



Application Pack - Registered Music Therapist 0.6 starting Jan/Feb 2021

Sunraysia Arts and Learning

Background

Sunraysia Arts and Learning is in Merbein, Victoria, a small town near the large regional centre of Mildura (pop 55 000), 400km from Adelaide and 550km from Melbourne. Mildura is a thriving hub on the beautiful Murray with a busy cultural, sporting and social life. It is surrounded by irrigated agricultural land, and is on the doorstep of beautiful outback Australia.

Business owner and director Catherine Threlfall is an experienced music therapist, teacher and mentor with a long history of practicing in regional Australia including the NT. Catherine leads a dynamic team of music teachers, music therapy assistants and an art therapist. Music Therapy at Sunraysia Arts and Learning is underpinned by Community Music Therapy principles of music as a powerful agent in place-based change for whole of community wellbeing.

Sunraysia Arts and Learning has a diverse range of programs including 1:1 and small group music therapy via telehealth and face to face, music groups in a wide range of organizations including schools, disability, family violence, refugee indigenous support services, childcare, preschools, community music, and intergenerational programs in aged care. We are a licensed Music Together Centre, running a range of Music Together programs for children 0-9 years and their families. We are working with local kindergartens to mentor early childhood educators in using music in early childhood. We run drum circles and music groups for events and festivals. We have actively opened up telehealth and online music making opportunities during the COVID 19 pandemic.

Programs run at our rural studio, in Mildura and surrounds, and in regional locations in the broader Murray/Mallee region.

With the roll out of the NDIS there has been an increase in demand for music therapy. There are many opportunities arising. Catherine is currently the only registered music therapist in the area. The Sunraysia Arts and Learning team are hoping to recruit a part time Registered Music Therapist to help us grow the market for music therapy in our region. This is a great opportunity to experience regional music therapy in a diverse range of settings, with mentoring from an experienced practitioner and business owner. Catherine is an experienced mentor with a passion for supporting professional growth in a challenging and supportive environment.

Position Description and Conditions

Registered Music Therapist 0.6 FTE (6 month contract)

We are looking for a Registered Music Therapist for a 0.6FTE position for an initial 6 month contract starting in mid Jan/early February 2021. We hope to work with the right person to build this position and to offer employment at the end of the initial contract.

The initial case load will be diverse, including individual and group music therapy including children and adults with a disability, and other settings that may include community music therapy, intergenerational musicmaking, indigenous services, supported playgroups and early childhood. The position is very likely to involve travel to surrounding regional areas. The successful applicant will be mentored by the lead RMT, and provided with ongoing opportunities for professional growth and dialogue.

Regular hours of work will be negotiated between Monday – Saturday between 7.30am – 8.30pm. The successful applicant will need their own car and a Victorian license.

The full time salary rate is in the range of \$70 000 - \$75 000 p.a. according to level of experience and strengths. The position is 0.6 FTE.

Travel allowance will be paid at 78c per kilometre and superannuation at 9.5%.

Annual leave is 8 weeks of paid annual leave (0.6 FTE) to be taken during the Victorian School Holidays –

Dates for annual leave in 2021 are

2 April – 17 April

26 June - 11 July

18 September - 3 October

18 December – 17 Jan 2022

Any changes to annual leave or additional unpaid leave can be negotiated with the Director. Sick, personal and compassionate leave is 10 days for each year of employment (0.6 FTE)

The successful applicant is not required to work on public holidays except by arrangement.

For all other conditions see the Health Professionals and Support Services Award 2020

Position Description - Registered Music Therapist

Background

Music therapy is a research-based practice and profession in which music is used to actively support people as they strive to improve their health, functioning and wellbeing.

Music therapy is the intentional use of music by a university trained professional who is registered with the Australian Music Therapy Association Inc. Registered music therapists draw on an extensive body of research and are bound by a code of ethics that informs their practice. Music therapists incorporate a range of music making methods within and through a therapeutic relationship. They are employed in a variety of sectors including health, community, aged care, disability, early childhood, and private practice. Music therapy is different from music education and entertainment as it focuses on health, functioning and wellbeing.

Music therapists are committed to supporting people of any age and ability regardless of musical skill, culture or background.

Australian Music Therapy Association, sourced 2019 from <https://www.austmta.org.au/content/what-music-therapy>

Position Specification

Reports To: Director Sunraysia Arts and Learning

Supervisory Role: Responsible for Therapy Assistant Level 2

Key Selection Criteria Mandatory

Tertiary qualification within the field of Music Therapy as recognised by AMTA Inc.

Current "Registered Music Therapist 1" type registration with the AMTA Inc or demonstrated ability to be registered by the start date of employment.

Demonstrated ability to work as a member of a multi-disciplinary team

Well-developed interpersonal and written communication skills

Ability to work independently with minimal supervision

Current Victorian Drivers Licence

Current Victorian and NSW WWC and Police Checks

Completion of NDIS Worker Orientation Program

Position Objectives

Provide Music Therapy for participants and their caregivers that includes assessment, regular goal setting in consultation with participants, families and other members of the participant's care team, and regular review of progress towards goals.

Provide music therapy for groups and individuals in a wide range of community contexts in regional Australia, including smaller regional centres outside of Mildura.

Work closely with Therapy Assistants to plan and monitor the delivery of Individualised programs.

Key Responsibilities

Provide a range of music therapy interventions to meet the needs of participants and their carers/families that includes assessment, planning and evaluation

Provide a range of community music therapy programs in a broad range of contexts, including programs in other smaller regional centres in the Mallee region.

Work with Therapy Assistants to plan, support and monitor the delivery of a range of individualised programs to meet the needs of participants and their carers/families.

Expectations

All staff are expected to

1. Abide by the **NDIS Code of Conduct**

The Code of Conduct requires workers and providers who deliver NDIS supports to:

- act with respect for individual rights to freedom of expression, self-determination, and decision-making in accordance with relevant laws and conventions
- respect the privacy of people with disability
- provide supports and services in a safe and competent manner with care and skill
- act with integrity, honesty, and transparency
- promptly take steps to raise and act on concerns about matters that might have an impact on the quality and safety of supports provided to people with disability
- take all reasonable steps to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, exploitation, neglect, and abuse of people with disability
- take all reasonable steps to prevent and respond to sexual misconduct.

2. Maintain a professional appearance at all times when representing Sunraysia Arts and Learning.
3. Ensure familiarity and compliance with Sunraysia Arts and Learning policies and procedures.
4. Maintain confidentiality
5. Uphold the Australian Music Therapy Association Code of Ethics. A copy can be found at <https://www.austmta.org.au/content/ethics>

Application Process

Written applications are due by **15th June 2020** to catherine@sunraysiaartsandlearning.com.au. Please feel free to direct any enquiries to Catherine at 0420939229 or the above email address.

Please include a resume with two professional referees. Provide a written responses of no more than two pages describing professional and personal experiences and strengths that equip you to meet the position responsibilities as listed below.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview via Zoom in late June 2020, including sharing a song with an accompanying instrument.

The outcome of all applications will be finalised by early July 2020.

Key Responsibilities

Provide a range of music therapy interventions to meet the needs of participants and their carers/families that includes assessment, planning and evaluation

Provide a range of community music therapy programs for individuals, groups and communities in a broad range of contexts, including programs in other smaller regional centres in the Mallee region.

Work with Therapy Assistants to plan, support and monitor the delivery of a range of individualised programs to meet the needs of participants and their carers/families.

Work as a positive member of a multi-disciplinary team with therapists, teachers, therapy assistants and support staff.

Work independently with minimal supervision, demonstrating well-developed interpersonal and written communication skills, initiative, flexibility and a sense of humour.