Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy Training at Molloy College

The practice of Nordoff-Robbins music therapy is a unique, music-centered and creative endeavor, necessitating a high level of musical sensitivity and clinical awareness in meeting the needs of a variety of clients. The Nordoff-Robbins training at Molloy College includes musical, clinical, and didactic studies that foster clinical musicianship, deepen the trainee’s understanding of musical and therapeutic processes, and promote and carry on the tenets of the Nordoff-Robbins philosophy and tradition. Particular emphasis is placed on the application and adaptation of this work to new client groups and in new contexts.

Trainee Characteristics and Eligibility

- Prospective trainees must complete an application (See attached).
- All applicants must be Board Certified Music Therapists (MT-BC).
- Students may complete this training while receiving a Masters degree in music therapy from another University other than Molloy College, but NR certification will not be awarded until student has received a Master’s degree.
- Applicants who already possess a Master’s degree in music therapy from another institution (other than Molloy College) will be asked to provide a transcript detailing specific music therapy coursework they have completed. Syllabi for particular courses may be requested.
- Prospective trainees will have an audition and interview to determine acceptance into the training program.
- Applicants must possess highly developed musical skills on either piano and/or guitar (See Audition requirements).
- Applicants must demonstrate maturity and openness in interactions with others.
- Applicants must demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively orally and in written work.

Audition/Interview Process

During the audition, the applicant will be asked to:

1. Play one piece on piano and/or guitar.
2. Sight read a melody (instrumental and vocal).
3. Harmonize a melody with piano and/or guitar.
4. Improvise three simple variations on the piano or guitar, on a given theme.
5. Perform a free improvisation based on a given subject/theme, on the piano or an instrument of his/her choice.
6. If prospect’s primary instrument is not piano or guitar, he/she will be asked to perform one piece on this instrument.
Course Progression and Descriptions

Fall coursework (Sept-Dec)
MUS 538    Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy      3 credits
MUS 542    NR Clinical Improvisation I        1 credit
MUS 544    NR Group Theory & Practice I       2 credits
MUS 546    NR Clinical Practicum I            1 credit

Spring coursework (Jan-May)
MUS 535    Advanced Clinical Supervision       3 credits
MUS 543    NR Clinical Improvisation II        1 credit
MUS 545    NR Group Theory & Practice II       2 credits

Summer coursework (May-July)
MUS 547    NR Clinical Practicum II            3 credits

Clinical Hours are embedded within the coursework MUS 544, MUS 545, MUS 546, MUS 535, MUS 547

Molloy College Graduate Students:
MUS 538, 542, 544 fulfill electives for MS. Will take additional 10 credits offered through Continuing Education program.

Post-Master’s Certificate Candidates:
Will take 15 credits through Continuing Education department.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MUS 544
Nordoff-Robbins Group Theory and Practice I

Course will focus on development of group work, through improvisation and pre-composed music from the literature. Trainees will study group development, goals of group work, and explore group process issues. Techniques regarding improvising songs for groups, teamwork in groups, using pre-composed songs and larger works. In addition, trainees will compose and/or arrange musical material for groups that they are currently seeing. Group work supervision will also be provided in this course.

MUS 545
Nordoff-Robbins Group Theory and Practice II

Course will continue to focus on development of group work, through improvisation and pre-composed music from the literature. Trainees will study group development, goals of group work, and explore group process issues. Techniques regarding improvising songs for groups, teamwork in groups, using pre-composed songs and larger works. In addition, trainees will compose and/or
MUS 542
Nordoff-Robbins Clinical Improvisation I

This course focuses on the development of musical resources through study of styles, idioms, and scales. Students will study a variety of idioms, styles. Goals include developing improvisational skills in order to increase responsiveness to individuals in therapy. Specific emphasis will be placed on clinical application of music. Contemporary and archival studies will be shared to support clinical themes and provide examples of musical styles and techniques utilized in sessions.

MUS 543
Nordoff-Robbins Clinical Improvisation II

This course continues to focus on further development of musical resources through study of styles, idioms, and scales. Trainees will learn additional idioms, styles. Goals include developing improvisational skills in order to increase responsiveness to individuals in therapy. Specific emphasis will be placed on clinical application of music. Contemporary and archival studies will be shared to support clinical themes and provide examples of musical styles and techniques utilized in sessions.

MUS 546 & 547
Nordoff-Robbins Clinical Practicum I & II

Trainees will develop Nordoff-Robbins clinical skills in individual music therapy sessions. Trainees will function as either primary therapist and/or co-therapist in a minimum of 3 sessions per week at the Rebecca Center and off-site. Trainee will participate in on-going weekly supervision with clinical supervisor at the Rebecca Center.

MUS 535
Advanced Clinical Supervision

Trainee will receive supervision regarding clinical practice. Trainee will meet regularly with peer group and instructor to discuss clinical and administrative issues relating to their work, training, and supervision. Trainee’s clinical work will be assessed by instructor. Trainee will explore literature to support experiences in the clinic. Trainee will work on developing final case study presentation.
Nordoff-Robbins Training at Molloy College
Application Form

Full Name: ____________________________________________________________

Last First M.I.__________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________
Street Address _________________________________________________________
Apartment/Unit# ______________________________________________________

City __________________________ State __________________________ ZIP Code ______

Phone: _______________________

Email: _________________________________________________________________

**Educational Background:**

**Undergraduate:** _____________________________________________________

**Graduate:** __________________________________________________________

**Principal Instrument and Years Playing:**

**Additional Instruments & Level of Competency:**

Write a personal statement (one page) that reflects the reasons for your interest in the training as part of the application process. Please type and attach a separate sheet to the application.

**Please return application form to: Dr. Suzanne Sorel, Director, Nordoff Robbins Training, Molloy College 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre, NY 11571-5002**