

## Summaries of the Conference 2010 Presentations & Presenters Thursday, June 17 to Sunday, 20, 2010

### Throughout the Conference:

#### *Creating the Conference's "Resonant Body"*

**Ruth Cunningham** is a classically trained musician and a [sound healing practitioner](#). She combines these skills to improvise music that connects people to the healing and spiritual power of music. She specializes in improvisational sacred music from varied spiritual traditions. Ruth accompanies herself on medieval harp, Renaissance flute and recorder, piano and shruti box. Ruth is a member of the acclaimed women's vocal quartet [Anonymous 4](#).

As a sound healing practitioner Ruth works with individuals and groups on using the voice and music as tools for healing and transformation. She collaborates with other healers and musicians in a variety of settings. Ruth plays regularly and teaches a sound healing class for the Integrative Stress Management Program at St Vincent's Hospital in New York City. In 2001-2002 she was among the musicians who offered their services at St. Paul's Chapel, which served as a refuge for the workers at Ground Zero.

### Thursday Evening:

#### *Improvisational Music-Making with David Darling*

**Presenter: David Darling** is a cellist and composer who has performed and recorded with artists such as Bobby McFerrin and Spyro Gyra in addition to putting out several solo and small ensemble albums as well as albums of his compositions.

He joined the Paul Winter Consort in 1970, as well as taking a position with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra, and remained a member until 1987, when he left to pursue a solo career.

In 2002 David was nominated for a Grammy award for his album *Cello Blue* and is nominated currently for a Grammy for his 2009 album *Prayer for Compassion*.

Darling is a tremendously gifted teacher of music improvisation and is a passionate believer in the ability of every human to learn to express themselves musically. He co-founded Music for People, an organization which runs "music for everyone" workshops that are inspiring everyone from musical novices to professionals. All musical styles are honored, from Bach to boogie woogie.

### Friday morning:

#### *This Singing World*

There is a unique power and warmth in the human voice, an instrument unlike any other. As healing musicians there are times for the simplicity of unaccompanied song. In this workshop we will share melodies, modes and ideas that add to your vocal repertoire. An emphasis will be on the teaching of world melodies suitable for bedside musicians.

**Presenters: Susan Robbins** and **Marytha Paffrath** of the internationally acclaimed world music ensemble *Libana* are seasoned teachers and dynamic workshop leaders, bringing lively, humor-filled, grounded guidance to diverse communities coast to coast. Past venues include Rowe Camp & Conference Center, Kripalu Center, and the National Orff-Schulwerk Music Educators Conference. ([www.libana.com](http://www.libana.com))

**Friday afternoon:*****What you Need to Know besides the Music: understanding and interacting with Patients of Diverse Cultures***

Patients of diverse ethnic and religious cultures may have different assumptions about health and illness, etiquette, and non-verbal communication than the Music Practitioner may have. When musicians do not understand these differences, they may misunderstand what they see or hear, or they may inadvertently say or do something culturally offensive. This presentation will help musicians better understand patient and family cultural needs and preferences.

**Presenter:** **Mary Curry Narayan, MSN, RN, HHCNS-BC, CTN** is a Registered Nurse, a Clinical Specialist in Home Health Nursing, and a Transcultural Nurse Specialist. She has made hundreds of visits to ill and dying patients in their homes and has published numerous articles about providing care to home health patients and patients of diverse cultures.

**Saturday Morning:*****A Focus on Research***

There will be two sessions: the first will feature CMPs who have completed, or are in the process of completing live therapeutic music research projects. Our second session will be a panel discussion on the “ins & outs” of planning and implementing a research project: pitfalls to avoid, the process from proposal to publication.

Lunch-time will provide the opportunity to continue the discussion around the table on particular research topics.

**Saturday Afternoon:*****Personal Branding to Successfully Market Your CMP Practice***

An interactive, hands-on three-hour workshop that will help participants to understand, build, and develop skills in communicating their Personal Brand and “Unique Selling Proposition.”

Participants will understand what Personal Branding is and what it is not, identify their Personal Brand and Unique Selling Proposition (USP), develop a Marketing Plan, set goals, learn about marketing tools and resources, and how to implement a systematic and effective marketing plan.

**Presenter:**

**Renée Robertie** is an award-winning communication consultant with more than 20 years experience in marketing communications, public relations, event management, media relations and public speaking training for her clients in a broad range of industries and nonprofit organizations throughout the U.S.

Renee earned a Masters degree in communications from Boston University and is an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America.

A 2001 graduate of MHTP, Renee plays the mountain dulcimer in her practice, which focuses on easing the pain and anxiety of hospice patients and others in various stages of dying.

**Saturday Evening:*****The Healing Concert – Therapeutic Uses of Music***

Join Janalea Hoffman; pioneer in Music Therapy, for a unique program that is part concert/part music therapy. In addition to live music, The Healing Concert consists of a power point presentation about how music affects our brain. It is divided into different sections according to how our brain responds and the slides are illustrated with live musical examples. Learn practical ways that music can help you on your healing journey.

**Presenter: Janalea Hoffman** is a Music Therapist, musician, speaker and Director/Founder of her company, Rhythmic Medicine (in 1978). She is one of the first music therapists to start a private practice.

A primary aspect of Hoffman's work lies in how music affects our bodies physiologically. She has developed specific techniques for using music to help lower heart rate and blood pressure and help to alleviate pain. She has been a pioneer in the uses of music and guided imagery to help clients get deeper insights into themselves and their issues. Hoffman authored the book, *RHYTHMIC MEDICINE, Music with a Purpose* and has published eight CD's specifically for therapeutic purposes. She was one of the first people to write music for specific medical uses.

**Sunday Morning:*****Best Practices Concurrent Sessions***

There will be 4 or 5 facilitated concurrent sessions where CMPs can learn from each other and from our most seasoned colleagues on topics of particular interest.

Requested topics so far are: best practices in giving presentations & best practices in obtaining grants.