Who are the Sights & Sounds Staff?

Music Therapist
Erin Heaslips, MM, MT-BC
Neurologic Music Therapy Fellow
Erin is a board certified music therapist who received her undergraduate degree from Ithaca College and her master’s degree from the University of Miami. She has 10 years experience working with children and adults in various settings, including but not limited to private special education schools, inpatient psychiatric facilities, and outpatient centers. She has also served on the New Jersey Association for Music Therapy board as the personal relations chair since 2012.

Art Therapist
Gabriella D’Amato, MPS, ATR
Gabriella is a registered Creative Arts Therapist who received her Bachelors in Art Education from Marywood University and her Masters of Professional Studies from Pratt Institute. She has worked with children dealing with emotional trauma, homeless and at risk senior citizens, individuals within an inpatient psychiatric and detox facility, as well as patients with delirium and other neurological disorders. Gabriella looks forward to bringing art therapy to the individuals at The Arc, by providing opportunities for self expression, social interaction, sensory integration and more.

Celebrating over 65 years in the community, The Arc of Union County is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to enriching the lives of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and assisting their families in promoting the quality of their care and support.

The mission of The Arc of Union County’s Sights & Sounds Program is to empower and support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with opportunities for personal expression, creative outlet and growth.

For More Information Contact:
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The mission of Sights & Sounds is to empower and support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with opportunities for personal expression, creative outlet and growth. Sights & Sounds promotes access to the arts, enriches cultural understanding, and supports community integration and acceptance.

The Music Therapy Program at The Arc of Union County is designed to provide a fun, safe, success-oriented and creative platform for individuals to express themselves while developing communication and social skills.

The music therapist at The Arc of Union County uses music to assess, address and evaluate progress towards individualized goals. Music therapy activities and interventions are based on the individuals needs and utilize music composition, singing, moving with music, and playing and listening to music.

Individuals engaged in the adult day habilitation programs are scheduled to visit the music & art therapy programs in small groups with their peers. Small groups are designed to address individual & group skill development within a supportive social environment.

Sights & Sounds addresses the following skill areas:

- Communication & social skill development
- Activities of daily living
- Self-regulation & sensory integration
- Creative expression & emotional support
- Self-esteem & confidence building
- Fine & gross motor functions