

Kamile Geist, Ph.D., MT-BC is a Professor and Director of the Music Therapy graduate and undergraduate programs at Ohio University, where she has been faculty for 17 years, 9 years as director. Dr. Geist received her undergraduate degree in Music Education from Baylor University, a master's in Music Therapy from Texas Woman's University and a doctorate from Ohio University in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in Educational Research Methodology.

Dr. Geist is known for her research on the impact music-based rhythmic strategies can have on learning, stress, attention, and social-emotional behaviors for infants, young children, caregivers, and teachers. She presents about her research around the globe, including in Spain, Mexico, Colombia, Scotland, Ecuador and Austria. Her interdisciplinary research has been funded by the Ohio University Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, the College of Fine Arts, the Patton College of Education, the 1804 Fund, the Baker Fund, the Ohio University Innovation Strategy, the Ohio University Research Council's (OURC) new community projects grant, and most recently by the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2017, Dr. Geist received the American Music Therapy Association - Great Lakes Region Outstanding Researcher Award.

Dr. Geist's current scholarship and research focuses on using music to help improve attention behaviors of children and attachment behaviors between infants and caregivers. She leads an interdisciplinary team in collaboration with the Ohio University Heritage College of Medicine (OU-HCOM), College of Arts and Sciences, and the Patton College of Education to study the effect of a rhythmic intervention on caregivers' attachment behaviors and stress hormone levels when interacting with their infants. With recent funding from the NEA and the OURC, she and her team are expanding their work to community populations in rural Ohio and surrounding areas.