



NEWSLETTER

January 2020

In this issue

- 1 Message from the Editor
- 2 An Interview with Yoko Sen & Avery Sen, Ph.D., authors of "The Future of Hospital Sound: Transforming Healthcare Through Sound Experience"
- 3 Upcoming *Music and Medicine*: Sneak Peek
- 4 Invitation to IAMMM 2020 Conference: Boston
- 5 Message from IAMMM President

Message from the Editor

Happy New Year!

I marvel that here we are at the start of a new year. It is amazing how quickly a year passes by. While a new year holds the promise of possibilities and potential, I have no doubt that 2020 holds much in store. This is an exciting time in the world of music, health, and medicine. In 2019 the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced they were committing \$20 million over the next five years to research music therapy and neuroscience. This announcement builds on the Sound Health Initiative, which is a partnership between the NIH, Kennedy Center and the National Endowment for the Arts. Last fall, the fifteen funded projects were announced, the projects are listed and detailed at <https://www.nih.gov/research-training/medical-research-initiatives/sound-health/funding-announcements-opportunities>. The research on these projects will begin in 2020 and we will eagerly await the exciting outcomes from this groundbreaking research.

This is also an exciting year for the International Association of Music and Medicine as we will gather for the 6th IAMMM Conference in Boston, Massachusetts, May 28-30 at Berklee College of Music. Dr. Suzanne Hanser and her team have been hard at work planning to convene experts from around the world to share the latest research, engage in dialogue through special interest groups (SIGs), and explore new collaborations. For more information about the conference visit berklee.edu/IAMMM-conference. We look forward to greeting you in Boston. This will also be an opportunity to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of IAMMM.

In this issue of the newsletter you will find more information about the upcoming conference on page 4 and a message from IAMMM President Dr. Patravoot Vatanasapt on page 5. In the sneak peek from *Music & Medicine* you can read about the work of Yoko and Avery Sen and their efforts to reduce hospital noise by changing the sounds of the alarms of medical equipment. You will certainly enjoy discovering how music and sound can change the landscape of healthcare by altering the way equipment alters staff.

As you consider the new year ahead, take time to consider and discern about becoming more involved in IAMMM. There are always opportunities to volunteer or move into a leadership position. You can contact IAMMM President Dr. Patravoot Vatanasapt or any member of the board to express your interest.

Wishing you a year full of joy and possibilities!

Annie Heidersheit, Ph.D., MT-BC, LMFT



The International Association for Music & Medicine promotes sharing and capacity building across a wide range of fields including arts medicine, music performance, performance arts medicine, music psychology, medical humanities, ethnomusicology, music cognition, music neurology, music therapy, music in hospitals, infant stimulation, and music medicine. Please join us. www.iammonline.com

The Future of Hospital Sound: Transforming Healthcare Through Sound Experience

An interview with authors Yoko Kamitani Sen and Avery Sen

We asked Yoko and Avery Sen to share a few thoughts about their upcoming article with us for the newsletter, and hope you will enjoy the full article this month in Music and Medicine.

1. What served as the motivation for changing the sounds of medical devices?

I am a sound artist who spent time in hospitals as a patient, disturbed by noise. Lying in a bed, I used to wonder – some people say hearing is the last sense to go when we die – so what is the last sound I get to hear at the end of my life? Is it a cacophony of beeps? Two of the beeps that kept going seemed to make a diminished fifth, what one might call the devil's chord. I do embrace the beauty of dissonance, however perhaps not so constantly, in such harsh, high pitched, and machine-like tones when I am unwell – or as the end note of my life. Everyone who cared for me was so kind, and I could not fathom what it must be like for them to be working in such a cacophonous environment. When I got better, I wanted to use my experience to serve. (Yoko)

2. How did your training and experience as a musician prepare you to engage in this process?

I suppose I am a musician because I believe life happens in nuances that words cannot fully capture. When we listen to people talking about sound in the context of healthcare, their stories are almost always more than just about sound. They seem to reveal what it means to be a human during the most vulnerable times of our lives. I hope my training as a musician has prepared me with the sensibility to understand the importance of our subjective experience – how sound impacts our emotions, and that everyone is different, with their own perceptions and preferences – so that I am not imposing my own experience as a musician. As Beethoven said, music is the mediator between the spiritual and the sensual life, and I envision the role of musicians to be bridge builders. (Yoko)

3. Can you describe the value of this being a collaborative process and the need for engaging diverse discipline in this project?

We value fairness. The hospital sound environment is a commons. We all share it, we are all responsible for it. And like any commons, it ought to be managed as democratically as possible. The people who must stay there as patients, their families, not to mention those who spend their working lives there, have a right to influence the sound environment that they inhabit. Fairness is why we must collaborate with the hospital community – to give voice to the voiceless as we build a shared understanding of sound experiences, and certainly as we conceive and introduce improvements to the sound environment. Diversity of perspective – whether that's from different professions, genders, ages, ethnicities, geographies, etc. – can only make our understanding richer, and our innovations more socially robust. (Avery)



Yoko Kamitani Sen

is a sound artist and founder of Sen Sound with a vision to transform the sound environment in hospitals. She is a former Citizen Artist Fellow at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and artist in residence at Johns Hopkins Sibley Innovation Hub and Stanford Medicine X.



Avery Sen, PhD

is a researcher in the field of science, technology, and innovation policy, and Chief Innovation Officer at Sen Sound. His work reflects how innovation is a social practice of collective sense-making, shaped as much as our tools to share meaning as our tools to explore and build.

As Beethoven said, music is the mediator between the spiritual and the sensual life, and I envision the role of musicians to be bridge builders.

The Future of Hospital Sound: Transforming Healthcare Through Sound Experience

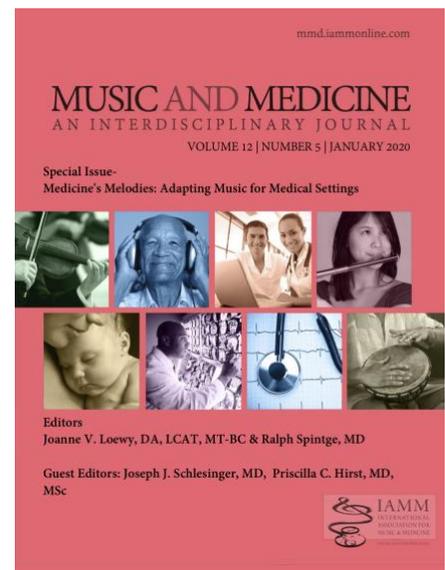
An interview with authors Yoko Kamitani Sen and Avery Sen (cont)

4. What are your hopes for the future of sound in the healthcare environment?

I believe hospital noise is merely a symptom of what palliative care physician, Dr. BJ Miller, calls the “disease-centered mode of care,” instead of the “human-centered mode of care.” So thinking about sound goes beyond reducing decibel levels or piping in soothing soundscapes. Because sound is something that many people have never thought about, I believe it has a potential to open up our thinking and transform our entire experience. Whatever the future may be, there should be a system in place that allows people who are most affected – especially the frontline clinicians and team members who have to hear those sounds day to day – to have a say in the design process. I hope more conversations about sound will help us explore what it means to be a human. (Yoko)

Upcoming Journal: *Music and Medicine*, January 2020 Special Issue: *Medicine’s Melodies: Adapting Music for Medical Settings*

- **Editorial: Dal Segno al Coda – How Signs from Our Experiences Shape the Finality of Life**
Joseph Schlesinger, Priscilla Hirst
- **From Music to Medicine: Are Pianists at an Advantage When Learning Surgical Skills?**
Gilles Comeau, Kuan-chin Jean Chen, Mikael Swirp, Donald Russell, Yixiao Chen, Nada Gawad, Habib Jabagi, Alexandre Tran, Fady Balaa
- **Differences in practice behaviours between expert musicians and non-musicians when learning a basic surgical skill**
Gilles Comeau, Jillian Beacon, Erin Dempsey, Mikael Swirp, Fady Balaa, Kuan-chin Jean Chen, Donald Russell
- **Interprofessional Education of the Next Generation of Musician-Scientists Through Music Cognition Research Training: An Innovative Platform for Health Professions and Biomedical Research**
Reyna L. Gordon, Miriam D. Lense
- **Changing the Cadence from Military to Community through Music**
Kevin R. Reeder
- **There’s Something Happening Here: The Positive Impact of Collaborative Songwriting on Veterans Suffering from PTSD**
Mary Judd
- **Promoting Patient and Family Engagement by Implementing Therapeutic Music during Hospitalization**
Ruth M Kleinpell
- **The Future of Hospital Sound: Transforming Healthcare Through Sound Experience**
Yoko Kamitani Sen, Avery Sen



Come Celebrate IAMM's 10th Anniversary
 at the Sixth International Conference of the
 International Association for Music & Medicine (IAMM)
 in Boston, USA, May 28-30, 2020

The Berklee Music & Health Institute invites you to attend this very special event!

Check out brief videos of our incredible Special Interest Groups at #IAMM2020 on Instagram, and like us on Twitter and Facebook. Click [here](#) or find the conference website at <https://www.berklee.edu/IAMM-conference>

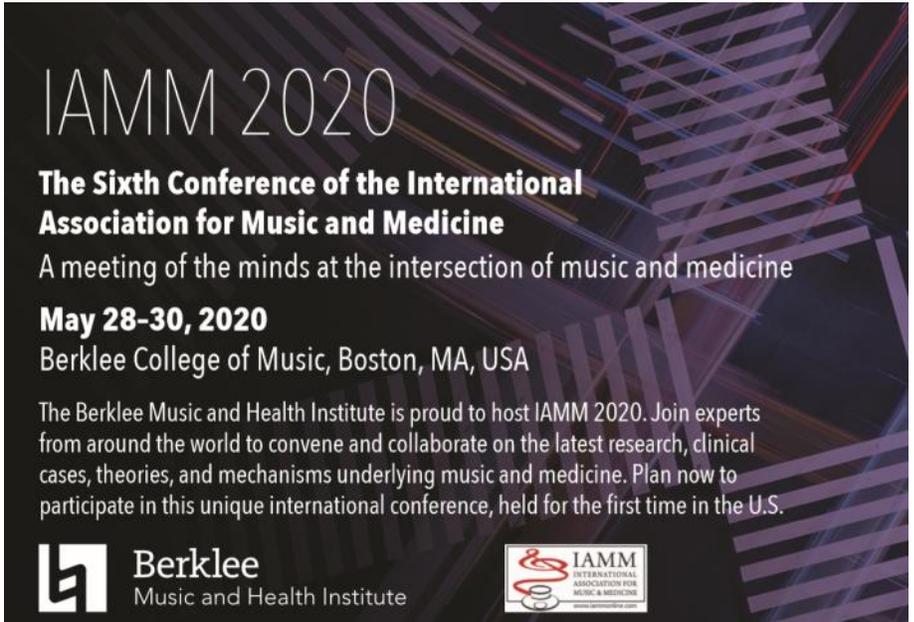
Note the Early Bird Discounted Registration for IAMM Members - Deadline February 1, 2020

As you plan your visit, see the special pre- and post-conference events planned for Thursday, May 28th and Sunday, May 31st, including presentations and tours of Boston Children's Hospital, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Tufts Floating Hospital for Children, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, Berklee College of Music, and the Ether Dome at Mass. General Hospital.

Workshops and sessions on how to develop and train healthy musicians will be held at Berklee on Thursday, May 28th. Continuing education workshops will occur on Sunday, May 31st (to be announced).

Questions?

Contact: Suzanne Hanser,
 President, Organizing
 Committee at
IAMMInfo@berklee.edu



Conference Registration

The registration fees below include admission to all the sessions, Thursday night's dessert reception, two continental breakfasts, and two lunches. Single-day registration rates are available for Friday or Saturday.

Registration Type:	Early Bird Rate: Before February 1, 2020	Regular Rate: Before May 28, 2020	Single Day Rate:
IAMM Member	\$210	\$310	\$250
Non-Member	\$360	\$460	\$250
IAMM Student Member/ Individual from Developing Countries	\$110	\$210	\$250

For more conference information, including pre-/post-conference workshops, trainings, and facility tours: berklee.edu/IAMM-conference

For information on the Berklee Music and Health Institute:
berklee.edu/music-health-institute

For information on IAMM: iammonline.com

We look forward to welcoming you to Boston!

Message from the President of IAMM

Happy New Year to all of our friends,

It was a great year and an exciting one is coming! I am so delighted to see an increasing interest in the field of music medicine around the world. I was recently invited to give a keynote lecture on music medicine in head and neck cancer at the National Congress of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery of Indonesia. Although music medicine and music therapy are new in their medical community, the music itself has already been well installed as was evidenced by plenty of bands all performed by physicians. The concept of music as a healing tool is well accepted there, too. This is true for many other countries where a huge space for music medicine is evolving. Our strategy is to demonstrate how music can be applied in various settings, while collaborating with medical personnel.

This strategy is why the SIGs were invented for the 6th IAMM conference; to promote collaboration and to encourage the development of guidelines for using music in various clinical fields. I hope you all can contribute to this in order to enhance music used in medicine. The IAMM will definitely provide you with platforms for achieving this mission.

Besides your individual contribution, I would like to encourage you to be involved more with IAMM leadership. The current executive committee will be changing this year, so please consider joining the administration team to bring new ideas to the next chapter of IAMM. We will announce the call for nominations in March 2020 and the elections will be held during the IAMM conference.

I look forward to seeing you all in May 2020, in Boston.



Wishing you all the best,
Patravoot Vatanasapt, MD
President, IAMM

Interested in getting involved in IAMM?

We are looking for members to share their passion and skills.

Our communications team is looking for individuals interested in assisting with:

1. Social media
2. Joining the newsletter team

If you would like more information or are interested in lending your skills, please email Annie Heiderscheit at heidesc@augsbu.edu.

Find us on [Facebook!](#)

Feedback: Is there anything you would like to suggest or lead? Please let us know at iamminfo@gmail.com.

From the IAMM Executive Committee

**IAMM Membership
offers opportunity for
friendly cross
disciplinary collegiality**

**Full member - developed world -
\$100.00 (USD)**

Subscription period: 1 year as a member from the developed world you will receive 4 issues of the journal per annum, and will be able to access the journal online.

**Full member - developing world -
\$50.00 (USD)**

Subscription period: 1 year Members from the developing world are eligible for online access to the journal, and all other benefits of IAMM membership.

Check the eligibility of your country by consulting this link
<http://www.ifad.org/governance/ifacl/listc.htm>

**Student, unwaged, retired –
\$50.00 (USD)**

Subscription period: 1 year. Members in this category have access online to the Music & Medicine journal and full access to all information about activities and events.

“Our goal is to provide relevant information and support for everyone around the world interested in or working specifically in the area of music and medicine.”