

New Songs on a DIFFERENT NOTE

MEET MS. ROBBIN

Robbin Buford was born and raised in Odessa, Texas and graduated from Permian High School. She recently moved from Texas to California. In Texas, she served as an advocate for individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities. With early intentions of pursuing a singing and piano career, she completed her Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Therapy at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas and then began internship studies at the prestigious Center for Discovery in New York. While in New York, she not only worked with the founding father of music therapy, Clive Robbins, at Nordoff and Robbins Music Therapy Institute, New York, but also worked with the professors at Julliard School of Music to increase her piano skills in clinical improvisation.

She is actively involved in the National and Regional American Music Therapy Association and speaks on the power of music at conferences across the United States. She is on the Oklahoma and Texas State Music Therapy Task Force where she currently pursues changing laws for individuals with disabilities to receive services and protect client rights. While living in the State of Oklahoma, she was the only music therapist in a public school. Robbin educated state and private facilities such as: hospitals, schools, the department of human services, medical and multi-disciplinary therapy associations. She has spoken to medical associations and spoken on the floor at the Oklahoma State Capital in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and the Texas State Capital in Austin, Texas to representatives and senators about the benefits of music therapy and changing the current laws. Recently on April 19, 2016, Oklahoma House Bill-HB2820 was passed. She, in conjunction with other state music therapists, have held Music Therapy Awareness Days at the Oklahoma and Texas State Capital. Robbin works and incorporates music therapy strategies with Savant Syndrome and individuals on the Autistic spectrum nationwide and has an ongoing relationship with researchers in the Medical Research Association. She is certified in death and dying, nonprofit executive leadership and licensed in pastoral care.

Robbin has designed and implemented music therapy and music programs for diverse populations. Some of the groups who have benefited include: patients in crisis and trauma, labor and delivery, premature infants, dual-diagnosed patients, psychiatric patients, oncology patients and those who are terminally ill. She has also conducted wellness programs in nursing homes, working with Alzheimer's, Dementia and Parkinson's patients. She is the co-author of "Self-Care for Music Therapist in the Aftermath of Significant Traumatic Events," which is currently in progress for publication.

Previously, she contracted schools across the state of Oklahoma such as: The Rise School of Stillwater, Cameron University, Southwestern Oklahoma State University and Stillwater Public Schools (Robbin was the first music therapist in a public school setting in the state of Oklahoma). She has worked with many institutions across the region as a consultant in music and/or music therapy in how to use music in the classroom, businesses and continuing education. Some of the institutions include; Midland Rehabilitation Center in Midland, TX, MARC in Midland, TX, Integris Bass Baptist Hospital in Enid, OK, Northern Oklahoma College, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Northern Oklahoma Resource Center, The Learning Tree for Early Childhood, The Rise School of Stillwater, OK and Houston, TX, Baptist Saint Anthony Hospital Hospice in Amarillo, Texas, the National Autism Network, Sooner Success, The Oklahoma Department of Human Services, the National and State Department of Aging, Stillwater Public Schools in Stillwater, OK and Pawnee Public School District in Pawnee, OK.

Some of her awards received are: The Harmony Award for Clinical Practice - Southwestern Region of American Music Therapy Association, Woman of the Year: Leadership Award - Amarillo Association (Texas), Three years from Trans-Siberian Orchestra - Share the Funds for Music Therapy Program, Student Government Internship Award - Texas and the Leake J. Ward Music Therapy Award. Robbin also received a first place award from the National Research Competition for her research article titled "A comparison of two methods used to facilitate reminiscence in Alzheimer's individuals."

Robbin enjoys composing and arranging music in her spare time and often composes music for clients and for a contemporary religious vocal group. Her enjoyment of playing the piano led to the release of her first album in 2008 and composing music for therapy on a global level. In West Texas, she sat on a non-profit board for adults with Special Needs then moved to Executive Director where she raised funds for long term care, developed daily programs which, brought awareness of the need in the Permian Basin. She also reached out to others in the nonprofit sector assessing developmental leadership skills for executive management staff. She delights in coordinating and promoting events, specifically musical events such as: fine art concerts, health drum circles for children and adults with disabilities, mental health, severely abused, corporate sectors and more. Robbin also enjoys playing volleyball, fishing, movies, spending time with her family, and traveling. Her passion is making music with others and bringing out the best in each person.



on a DIFFERENT NOTE

QUESTIONNAIRE

STUDENT NAME

TEACHER NAME

STRENGTHS/SPECIAL SKILLS

DISABILITY CHARACTERISTICS/LIMITATIONS/WEAKNESSES

NEEDS/GOALS IN IEP

USEFUL STRATEGIES FOR WORKING WITH YOUR CHILD

MUSIC/FAVORITE SONGS YOUR CHILD ENJOYS/RESPONDS TO THROUGHOUT THE DAY
