intern)

Receiving NMT Supervision from an NMT Fellow:

Receiving supervision can be claimed for professional development if provided by an NMT Fellow or a qualified professional in a related field. Activities may include formal and informal feedback and problem solving of clinical issues. See below for further details.

Providing Clinical Supervision/Mentorship:

Providing supervision or mentorship sessions can be claimed for professional development if the claimer is an NMT Fellow, Scholar, or Educator. If the individual receiving supervision is a student/intern, the provider may be an NMT or NMTAP. See below for further details.

Claiming Hours/Proof of hours:

All NMT professionals are required to keep a record of proof of professional development hours for auditing purposes. The following methods of record keeping are suitable for proof of supervision sessions:

- Screenshot/copy of confirmation email from supervisor - Must include date and hour(s) of supervision session
- Copy of receipt of invoice paid for supervision session (must include date and hours)

Music and Neuroscience Related Publications (up to 30 credits)

As an evidence-based practice model, NMT is driven by advances in research. You may earn up to 30 credits by reporting your music and neuroscience related research publications:

- Book Editor (20 credits)
- Refereed/peer reviewed journals (10 credits)
- Book chapters (7 credits)
- Research Poster (3 credits)
- Peer Reviewer on a paper (2 credits)
- Book Review (2 credits)
- Article Review (1 credit)
- Published Abstract (1 credit)

Professional Recognition (up to 10 credits)

- Media Interview (1 credit)



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

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- Grant award winner (1 credit)
- Create a new NMT position (5 credits)
- Publication in non-peer reviewed journal (1 credit)

Music & Neuroscience Related Presentations (up to 10 credits)

- Keynote Presentation/Grand Rounds (2 credits)
- Lecture/Presentation (1 credit)
- Poster Presentation (1 credit)
- Workshop Presentation (2 credits)

Global Support Meetings (1 credit/mtg; up to 10 credits)

You can earn up to 10 credits for presenting, attending, or retroactively watching a recording of the monthly global support meetings. Report your attendance on the professional development form with a short reflection on how the meeting may impact your work in NMT.

Academy Recommended Professional Development Workshops and Short Courses (Up to 30 credits)

- NMT Clinical Practice Workshop (up to 30 credits)
- Advanced Fellowship Training (Online and In Person) (up to 20 credits)
- Future short course opportunities will include:
 - Understanding the Voice and Voice Disorders
 - Courses in special populations
 - Transformational Design Model (TDM)® and Assessment
 - Building your NMT Business/Practice
 - Autism Spectrum Disorder
 - Music Psychosocial Training and Counseling

Other Relevant Professional Development Workshops or Courses (5 credits per course, up to 15 total credits)

You can earn up to 15 credits for completing additional workshops or courses relevant to NMT. To earn these credits, please submit: a written summary describing the relevance of the course to NMT and your professional development as a NMT, course certificate of completion, and course learning objectives.



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

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Academy Support and Service (1 credit per hour; up to 25 credits)

- NMT Advisory Council Member
- NMT Academy Work Group Member
- Support Chapter Leader
- Focused Forum Leader

Graduate & Undergraduate Courses (1 credit/class period up to 15 credits)

You can earn up to 15 credits for completing graduate and/or undergraduate courses relevant to NMT. To earn these credits, please submit: a written summary describing the relevance of the course to NMT and your professional development as a NMT, course transcript, course syllabus, and course schedule.

Professional Conference Attendance (up to 5 credits)

Affiliates will complete a conference report identifying session titles, relevant learning objectives, and a summary of how objectives were met.

Approved or recommended conferences include, but are not limited to:

- American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine
- American Physical Therapy Association - Combined Sections Meeting
- American Speech & Hearing Association
- American Occupational Therapy Association
- American Music Therapy Association
- American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- American Academy of Neurology
- Brain Injury Association of America (National or Regional)
- American Stroke Association/American Heart Association
- International Neuropsychology Society
- World Congress of Psychiatry
- European Congress of Psychology
- International Society for Autism Research Annual Conference (INSAR)
- Alzheimer's Association International Conference
- McMaster Institute for Music and the Mind (MIMM) Conference
- BRAMS: International Laboratory for Brain, Music, and Sound Research
- McMaster Institute for Music and Mind Conferences
- Population Specific Conferences



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

<http://nmtacademy.co>

ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

University Affiliations:

While individual educators may be NMT Educator Affiliates of the Academy, there are no specific NMT university degrees or university programs endorsed by the Academy. Individuals may only acquire the NMT designation through the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy training programs. Additionally, all NMT affiliates must complete the required professional development necessary to maintain affiliation with the Academy.

Distribution of Information from the Academy:

1. Upon attendance of the initial Training Institute, participants receive a copy of the NMT training materials in a manual and/or access to the online training materials for download.
2. Upon initial completion of requirements, Academy Affiliates will receive information regarding Affiliate expectations and a formal training certificate suitable for display.
3. Academy Affiliates will receive a copy of the Academy Mission and Standards.
4. Affiliates will receive the Academy Newsletter and periodic email reminders and updates.
5. Affiliates who allow their relationship with the Academy to go dormant will receive notification of action for remedy.
6. Should the Affiliate choose not to participate in continuing education within the given timeframe, the Affiliate will be removed from the registry.

Use of Videos:

1. Clinical video/audio-footage provided during the NMT Training Institute for educational purposes is strictly confidential and should not be filmed, copied, transmitted, or disseminated.
2. Any and all video used for Fellowship or presentation purposes should have a signed release from the individual(s) and/ or family member(s) involved.
3. Any and all video used for training or educational presentation purposes should have a signed release from
 - a. The therapist providing treatment
 - b. The individual(s) and/or family member(s) involved

Giving Presentations:

1. Teach about NMT but be clear that all training must go through the Academy and that the official NMT designation must be attained through the Academy.



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

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2. Identify yourself as an NMT Affiliate. Remember, you are not “NMT-informed.”
3. Use NMT Terminology acknowledging interventions are standardized and trademarked.
4. You are responsible for obtaining patient/client consent if you are giving case study examples in your presentation.
5. Provide Academy website to participants (ie. within your presentation).

Addressing Misrepresentation: Misrepresentation of Academy status is of utmost importance as the uninformed use of NMT can cause harm and/or confuse those seeking treatment and damage the public’s and medical community’s understanding of the evidence-based practice of NMT. The Academy’s goal, through Affiliate awareness, is to

1. Decrease the unethical representation of NMT by those receiving initial training yet not participating in ongoing continuing education with the Academy,
2. Decrease public misrepresentation of NMT by uninformed, untrained practitioners,
3. Ultimately protect the public so that they can receive treatment and information from qualified practitioners practicing within the evidence-based model.

Should any Affiliate of the Academy become aware that someone is representing themselves as an NMT Affiliate or NMT Fellow without maintaining the proper requirements, the Affiliate is advised to talk directly with the individual and to encourage them to contact the Academy. Should the individual not do so, or should it not be opportune to talk with the individual, the Affiliate is encouraged to contact the Academy directly. The Academy will determine next action.

Academy Training Faculty and Facilitators

1. Faculty and Facilitators assist at the Academy Directors’ discretion. These individuals may include guest lecturers and clinical practice assistants with specific expertise within the community where training is being held.
2. All training Faculty and Facilitators are NMT Fellows in good standing.
3. Faculty and Facilitators are expected to have and maintain the highest level of Academy Affiliation as available for their given profession.
4. Please reference the website to determine if you are accurately representing yourself
 - a. Faculty
 - b. Assistant Faculty
 - c. Host Facilitators
 - d. Guest Facilitators



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

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Use of Academy Trademark in Business and Trade name

As a current affiliate of the Academy, you may request permission from the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy to use the words “Neurologic Music Therapy®” in the title of your business or to advertise your business (on a website, within a mission or philosophy statement, on a brochure, etc.).*

*This is distinctly different from using Neurologic Music Therapist or Therapy, NMT etc. as defined in the Academy’s Mission and Standards of Affiliation and Practice Document and described under affiliation categories. The requests above are to describe a business, with NMT in its title, versus an Affiliate’s individual services they can provide as a trained professional. If you have further questions, please direct them to the Academy.

The NMT is a trademark of the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy, and the Academy’s purpose is to protect the integrity of the NMT model and to promote responsible and ethical practice by Academy affiliates. To use the trademarked words Neurologic Music Therapy® in your business of trade name, it is your responsibility to:

- Keep your affiliation status (as a business owner) with the Academy up to date
- Work solely within the evidence-based treatment model of NMT
- Accurately represent the NMT treatment model in all areas of your practice
- Ensure that the NMTs you employ or subcontract practice ethically and protect the integrity of NMT and of the Academy

Additionally, you must agree to protect the integrity of the NMT model, facilitate development and promulgation of the NMT model, promote responsible and ethical practice by Academy affiliates, and continuously work towards the Academy’s mission to ensure the availability of best practice treatment for those seeking therapy.

If you should fail to maintain Affiliate status and/or otherwise act in a way that does not protect the integrity of the NMT model or the mission of the Academy, permission to use the words “Neurologic Music Therapy®” in the title of your business or to advertise your business will be revoked and the words “Neurologic Music Therapy®” must be removed from all representations described above.

Procedures for Handling Accountability and Ethical Concerns

1. Affiliation with the Academy is a privilege, and as such the relationship with the Academy can be dissolved at any time should it be necessary to protect the representation and/or practice of NMT.



The R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®

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2. Concerns regarding unethical practice or misrepresentation by an Affiliate can be brought to the NMT Advisory Council at any time by Affiliates of the Academy who are in good standing. Concerns are to be submitted in writing and sent to the chair of the NMT Advisory Council.
3. After receiving written concerns, the NMT Advisory Council chair will disseminate information and/or request additional information as appropriate in order to adequately inform other members of the NMT Advisory Council to the issue at hand.
4. The NMT Advisory Council will investigate and take one of the following actions:
 - a. Determine information submitted is not adequate to take further action.
 - b. Dissolve the Academy relationship based on information received.
 - c. Provide an explanation and remediation plan for the affiliate.
 - i. Affiliate will be given a determined number of days to complete the remediation plan.
 - ii. Once the plan is adequately complete, the Affiliate will be in good standing with the Academy.
 - iii. If remediation is not completed by the date requested, the Academy relationship will be dissolved and no further action will be taken.
 - iv. Depending on the concerns brought forth, the Affiliate may retake the NMT training in the future. However, a formal request with corresponding explanation as to remediation must be submitted prior to acceptance of registration. The request does not guarantee acceptance into the training nor ensure relationship with the Academy.

Promoting Awareness of the Trademarking of NMT interventions and the TDM:

1. The following NMT Techniques and terms are trademarked:
 - R.F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy®
 - Neurologic Music Therapy (NMT)®
 - Transformational Design Model (TDM)®
 - Rhythmic Auditory Stimulation (RAS)®
 - Patterned Sensory Enhancement (PSE)®
 - Therapeutic Instrumental Music Performance (TIMP)®
 - Rhythmic Speech Cueing (RSC)®
 - Vocal Intonation Therapy (VIT)®
 - Oral Motor and Respiratory Exercises (OMREX)®
 - Developmental Speech and Language Training Through Music (DSLTM)®
 - Musical Sensory Orientation Training (MSOT)®
 - Musical Neglect Training (MNT)®
 - Musical Executive Function Training (MEFT)®

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2. Additionally, the remaining NMT techniques are intellectual property of the Academy.
 - Musical Echoic Memory (MEM)
 - Therapeutic Singing (TS)
 - Symbolic Communication Training through Music (SYCOM)
 - Associative Mood and Memory Training (AMMT)
 - Auditory Perception Training (APT)
 - Music in Psychosocial Training and Counseling (MPC)
 - Musical Speech Stimulation (MUSTIM)
 - Musical Attentional Control Training (MACT)
3. Academy Affiliates should promote the awareness, as appropriate and deemed necessary, of the trademarking of the techniques in order to eliminate misuse of the techniques and thus, misrepresentation of NMT as a whole.
4. Should an Affiliate become aware of a non-affiliate of the Academy utilizing NMT techniques without proper training, this should be brought to the Academy immediately.

Guidelines for practicing the NMT techniques under the supervision of an NMT Fellow:

- a) **University Practicum and Internships:** It is encouraged for students to be introduced to the NMT techniques in their university practicums and internships when appropriate under the supervision of an NMT Fellow. No student however, should practice NMT outside of supervision nor use the NMT designation without completing their Board Certification process through the CBMT (MT-BC or equivalent) and taking the NMT Training through the Academy.
- b) **Hiring a non-NMT therapist in a NMT based practice:** All music therapists who have not taken the NMT training through the Academy and attained affiliate status, should not be called NMTs nor practice the NMT techniques until they have completed the training. Learning about the techniques in the clinic under direct supervision of an NMT Fellow is still encouraged.

Guidelines for Media:

With the increasing media interest in NMT, Affiliates may be contacted to participate in interviews, journal articles, and news clips. The Academy is excited and in full support of media coverage, however Affiliates are asked to please keep the following points in mind in order to maintain and build a consistent message about NMT to protect the integrity of the treatment model:



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- Make sure the media representatives understand the difference between MT and NMT, and make sure the final product writes/speaks accordingly. Be compulsive about this, because they may not hear or understand the difference initially.
- In addition to explaining what NMT is, please be certain to explain where it comes from, how it was developed, and what training you need to practice NMT. Media may misinterpret the roots of NMT, presenting it as something the Affiliate created as their own personal specialty.
- While Affiliates may not be able to control all aspects of the final media piece, Affiliates should exercise diligence to ensure that they clearly articulate NMT as a research-based model keeping these facts in the forefront:
 - NMT was formally developed and introduced in 1999 as the clinical translation of the research conducted at the Center for Biomedical Research in Music/Colorado State University and the Neurorehabilitation Institute at Duesseldorf University Medical School, by a group of 5 researchers and clinicians: Michael Thaut PhD, Gerald McIntosh MD, Volker Hoemberg MD, Corene Thaut PhD, Ruth Rice DPT. Based on feedback from the NMT Fellowship training, 3 additional techniques were added to the original 17 techniques (DSLIM, SYCOM, MEM).