The Program for Music, Mind & Society at Vanderbilt (MMS)  
ViA Award, Cycle 2015

What We Do:

The Program for Music, Mind & Society at Vanderbilt (MMS) is a trans-institutional incubator program that seeks to create new and valuable knowledge about how music impacts our brains, mind, health and behavior by interweaving perspectives, methods and information from multiple disciplines. We have initiated new studies and elevated existing music research initiatives into a dynamic campus-wide network that facilitates discovery, learning and outreach.

MMS research topics funded by our TIPs award include:

• Neural and genetic basis of rhythm and grammar
• New musical interventions (SERENADE and MILEStone) aimed at addressing language and developmental disorders in children
• Collaborative songwriting as a tool to help soldiers struggling with PTSD
• Joint music-making to promote prosocial behavior in children

Visit www.vanderbilt.edu/musicmindsociety/research to learn more about dozens of other MMS research projects!

Why We Do It:

• Music can be harnessed to answer fundamental questions about the human brain, advance medical research and treatment, improve K-12 education, create trans-institutional immersive student opportunities and forge stronger bonds with Nashville’s vibrant arts community.

• Our multi-disciplinary strengths, Music City location and broad array of applied music-related research make MMS a uniquely Vanderbilt program. We now have a timely opportunity to become an international leader in this area: through MMS, Vanderbilt is now “on the map” in the global field of music cognition!

Who’s Involved?

MMS Faculty: Reyna Gordon (Otolaryngology; Associate Director, MMS; PI, ViA renewal proposal, 2017); Ron Eavey (Otolaryngology; PI, 2015 ViA); Mark Wallace (Graduate School); Elisabeth Dykens (VKC); Jay Clayton (Curb Center); Miriam Lense (Otolaryngology); Nancy Cox (Genetics Institute); Melissa Rose (Blair); David Zald (Psychology); Christopher Stecker (Hearing & Speech Sciences); Duane Watson (Psychology & Human Development); Philippe Fauchet (Engineering); Emelyne Bingham (Blair); Marianne Ploger (Blair); Joseph Schlesinger (Anesthesiology); Blythe Corbett (Psychiatry); and many other faculty, student and staff collaborators across campus.

The Vanderbilt Music Cognition Lab is the discovery and logistical hub of MMS, where Drs. Gordon & Lense lead a group of over 25 students from a diverse array of degree programs.

Learn more at:
www.vanderbilt.edu/musicmindsociety