

August 2026



Communicator

MTF at AMTA 2026 National Convention

Massage Therapy Foundation Board and staff are gearing up for the excitement of attending the **American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) 2026 National Convention in Denver, CO!**

MTF is thrilled to announce that during the convention (August 27-29), **AMTA is generously MATCHING your donations to MTF, up to 30k total!** Double your impact for massage therapy research, education, and community service initiatives during this limited time!



If you are in attendance, stop by the **MTF booth #316** and pick up some awesome MTF swag with your donation—we have new t-shirts and stickers in stock (must be in attendance to receive gift with donation).

Not attending? Watch for a link via email August 27 (or click below) to make your online gift—and have it matched 100% by AMTA.

[Match Link](#)

Be sure to check out the **MTF Research Poster Session**, where nearly 30 new and encore posters will be on display. The posters cover a variety of massage research topics, and many feature accompanying video abstracts where you can hear more from the authors.

Thursday the 27th from 1-3pm, MTF Trustee Robin Miccio will present, "**Advancing Practice-Based Research: Massage Therapists' Role in MassageNet Case Series Studies**," discussing current Massagenet projects and ways that clinicians can get involved.

Immediately after, from 3:30-5:30pm, Miccio will moderate, "**Research Discussion: Trauma-Informed, Culturally-Responsive Massage Therapy for Survivors of Violence**," a discussion of the AMTA-funded MTF Research Grant to the Center for Victims of Torture.

We look forward to the impactful presentations and in-person discussions!

[AMTA Convention Site](#)

2026 MTF Community Service Awardees Selected



MTF announces the selection of two Community Service Awards for the 2026 cycle. Awards support organizations which provide therapeutic massage to people who face barriers to access due to cost, location, trauma, or other life circumstances. The awards are:

SOMAMU: A Trauma-Informed Massage Therapy Project for 30 Displaced Women in Northern Greece

Irida Women's Center, Thessaloniki, Macedonia, Greece
\$20,000

This award is sponsored in part by a gift from Biotone

Healing Touch: Massage Therapy in Odesa Region

Angels of the Future/Ukrainian Medical Center for Rehabilitation of Mother and Child, Odesa, Ukraine
\$19,800

[Learn More](#)

Perch: Research Literacy in Entry-Level Massage Education



New *Research Perch*! Research literacy is a systematic process for finding information that can help inform clinical care. In this episode with Annie LaCroix and Dr. Niki Munk, **learn about the importance of teaching research literacy to entry-level massage therapy students, and how instructors can use MTF resources** to help students learn to find, access, and assess the integrity of research and apply it in meaningful ways.

[Check Out Research Perch](#)

New CE Courses From IMTRC

Expand your knowledge and earn 1CE per course! These sessions were originally presented at MTF's 2025 International Massage Therapy Research Conference:



Insights from the *International Journal of Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork* (IJTMB) Editors

Published research is one way massage therapists can engage with and contribute to the profession's evidence base, but scientific publishing and related processes can feel unclear or challenging, especially for clinicians new to academic writing.

In this session sponsored by Registered Massage Therapists Association of British Columbia (RMTBC), hear from current and former editors from

IJTMB as they share common challenges and practical strategies to turn your ideas into publishable work. Plus, learn how *IJTMB* supports reviewers, readers, and authors alike, making massage therapy research dissemination accessible for everyone in the profession.

[Buy Now](#)



Massage Therapy's Impact: Evidence from Palliative Care, Chronic Neck Pain, and Addiction Research

Today's patients are more complex than ever, often managing multiple health concerns such as chronic pain, serious illness, and substance use disorders. Hear from leading massage therapy researchers as they share findings from clinical trials focused on real-world massage therapy applications.

[Buy Now](#)



www.IJTMB.org

International Journal of
Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork

Call for Papers
IJTMB Special Issue on
Pain Management & Pain Science



Awards and Contests

The following MTF awards and contests are open for applications:

- **2027 Research Grant:** application cycle opens September 1, 2026
- **2027 Case Report Contest:** Submit year-round—next deadline June 1, 2027

[SUBMIT YOUR CASE REPORT](#)



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