

# Four SWOSU Students Selected to Present Papers at Music Therapy Conference

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University music therapy students selected to present papers at the 2009 Southwestern Region of American Music Therapy Association Conference in Austin (TX) are (from left): Amy Schmidt, Bartlesville; Rachel McCurdy, Lawton; Shanna Horton, Wheeler, Texas; SWOSU MTSA President Amber Leslie, Sand Springs; and Tiffany Romasanta, Grove.

Four Southwestern Oklahoma State University music therapy seniors at Weatherford and their faculty advisor have been selected to present papers at the 2009 American Music Therapy Association Southwestern Region Conference in Austin, Texas.

Faculty Advisor Dr. ChihChen Sophia Lee said only a few student presentations were selected for the conference.

Rachel McCurdy of Lawton and Amy Schmidt of Bartlesville will present *Comparison of Singing v. Instrumental Performance & Music with Movement on the Agitation of Dementia Patients*. Shanna Horton of Wheeler, Texas will present *The Effectiveness of Music Improvisation Communication in a 7-year old Female with Autism: A Case Study*. Tiffany Romasanta of Grove will present *Mommy, Baby and Music: The Effects of Music Therapy Protocol on the Mother - Child Bond*. All of the sessions will be co-presented by Lee.

The conference will take place March 26-28 in Austin, Texas, and will feature research and clinical presentations primarily by music therapy professionals of the region (Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma & Texas). Many SWOSU music therapy students also plan to attend the conference to represent the SWOSU Music Therapy Student Association.

SWOSU has the only music therapy program in the state of Oklahoma, and graduates since 2002 have a 100% passing rate on the National Board Certification Exam for Music Therapists.