

LAURA ELLIOTT

BUCKNER, MM, MT-BC, NICU MT

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Skills Summary

Fluent in American Sign Language, cooperative team player, skilled in excel and all Google products, timely, communicative, dedicated, and diligent.

Education

Doctorate of Philosophy student in Sociology / August 2026-present

University of Kentucky GPA: 4.0

Master of Music in Music Therapy / August 2020-December 2023

University of Kentucky GPA: 4.0

Completion of Pre-Internship Clinical Hours: December 2021

Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion / August 2020-May 2022

University of Kentucky GPA: 4.0

Bachelor of Music in Music Education / August 2016-May 2020

University of Tennessee-Knoxville GPA: 3.96

Experience

University of Kentucky HealthCare

Full-time – Music Therapist / April 2024-present

Facilitate individual music therapy sessions in a medical setting for adults, children, and infants with varying diagnoses at Good Samaritan Hospital and Golisano Children's at UK in Lexington, KY.

Music Therapy Services of Central Kentucky, LLC

Independent Contractor – Music Therapist / September 2023-May 2025

Facilitate group and individual IEP-based music therapy sessions with special education students in Hardin County Schools.

Edge Music Therapy, LLC

Independent Contractor – Music Therapist / April 2023-June 2025

Facilitate group and individual music therapy sessions with young children and adults with various intellectual and developmental disabilities at various inpatient facilities, Child Development of the Bluegrass, and Montgomery County Public Schools.

Wildwood Music Therapy, LLC

Independent Contractor – Music Therapist / April 2022-June 2023

Facilitated group and individual music therapy sessions with young children and adults with various intellectual and developmental disabilities. Taught private individual voice lessons.

University of Kentucky

Graduate Teaching Assistant / August 2022-May 2023

Assisted various professors with teaching Music Therapy Clinical Skills, Functional Guitar Skills, and Music Learning & Behavior by grading assignments, meeting with students for extra support, and providing supplemental instruction at professor's request. Supervised music therapy equivalency students. Assisted in completing various departmental tasks such as social media engagement and research support.

Louisville Expressive Therapies

Music Therapy Intern / January 2022-August 2022

Built rapport while assessing strengths and needs of various clients and in inpatient psychiatric, substance use, and educational facilities, and in private practice. Developed individual and group goals and objectives that increased well-being, independence, and overall quality of life. Designed treatment plans and interventions with supervisory support and led goal-driven interventions in-person and via Telehealth. Supervisors: Emily Ibershoff, MT-BC; Julia Purcell, MT-BC

University of Kentucky

Research Assistant/Student-Worker / January 2021-May 2022

Assisted Dr. Reschke-Hernández with various tasks related to research (i.e. making forms, researching articles, organizing research, conducting interviews).

Ripley's Entertainment

Guest Relations / February 2020-present

Sell tickets to various attractions, greet all guests, and answer phones. Use problem-solving skills to fix arcade games and address upset customers. Clean attractions before opening and after closing.

Presentations

International

Reschke-Hernández, A. E., Gibson, A., Buckner, L. E., Sullivan, A. C., Posey, C., & Uecker, S. (2023). Development of a collaborative music therapy and social work telehealth framework to address the well-being of community-dwelling

older adults [Poster presentation]. Alzheimer's Association International Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Regional

Buckner, L. E. (2026, March 11-14). Navigating the music therapy profession through a neurodivergent/autistic experience [Conference session]. SER-AMTA Regional Conference, Charlotte, NC, United States.

Buckner, L. E. (2024, March 21-23). Music therapy at an inclusive early learning center: A grant proposal [Conference session]. SER-AMTA Regional Conference, Atlanta, GA, United States.

Lauzon, G., Buckner, L.E., King, E. (2024, March 21-23). CMTE D: Intersecting identities in music therapy practice [Continuing music therapy education course]. SER-AMTA Regional Conference, Atlanta, GA, United States.

Buckner, L. E. (2023, March 23–25). Increasing diversity among music therapists to reflect demographic trends [Poster presentation]. SER-AMTA Regional Conference, Chattanooga, TN, United States.

Buckner, L. E. (2023, March 23–25). Making music therapy a more accessible profession to reflect demographic trends [Poster presentation.] SER-AMTA Regional Conference, Chattanooga, TN, United States.

Reschke-Hernández, A. E., Sullivan, A., Buckner, L. E., & Gibson, A. (2022, March 24–26). Collaboration between social work and music therapy in telehealth with older adults: Lessons from a feasibility study [Conference session]. SER-AMTA Regional Conference, Lexington, KY, United States.

Guest Lectures

Buckner, L.E., Tuggle, A. (2025, April). *Experiences of disabled helping professionals*. Interdisciplinary Supports for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities, The University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.

Buckner, L.E. (2024, May). *Intro to music therapy*. Music Theory, Knox County Virtual School. Knoxville, TN.

Buckner, L.E. (2024, February). *Music therapy and autism*. Music Therapy Foundations and Principles II, The University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY.

Leadership and Volunteer Experience

Kentucky Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (KY LEND)

Long-Term Trainee / 2026-2027

Interdisciplinary leadership training emphasizing self-advocacy, disability rights, health equity, family-centered care, and systems change. Collaborated with self-advocates, families, and professionals to advance inclusive practices and improve outcomes for individuals with disabilities. Contributed lived experience and self-advocate perspectives to interdisciplinary discussions aimed at improving services and supports for individuals with disabilities.

Kentucky Advisory Council on Autism

Subcommittee Co-Chair/UK Representative/Self-Advocate / 2025-present

Subcommittee Co-Chair for Adolescent/Adult committee, primarily focusing on self-advocacy resources for autistic self-advocates and advising on transition resources for young, autistic adults.

Common Good

Mentor / 2023-2024

Mentored kindergarten and first grade students one day per week at the non-profit, Common Good, in the North Limestone neighborhood of Lexington, KY, during their summer program in 2023 and 2024 and during their after school program during the spring semester of 2024.

National Society of Collegiate Scholars

Treasurer / 2018-2019

Calculated and monitored budget for University of Tennessee-Knoxville's chapter of NSCS. Approved all purchases and assisted executive board members in planning events.

Lake Forest Presbyterian Church

Vacation Bible School Music Director / 2014-2019

Taught music and choreography to children ages 3 years old-5th grade. Coordinated performance each summer.

Presbytery of East Tennessee

Youth Council Representative / 2015-2016

Coordinated and planned youth events for the presbytery. Led small groups at Youth Summit and middle school camp.

Professional References

Alaine Reschke-Hernández, PhD,
MT-BC
Associate professor of Music Therapy
University of Kentucky School of Music
Alaine.ReschkeHernandez@uky.edu

Erin Batkiewicz, MM, MT-BC
Music Therapist
Central Kentucky Creative Therapies
Erin@ckctherapies.com