

Dear Colleagues,

I am excited to introduce *imagine*, the new online magazine of the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA), to the readers of *Perspectives*. This online magazine is dedicated to Early Childhood Music Therapy. Our intent for this open access publication is to enhance the lives of young children (ages zero to five) and their families by sharing scientific information, clinical strategies, ideas, policies and resources with colleagues in music therapy and related fields.

Working with young children and their families requires collaboration among professionals from different disciplines to ensure that each child's learning and developmental needs are adequately addressed. Having different perspectives allows us to expand our knowledge, repertoire, and ultimately our services. In other words, collaborating and sharing enhances what we have to offer to each of our communities.

Therefore, representatives of AMTA's online magazine *imagine* and the Early Childhood Music and Movement Association's (ECMMA) journal *Perspectives* are exploring opportunities for productive collaborations and outcomes that will benefit the readers of both publications and ultimately the children and families we serve.

Ideas currently being explored include (but are not limited to):

- Access to both early childhood publications,
- Announcement of conferences and special events of each organization,
- Exchange of expertise on specific topics (e.g., think tanks, task forces, and roundtables), and
- Joint presentations, publications and research efforts on related issues.

On behalf of the editorial team of *imagine*, I invite the readers of *Perspectives* to explore the informative inaugural issue of *imagine*. This edition includes welcome letters from leaders in the field of music therapy, early childhood education, occupational science, and representatives of ECMMA. The featured multimedia article explores incorporating

music in daily routines for children with autism followed by articles addressing latest research and practice in music therapy. The *idea* section offers intervention ideas, including goals, materials, directions,

and adaptations among other items. Our *color of us* series provides information about early childhood music therapy around the world spotlighting Canada, Italy, Argentina, China, Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan, and Japan. In the *resources* section, colleagues recommend new literature, websites, and blogs.

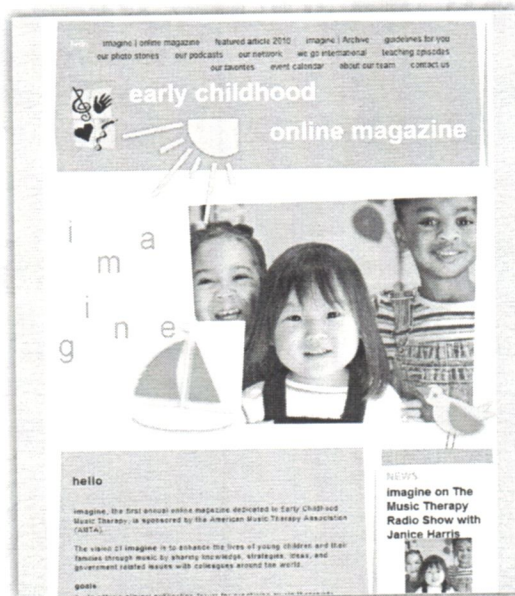
We also invite you to explore the *imagine* website, which includes podcasts, photo stories, and teaching episodes. The website also hosts an archive providing access to previous early childhood music therapy newsletters (1996-2009), *we go international* highlighting early childhood music therapy in other countries, *our favorites* featuring favorite CDs of our *imagine* authors, and *our network* describing the purpose of the Early Childhood Music Therapy Network and how to become a member of our Facebook group.

We invite you to join us in expanding our network of communication and information sharing, and to explore future opportunities for collaboration. Together we may bring more skills, sparks, and songs to the lives of young children and their families.

Best regards to each of you,

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exploring opportunities



Access *imagine* at
musictherapy.org/events/earlychild.html