

From: Lauren Hirsh (EXD) director@oake.org
Subject: 2025 OAKE - Congratulations! [take action by June 18 to present at Chicago conference]
Date: Jun 10, 2024 at 6:04:14 PM
To: jesswalls2014@yahoo.com
Cc: Lauren Hirsh (EXD) director@oake.org



The following message was sent on behalf of the OAKE Vice President and National Conference Program Chair.

June 10, 2024

Dear Jess Walls,

On behalf of the National Conference Program Team, congratulations! Your session, **"Supporting Neurodiversity and Mental Health in Music Classes"** has been chosen for the 2025 OAKE National Conference *"Musical Storytellers: Continuing Kodály's Narrative"* held in Chicago, Illinois from March 6-9, 2025. Your event will be part of the category The "Whole" Story.

Save the following to copy into your Promotional Materials Form (deadline is very soon, see below).

Title:

Supporting Neurodiversity and Mental Health in Music Classes

Description:

As music educators, we have a unique opportunity to support students who may feel out of place in school, as if they do not belong or cannot contribute. Students with the unique challenges of neurodivergence such as autism and ADHD, along with students who struggle with mental illness such as depression or anxiety, often experience school as an unfriendly or even hostile environment. In many cases, the music classroom is a place of

hope, joy, and creative expression for these students who struggle in their other classes. As a music educator who is neurodivergent and has experienced significant mental health challenges, Walls has conducted research on supporting students with similar challenges, and in this session will share both her personal experiences and her research-based practices that can help educators at all levels show all of our students how being a part of a musical community can give them a "home" at school and support them through the challenges of navigating not only school, but also their entire lives.

Please add all the following to your calendar. Prepare the first item now.

Now	Prepare bios and promo items. Preview the links below and if you have any concerns, please communicate prior to the deadline (director@oake.org) <i>All co-presenters provide personal info and sign agreements for themselves. Do not complete someone else's.</i>	
June 18	Presenter Agreement and Promotional Materials Form DUE. Agreement, biography, and photos. <i>All co-presenters provide personal info and sign agreements for themselves. Do not complete someone else's.</i>	(CLICK HERE to see guidelines and submit materials)
Nov 1	Commitment to Equity DUE <i>All co-presenters provide personal info and sign agreements for themselves. Do not complete someone else's.</i>	(CLICK HERE to sign)
Nov 1	Equipment Request DUE <i>Submit once under the name of the</i>	(CLICK HERE to see what materials we provide and submit your request)

	<i>"lead" presenter, even if there are multiple presenters for your session.</i>	
Jan 15	Session Notes DUE - we request notes for each session represented at the conference. If you plan to have a QR code or link to additional materials, please submit that here to be printed rather than only projecting it at your session. This is a great help to attendees. <i>Submit once under the name of the "lead" presenter, even if there are multiple presenters for your session.</i>	(CLICK HERE to see guidelines and submit materials)
Dec / Jan	REGISTER : ALL presenters must register for the conference unless contractually arranged with the NCBD. We recommend registering during Early Bird pricing.	REGISTER

The links above may also be found at www.oake.org/conferences/sessions-and-presenters/

Session Length and Date: By accepting this invitation, you agree to present as scheduled by the national program team. Sessions may be scheduled any day or time Fri-Sat during the National Conference. Complete information regarding your session day/time is typically published in February. Breakouts are 60 minutes, other events vary in length.

Social media responsibility: Please do not post news of your proposal status to any social media platforms until OAKE makes its announcement public in early October. This allows time for all of our selected presenters to confirm their participation and allows time to select alternate sessions in the event that an accepted presenter can no longer participate.

Conference Registration is Required of all presenters, including those sponsored by exhibitors. All conference expenses (conference registration, transportation, housing, meals, etc.) are the presenters' responsibility unless contractually arranged with the Executive Director / National Conference Business Director.

Sale of products and publications: Clinicians may not promote the sale of their products in the sessions. They may exhibit at the conference or they may arrange to have their materials handled by another exhibitor.

If you have any questions or are unable to accept this invitation, please contact us by email (vicepres@oake.org) as soon as possible. Thank you for your willingness to share your talents and expertise at the OAKE National Conference!

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Emily Reep and the 2025 National Program Team

Katie Robertson, OAKE Vice President (vicepres@oake.org)
Lauren Hirsh, OAKE Executive Director