

# Dynamic Lynks

## National Roster Internship Fact Sheet

### **Name and address of internship site**

Dynamic Lynks  
1100 Lake St., Suite LL65,  
Oak Park, IL 60301

### **Internship Director Contact:**

Ava Marvin, MT-BC, CYT200  
[ava@dynamiclynks.com](mailto:ava@dynamiclynks.com)  
+1 (815)-260-9942

- **Description of population served:**
  - At Dynamic Lynks we serve a variety of populations and settings. Though primarily we serve early childhood, children, and adolescents with Autism through our private clinic. We also serve many school districts in the Chicagoland area. Additionally we work with some adult day programs for adults with disabilities.
  
- **Description of entry level requirements/competencies (e.g.: examples of experience and/or recommended skills (music, clinical, professional, etc.) which may be needed for your specific population)**
  - A deep understanding of neurodiversity and passion for serving a neurodiverse population
  - Strong original songwriting skills
  - A positive, energetic and professional attitude
  - An understanding of providing holistic, person-centered, strength-based treatment plan
  - Experience and ability designing creative and original session interventions
  - Clinical practicum experience with early childhood and school aged children
  - Strong clinical writing skills
  - Prompt and professional communication skills
  
- **How entry level requirements/competencies will be evaluated (e.g.: interview, audition, on-site visit)**

- Intern will be expected to submit a written application answering questions and submit a video recording demonstrating musical skills, after review of those materials the candidate may be invited to interview either in person at our center in Oak Park, IL or virtually over Zoom. The interview will continue to provide an opportunity to evaluate musicianship, creativity, knowledge of working with neurodiverse populations, professionalism and communication skills.
- **Description of the internship experience.** What should the intern expect to do at your internship program?
  - The intern can expect a positive supportive learning environment and the opportunity to receive training and supervision from several of our highly skilled music therapist staff.
  - Our practice and our team members are LGBTQ+ affirming
  - The intern will have the opportunity to work with groups and individual sessions in schools, day programs, in client homes, and in our Oak Park center. Traveling independently or with the supervisor to different locations for sessions is necessary.
  - During the first few weeks on the internship, the intern will spend time observing sessions and completing related readings and assignments to prepare the intern for the rest of the internship.
  - Gradually under the supervision of the MT-BC, the intern will begin leading interventions in sessions, designing original interventions.
  - By the end of the internship, the intern will be expected to be leading sessions and managing their case-load (documentation, client communications, ect) completely independently before working with their supervisors to terminate and transfer the clients.
  - The intern will also receive supervision time with each of the music therapists they are working with.
  - At Dynamic Lynks, we have monthly team meetings where we all review a continuing education topic. The intern will be expected to present on a topic of interest and lead a team meeting by the end of the internship.
- **Whom will the intern work with?**
  - The intern will work with several of our board certified music therapists on our team. We want to make sure our interns see a variety of different styles so they have an opportunity for exploration with a variety of philosophies and approaches so that they may find their own. The intern will have one primary supervisor and then have additional supervision with the other clinicians working with them on their caseload.

- The intern will have the opportunity to work with groups and individual sessions in schools, day programs, in client homes, and in our Oak Park center. We mostly children and adolescents 3-18 with neuro developmental disabilities and/or mental health needs in our center and out at our contracts. There are some opportunities to work with adults as well.
- **List the number of hours of work per week, and any other information of interest.**
  - Full time, 30-40 hours a week for 8 months
    - We understand that not all students are able to commit to a 40 hours a week, full time internship. Please reach out to the internship director during the application process to discuss if we can meet your unique needs during the internship.
    - These hours ensure the intern receives at least a minimum of 900 hours or any greater length of time needed to fulfill the total AMTA clinical training requirement of 1200 hours.
    - The hours and time frames also account for time that our offices might be closed for seasonal events (for example: winter break, spring break or other holidays)
  - A third to one half of the weekly hours will be direct clinical contact hours and the other hours per week are for supervision, project and assignment work, session planning, travel, and other administrative duties.
- Describe the intern's schedule – will they be leading large groups? Small groups? Individual sessions?
  - The intern will work with a variety of different kinds of sessions including individual sessions, small groups (less than 5), mid-sized groups (5-10), and potentially large groups (10+, though due to Covid precautions we have not been having large groups).
- How much time will the intern spend with each MT-BC?
  - Depending on the size of the caseload the intern has with a specific supervisor, they will receive 30 mins to over an hour of 1:1 supervision. The intern will spend at least one hour of weekly supervision with the internship director regardless of case size.
- Describe your philosophy of music therapy and training interns for prospective applicants.
  - The therapists at Dynamic Lynks have a variety of philosophies and approaches. The internship director, Ava Marvin, practices music therapy with a Feminist philosophy. This philosophy is centered around

acknowledging the oppressive forces that affect our clients and then using music therapy to support clients' liberation.

- Just as we strive to create an accessible and neuro-affirming experience for our clients, we also try to make an accessible and supportive internship experience while maintaining our high standards of musical and clinical skills.
- What meetings, assignments, or projects will interns do while in your program?
  - The intern will be present at our monthly team meetings that cover continuing education topics. The intern will be expected to lead a team meeting and give a presentation on a topic of interest at this meeting at the end of their internship.
  - The intern will complete other supplementing assignments to support a deeper understanding of the populations we serve and the approaches our team specializes in.
  - Practicing musical skills to improve improvisation, repertoire, and other musical skills as needed.
  - Other assignments and reading will be given to the intern based on their unique learning goals as well.
- Description of professional staff working with the intern (list music therapy staff and describe all other professional disciplines with whom the student would have contact/interaction during internship)
  - Our full time music therapy staff will be working with the interns either as direct supervisors or more indirectly.
  - Currently our full time staff of music therapists consist of the internship director (Ava Marvin), our Owner Alyssa Stone, and Deborah Soszko.
  - The intern would have the opportunity to work in schools. In the school setting the intern would be interacting with teachers, teacher assistants, and paraprofessionals.
  - The interns may also have the opportunity to communicate with other members of a client treatment team such as their Speech Therapist or Physical Therapist.
- List other on-site student training programs (e.g., does your site also train occupational/physical therapy students, social work interns, nursing students, medical interns, etc?)
  - NA
- List other on-site educational programs offered at or near your site (e.g.: inservices, professional conferences, workshops, educational meetings, etc.)

- We have monthly team meetings that cover a continuing education topic. These meetings are closed and just for Dynamic Lynks team members (employees, students, and interns).
- Information on the following items: available housing, meals, stipend, transportation and liability insurance. Indicate whether these items are available or not.
  - At this time housing, meals, and stipends are not available through Dynamic Lynks.
  - Monthly travel/transportation stipend may be available depending on case load
  - Having your own car/transportation is a great plus and will give the student more independence and convenience, but not a requirement.
  - Liability insurance coverage is provided by Dynamic Lynks
- Other applicable site-specific administrative requirements that will affect acceptance to internship: State what requirements need to be met/approved prior to the intern's start date as applicable (legal affiliation agreement, CPR training, health and drug screen, finger printing, criminal background check, etc). **Please state if any of the listed items will require related fees to be paid by the intern.**
  - A Legal Affiliation Agreement will be made between the intern's academic institution music therapy department head and the Dynamic Lynks Internship Director
  - Some school contracts the intern may have on their caseload may require fingerprinting, background check, and substitute registration. Dynamic Lynks will cover any costs associated with these.