

Cross-Cultural Collaboration - considering models of practice in global therapeutic and creative music skillsharing.

Contemporary music therapy practice in the UK and elsewhere is increasingly broadening its horizons in terms of practice. This is evident from a range of projects that have arisen over the past 10 years or more that focus on the delivery of therapeutic music training projects in diverse parts of the world. This roundtable uses the lens of ecological systems theory to interrogate 4 different projects that have been operating in the UK and beyond. The projects include:

- Erasmus+ European funded project - Sustaining Teachers and Learners with the Arts (STALWARTS)
- Interactive Therapeutic Music Skillsharing in Palestine
- Music Therapy Skillsharing in Special Schools in Belarus
- Community music leadership training and skillsharing programmes with refugee populations and vulnerable young people in Rwanda, Uganda, and Tanzania

Many such programmes focus on the what and how, the immediate practicalities of the pedagogy involved in these projects. There is, however, a delicate interplay between the individual, the micro- and macro- systems and the layers in between these, that influence such work. When developing such programmes, then, there are many variables that need to be taken into consideration if longevity and sustainability of such work is to occur. It may also be that unintended outcomes arise for those receiving such trainings as well as those involved in devising and delivering the projects.

The panel will use their own experiences in this area of practice, as well as discussing future developments to debate the future of this aspect of music therapy work. The importance of long-term support together with a variety of theoretical underpinnings that resonated with the culture of the training location will be discussed. Data collection methods used to evaluate the work such as action research and the importance of a bottom-up approach to developing such programmes will form part of each presentation.

Keywords: Skillsharing, therapeutic, pedagogy, global, music

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