



During 2010, the Center for Creative Therapeutic Arts (“CCTA”) celebrates twenty years of service to southern Nevadans. Judith Pinkerton, CCTA’s Founder/Executive Director, has dedicated her life to create unprecedented achievements in Nevada resulting in tremendous growth. Now with a staff of twelve, including board-certified music therapists, dozens of outreach education programs and 3,000 individual or group music therapy sessions are provided annually for 750 people of all ages. Clients are referred by caregivers, health and education professionals seeking arts programs with therapeutic enhancement that target treatment goals similar to those found in traditional therapies. CCTA plans to add increased programming during these difficult times because public demand for therapeutic arts is multiplying due to our extraordinary success rate. Expanded programs will include a community drum circle site, art, dance, drama, psychodrama, and poetry writing. Visit <http://www.ccta.us/> regularly for new events and programs.

HISTORY

Founded in 1990, CCTA began as a home-based operation providing education programs throughout southern Nevada and Utah. In 1995, CCTA provided treatment and outreach education programs from Reflections Counseling Center and at two off-sites, plus the “Sound of Healing” radio show. In 2000, the CCTA relocated to New Life Cardiology with music and art therapy treatment and outreach education programs at six off-sites and national conferences. Since 2004, CCTA’s music therapy clinic resides in Building L on the College of Southern Nevada’s West Charleston Campus with dozens of off-campus sites across southern Nevada.

PROGRAMS

As an established healthcare profession, music therapy addresses physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs of individuals of all ages, and improves quality of life for persons who are well as well as meeting the needs of disabilities and illnesses. Children, adolescents, adults, seniors and their families benefit from program goals addressing:

- Multi-sensory and motor skills stimulation and development
- Improved language skills and learning strategies for academic tasks
- Anger management and positive social skills
- Decreased impulsivity and distraction
- Increased appropriate emotional expressions
- Caregiver support

ACHIEVEMENTS

CCTA has demonstrated significant growth of the creative therapeutic arts as a statewide leader supporting community-based programs with achievements exceptional and numerous.

- First music therapy (aka “Music as Medicine: Rx that Heal”© at www.music4life.us) continuing education program in Nevada approved by the Nevada State Board of Nursing (1990) as well as Board of Examiners for social workers, marriage and family therapists, alcohol/drug counselors, psychologists and physicians.
- Music therapy research studies conducted with audience participants, cancer patients, and UNLV subjects for specialized therapeutic music formulas (aka Music 4 Life™ at www.music4life.us), particularly successful with trauma: case studies are on-going.
- Recognized for exceptional artistic achievement by violinist Judith Pinkerton, the Nevada Arts Council has awarded grants to her and CCTA since 1997, and the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce awarded Judith/CCTA the 2001 Community Achievement Award for Arts & Entertainment.



- CCTA formed school district partnerships for special education and at-risk students through grants from local and national government agencies and private foundations for music therapy services and education programs at numerous Clark County schools.
- CCTA has created numerous community partnerships (visit www.ccta.us).
- In 2007, CCTA began six-month internships for music therapy undergraduate students, cooperating with professors in Arizona, Texas, California, Oregon, Louisiana, and Iowa.
- In 2008, CCTA secured a first-time foundation grant for a unique group drumming workshop creating a new category of staff: SOULifters, skilled musicians trained to provide drum circles and recreation music-making under the supervision of music therapists.
- Since 1991, CCTA's advocacy for UNLV's Music Department to offer music therapy resulted in the first "Introduction to Music Therapy" 3-credit course offered Fall 2009 instructed by Judith Pinkerton.
- CCTA spearheaded a statewide coalition of music therapists who demonstrated a template of activity that other states follow for events and meetings with state officials. CCTA events at the Governor's Mansion and Nevada State Legislative Building, plus testifying before legislative committees, resulted in the 2007 Nevada State Legislature appropriating \$109,590 (SB558/579) for music therapy equipment statewide.
- As First Vice-President and 2010 Las Vegas Conference Chair for the Western Region Chapter, American Music Therapy Association (www.wramta.org), Judith/CCTA received support from AMTA & WRAMTA officials to assist 2007 statewide government advocacy.
- In 2007, CCTA participated in co-founding the International Foundation for the Healing Arts, Inc. ("IFHA") a non-profit organization based in California. CCTA's leadership with colleagues in San Diego and Los Angeles led to the establishment of IFHA to promote and support healing arts entities. www.internationalfoundationforthehealingarts.org
- In 2008, CCTA was awarded an unprecedented Fund for a Healthy Nevada two-year grant to assist children and adults with disabilities through music therapy, culminating a four year journey exploring potential funding pathways, including Medicaid.

FUNDING

CCTA's growth in southern Nevada has been generously funded.

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| 1996-2002 | Adolescents in crisis funded by Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, Clark County Department of Family and Youth Services, and Tricare Wraparound Program for juvenile offenders in court-ordered programs. |
| 2000-present | Adults and seniors funded by senior service agencies for dementia, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, mental illness, medical conditions, neurologic, cognitive and physical impairments. |
| 2002-present | Children, adolescents, and adults funded by state agencies, city government, private foundations and organizations for Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, sensory integration dysfunction, traumatic brain injury, autism, vision and hearing impairments, developmental delays, medical conditions, rehabilitation, PTSD, abuse, intellectual and physical disabilities, behavioral and emotional disorders. |
| 2007-2009 | Nevada State Legislature funded SB558/579 \$109,590 for statewide music therapy equipment (\$58,815 allocated to CCTA). |
| 2008-2010 | Nevada Department of Health and Human Services awarded the Fund for a Healthy Nevada two-year music therapy grant (federal tobacco settlement funds) \$305,798 (FY08-10) for children and adults with disabilities. |