



Levine Music Music Therapy Internship Fact Sheet

Address: 2801 Upton St. NW Washington, D.C., 20008

Contact: Emily Bruestle, MM, MT-BC

E-mail: ebruestle@levinemusic.org

Population Served:

Levine is a private, non-profit community music school that serves individuals of all ages.

Populations: Autism, ADHD, developmental disabilities, learning disabilities, multiple physical impairments, medically fragile, traumatic brain injury, emotional and behavioral disorders, genetic disorders, language impairments, hearing and vision impairments, sensory processing disorders, memory care

Age Range: All ages

Philosophy of Music Therapy Program:

Music therapy at Levine Music is delivered to individuals regardless of age, ability level, diagnosis, or socioeconomic background in a variety of settings in the Washington, DC area community. Music therapy offers a multisensory experience which can facilitate skill acquisition and development across the cognitive, social, motor, affective, and communication domains, and can engage attention and participation unlike any other therapies or educational approaches. The creativity contained with the harmonic and melodic structure inherent in music provides individuals with a unique, motivating opportunity to be expressive when verbal communication may not be a possibility. In addition, the predictable structure and rhythm of music helps to calm and organize sensory systems, as well as provides opportunities for safe expression of feelings and emotions. Whether in an individual, group, or co-treatment setting, music therapy provides each individual with the opportunity to make choices and exert control over their environment, develop flexibility, and build skills that can then be generalized to other settings. At Levine, our clients are the source of inspiration for interventions, and work as partners in therapy to identify the appropriate tools for therapeutic change.

Communication and collaboration with clients' interdisciplinary team members allow our therapists to cater to individual treatment plans, facilitating therapeutic progress and enhancing the reach of other therapies.

Sessions at Levine Music incorporate varied clinical techniques and ideas from multiple theoretical frameworks, including behaviorism, sensory processing, neurologic processing, clinical improvisation, adapted music education, creative arts, and other approaches as needed. Through the therapeutic application of singing, playing instruments, moving to music, listening to music and creating music in the school setting, a student can progress toward meeting established Individualized Education Plan (IEP) goals and objectives. Music therapists at Levine support and collaborate with the larger community in the music school through consultation, referrals for additional music opportunities and programs, and in providing educational seminars.

Internship Experience:

Interns at Levine Music will work with children and adults of all ages with a wide range of disabilities, in individual and group music therapy settings at various Levine campuses as well as at community partnership sites. During the internship experience, interns will learn music therapy techniques with individuals across the lifespan to address goals to improve communication, motor, sensory, behavioral, academic, cognitive and social/emotional skills. Interns will gain experience in communicating music therapy processes with children's families and other professionals, completing assessments, quarterly reviews and other paperwork, and will be given the opportunity to create or adapt songs to address specific needs to individuals. Collaboration with other team members including classroom teachers, occupational and physical therapists, speech language pathologists, behavioral support staff, and psychologists will provide a multidisciplinary approach to planning and implementation of educational and therapeutic services.

Levine Music offers a 6 ½ month internship position, 40 hours weekly, which totals 1020 hours. The intern will be scheduled to work 5 days per week and will receive holidays and sick time as arranged with the internship director upon beginning the internship. Intern work schedule will vary by student according to current contracts and individual client session schedules, and will be determined by therapist and client availability. The intern will attend team or program meetings and trainings offered by the school as appropriate. Weekly individual supervision, formal and informal observation, and performance evaluations will be provided in addition to the completion of special projects and case studies.

Requirements/Competencies:**Musical**

- Good command of basic piano/keyboard skills, including ability to play basic chord progressions (I-IV-V-I) in all keys; ability to sight read simple compositions and song accompaniments; transpose simple songs; harmonize simple melodies
- Good command of guitar skills including ability to play basic chord progressions (I-IV-V-I) in keys of C, D, E, G, and A; transpose simple songs and harmonize simple melodies
- A singing voice with pleasing quality; ability to lead songs by providing introductory cues, starting pitch, and correct pitches and rhythm

Therapeutic Skills

- Basic understanding of philosophies and theoretical concepts in music therapy
- Basic understanding of behavior management principles & techniques
- Willingness to learn how to apply the theoretical concepts of music therapy in settings with a variety of populations

Communication Skills

- Ability to communicate in a clear, organized manner, both written and verbally
- Ability to communicate professionally with other therapists, educators, parents, and support staff

Professional Qualities

- Emotionally stable, responsible, dependable, organized, and flexible
- Ability to accept and apply constructive feedback, critically self-evaluate, and work with a wide range of people
- Ability to seek out appropriate references and professional resources to gain information on new populations, interventions, or theoretical concepts

Interview Evaluation:

Upon receipt of completed application package, applications will be reviewed and selected applicants will be contacted within six months of selected start date. Prospective interns will be required to come for a final on-site interview so that her or she can see the facility and make an informed decision regarding acceptance, if accepted after the final interview. The assessment of functional music skills in the context of music therapy interventions will be conducted on site at this time. Each applicant will be notified in writing regarding the status of their application following the on-site interview within three months of their desired start date. Following acceptance, a legal affiliation will need to be documented between the University and Levine Music.

General Information

Orientation Requirements:

Interns are required to submit a copy of their driver's license for a background check, which will be provided by Levine Music.

Field Trips:

Observing other local music therapists provides interns with exposure to additional music therapy programs in private practice, crisis intervention and psychiatric populations, and medical music therapy settings.

Number of Interns Per Training Period:

The clinical training site at Levine Music accepts up to 2 interns per supervising music therapist within each training period. The internship director may accept rolling and overlapping interns, granted the number of interns who require supervision does not exceed requirements of the American Music Therapy Association.

Housing:

Housing is not provided at this time. The internship director can provide suggestions for local housing upon acceptance to the internship program.

Transportation:

Interns are required to have their own reliable transportation. Some Levine campus locations are accessible by metro or buses, but many community partnerships require the music therapist/intern to travel independently of public transportation. Levine Music does not currently reimburse for mileage.

Stipend:

No stipend is available at this time.

Liability Insurance:

Interns will need proof of professional liability insurance, either through independent purchase, or by being registered with academic institution.

Professional Staff:

Interns at Levine will work directly with four music therapists, two of whom are full time, and two part-time. Interns will have opportunity to work directly with music educators, special educators, teacher assistants, adult program managers and assistants, speech therapists, and senior living staff. Interns will also work indirectly with primary care providers, specialists, speech therapists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, behavior management therapists, vision specialists, and social workers dependent on client situation.

On-Site Training Programs:

Levine Music does not provide any additional on-site training, but partners with community organizations who may offer additional training in behavior management or related services.

Resources/Equipment:

Levine Music will provide all necessary instruments and materials for use during client sessions and community partnerships. Interns will be responsible for bringing their own guitar.