

2026 WAMFT Board Applicants

President-Elect Board Member

Trevor White



This is a consequential moment for WAMFT. We are turning 50, newly a 501(c)(3), and facing rapid changes to society and our profession that nobody was planning for five years ago. Decisions made in the next few years will shape our future.

I know that because I've spent the past year interviewing former WAMFT presidents about their own consequential moments for our 50th anniversary podcast series. I heard the same pattern again and again: the licensure campaign, creating scholarships, changing board structures, transitioning to an Independent Affiliate, leading through 2020. Each one was a decision made without knowing how it would turn out.

I'm running for President-Elect because I want to be useful to what comes next.

For the past decade I've built and run Constellation Therapy Seattle, a couples-focused group practice that has been financially sustainable and grown every year. I carry a caseload and supervise interns and associates. I've presented on infidelity and ethics across the country, and recently delivered the Georgia MFT annual conference keynote. Since January 2025 I've served on the WAMFT board as Technology Chair and started our Podcast "It's All Relational".

That's what I'd bring: a clinician who has met payroll, a board member who knows how this organization works, and someone who has spent a year listening to its history from the people who lived it.

Three things I want to work on.

Tools for therapists to build thriving careers. Most of us were trained to do good clinical work and left to figure out the rest alone. Whether you're negotiating a salary at an agency or setting rates in private practice, WAMFT can be the place where you learn how to make this career sustainable.

A legislative focus on AI. Artificial intelligence is already reshaping how people seek help with their relationships. This is territory I work in, which is how I know how fast it's moving. The licensure protections earlier leaders fought for weren't written with this in mind, and we should be at the table in Olympia while these questions are still open.

Financial stability for our new 501(c)(3). An organization dependent on a single revenue stream is one bad year from trouble. Diversifying what supports WAMFT is what makes advocacy, training, and community possible for the long run, and our new tax structure creates real opportunities to do it. There are far more MFTs in Washington than there are WAMFT members, and every one of them has a stake in what we do here. I want to grow our membership by making WAMFT worth joining.

Every president I interviewed for our anniversary podcast this year led through something difficult. They made decisions not everyone agreed with, without knowing how they would turn out, because they were focused on what the profession would need long after their terms ended. That's how this association got to fifty. I'd like the chance to help it get to a hundred.

I'd be honored to have your vote.

At-Large Board Member

Ashley Mason



My longstanding interest in government and policy originated in high school, where I was Co-Secretary General of our regional Model United Nations, leading over 300 student delegates. Additionally, I participated as a delegate in Harvard Model United Nations for multiple years. During college, I completed courses that provided deep analysis and study abroad opportunities to international regions that face challenging sovereignty situations and met with leaders from advocacy organizations.

My internship and associate years were primarily spent at a community mental health agency serving diverse clientele in an underserved community, where I began to specialize in early childhood and infant mental health. This work continued to open my eyes to systemic challenges that families face from their earliest years. While employed at a pediatric clinic, I established a graduate level clinical internship program, providing supervision to

MFT interns. During this time, I earned my AAMFT Approved Supervisor designation and supervised LMFTAs.

Later in my career, I entered into academia as part-time faculty, where I subsequently ascended into the role of full-time faculty and the Art Therapy Program Director for several years at Antioch University; leading a diverse team of faculty and working closely with students within the Couple and Family Therapy/Art Therapy (CFT/AT) program. In an academic leadership position, I was faced with new systemic challenges to navigate and overcome to continue to support the needs of the faculty and students. I successfully led the art therapy program's Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) accreditation process through initial self-study and subsequent annual reports. In collaboration with CFT leadership, I planned and developed the curriculum for the CFT/AT low-residency meeting the educational standards from COAMFTE and CAAHEP.

Now, as I've worked as an LMFT and Board-Certified Registered Art Therapist (ATR-BC) for over a decade in a variety of role, each role has deepened my passion for the field and highlighted necessary changes to improve both the practice of MFT and accessibility of services for clients. I have honed in on my calling to be a voice for clinicians, students, and the clients we serve. I have furthered my education in this direction with a Certificate of Graduate Studies in Public Administration from Seattle University. The courses included: Foundations of Public Administration, Human Resource Management, Policy Process, and Budgeting and Financial Management.

In August of 2026, I was appointed as Legislative Committee Co-Chair. Since then, I have risen to fulfill the immediate requirements of the position, including applying for AAMFT Foundational Funding, collaborating with our lobbyist, and joining forces with leaders from other professional mental health organizations in the State to amplify our voice in Olympia.

I believe my variety of clinical, academic, and leadership experiences, as well as my knowledge in government and policy process, have become my greatest strengths in continuing this next step in helping to advocate for MFTs in Washington State and beyond. I seek your support and vote for me to continue in my role as Board Member At-Large and Legislative Committee Co-Chair.

Brandon Root



In acting class, I kept meeting fellow union members who had no idea what the union did for them. Free marketing classes, financial wellness workshops, and self-tape studios sat empty. On SAG-AFTRA's Los Angeles Local Communications Committee, I built a presentation crossreferencing how younger performers get their information with our membership data. My closing point was simple: a benefit no one knows about is no benefit at all.

WAMFT has real value for its members, and I want more of us to find it. I've started where I am. At Seattle University, a classmate and I organized two socials for our incoming cohort. When I learned about this election, I reached out to program directors and friends at MFT programs across Washington to increase the opportunities to elect diverse members to our board. And after meeting board members at WAMFT's annual conference, I started lining up a speaker to answer my class's questions about clinical internships.

As At-Large Board Member, I'll take that work beyond my own program, starting by listening to WAMFT members about what they need, and to the board about what's already been tried.

I'll help make sure our communications respect the packed, often burnout-adjacent lives our members are facing. Making quickly scannable communications means you can stay engaged with WAMFT and have more time for what matters most: your clients and their care.

Washington's new law on AI companion chatbots, which takes effect in January bans “manipulative engagement techniques” only for minors. I will work to ensure modern technologies positioning themselves as doing therapeutic work follow the same ethical standards imposed on human beings, and that they offer accessibility and pathways to human help, as opposed to replacement. I will also keep membership updated on AAMFT's fight in court to have MFT degrees recognized as the professional degrees they are, which would more than double new students' federal loan limits.

I've seen what happens when good resources sit empty. I'm Brandon Root, and I hope I can count on your vote (and your attendance!) as we strengthen and grow WAMFT as a place of professional connection for the next generation of systemic clinicians.

Tamura Turney

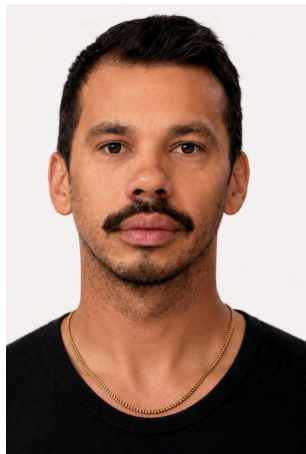


As any systemic thinker knows, we walk in the footsteps of those who come before us. My work as an MFT is only possible because of all the work, support and advocacy of the MFTs who have supervised and trained me, and those who have worked tirelessly to promote change at higher levels in our professional communities. At this stage in my career as an MFT, I am finding joy and inspiration in being able to support the newest generation of therapists in entering this field with hopefully more resourcing and a stronger foundation than was afforded me and my peers coming out of grad school. I am running to serve as the newest WAMFT At-Large Board Member in hopes of having a larger impact in doing just that: collaborating with other board members in addressing the concerns of all of our members, and finding ways to help us all experience greater connection and support in doing the meaningful work we do every day.

Prior to entering the MFT field, I was considering pursuing a law degree and spent many years working at different law firms. Through that experience my passion for helping people and doing work with individual systems was confirmed, and a deep appreciation for the value of understanding and advocating for change in the policies that impact those systems was sparked. Studying and practicing as an MFT today highlights the importance of staying current with the ever-changing legal landscape and doing our part to voice the growing needs of our clients, and ourselves as professionals, in hopes of spurring change. It is more than important; it's our ethical duty. The demands for our services are growing while the resources for doing the work well are limited. Having participated in The Day on The Hill event, I am grateful to have witnessed firsthand the incredible organization and collaboration WAMFT has brought to working in tandem with lawmakers in promoting meaningful change. The work that has been done in the past decade has proven that our voices matter and that change is possible. My desire in stepping into the At-Large Board Member and the legislative committee in a leadership role is to continue the good work already being done and to collaborate with other committee members to find creative ways to inform our members of important legislation, inspire more ways for us all to be involved in advocacy, and to bring the most pressing concerns to the desks of those in power.

Student Representative

Carlos Bermudez-Khan



I am running for WAMFT Student Representative because I want to strengthen the connection between MFT students, training programs, and the professional community we are preparing to enter. As a first-year Couples and Family Therapy student at Seattle University, I am experiencing firsthand how much there is to navigate, from internship placement to licensure and professional identity development.

My path into MFT was not direct. Before graduate school, I spent a decade working across technology, community organizations, and high-growth companies. I built a career I was proud of, but over time I became burned out and realized that what mattered most was rarely the product or metric. It was the relational work: building trust, helping people navigate uncertainty, developing teams, and creating community. Eventually, I knew it was time to make that the focus of my work.

I began exploring behavioral health through the Washington Warm Line at Crisis Connections, and that experience was transformative. Peer support taught me the value of presence, mutuality, listening without taking over, and respecting people as experts in their own lives. I now work as a Mentor, supervising and training peer volunteers. That work has taught me what it means to serve peers well: listening for what people need, creating space for different perspectives, and knowing when to step forward and when to step back. I would bring that same approach to representing fellow MFT students.

I also bring experience in leadership, program-building, and strategic planning. Much of my career was spent in fast-moving environments where I had to learn quickly, build from ambiguity, gather input in real time, and turn broad goals into workable systems. I was hired to support the launch of TikTok Shop in the U.S., joined Hipcamp in its early years as it developed a peer-to-peer camping marketplace, and held senior roles at Amazon leading complex, cross-functional work. Those experiences taught me how to move quickly without losing sight of people and build alignment across different perspectives.

As a queer, neurodiverse, cis man of color, I bring lived experience of navigating identity, belonging, and spaces where people like me have not always been well represented. I am also aware of the privilege I carry. I do not see my identities as giving

me a complete view of what students need. I want to help create a table where more people are present and different experiences are taken seriously.

What excites me most is the opportunity to help build a stronger professional community for all of us. I want you to know students outside your program, learn from practicing MFTs, and feel that your experiences have a meaningful place in WAMFT conversations. It has taken a lot for us to get here, and I am excited to be part of this field with you. If you choose me to represent you, I will bring my experience, remain open to learning from you, and work to make this profession more connected, representative, accessible, and navigable.

Nat Farison



The next generation of Marriage and Family Therapists are entering the field in a social and geopolitical context unlike any in our history: one which challenges our notions of normalcy and our certainty of our profession's future. It's more important than ever that those leaving our state's esteemed Marriage and Family Therapy programs are equipped with the tools to navigate this new world with both confidence and compassion. I believe that my experiences as a current MFT student and my skills from my previous career in public health equip me with a valuable perspective for these conversations. As students, we tend to cloister in our universities, but attending this year's WAMFT conference made me realize how wide the world of our profession is, and how much students can benefit from being more aware of and connected to WAMFT as they navigate their education and early careers. If elected, I hope to encourage increased student participation in WAMFT activities and explore opportunities for greater collaboration across the state.

Elections Committee

Elizabeth Blumhorst



Since becoming a member in 2021 I have enjoyed the community that WAMFT offers to its members. I hope to support this community more directly through joining the elections committee.

Before grad school I worked in a community mental health organization as a supervisor where I led a team of six staff in their work supporting clients with their mental health and employment goals. I also spent several years volunteering with a chamber of commerce where I honed my networking skills. As a graduate student I organized a volunteer project for MFT students which supported families experiencing housing insecurity in King County. I joined the Creative Art Therapies Student Association (CATSA) leadership team for two years organizing events, connecting with students, and promoting educational opportunities for students. All of these roles required connection, collaboration, and organization, skills that I developed and would bring to the elections committee.

Connecting with fellow MFTs is my favorite part of participating as a WAMFT member. While attending the most recent conference, I realized that I had been a participant at WAMFT conferences for four consecutive years. Reflecting on my time in WAMFT has deepened my appreciation for the connections I have developed at various events. It is this appreciation that helped to inspire me to apply for the elections committee position. If elected, I will strive to give back to the community that supported me through graduate school, internship, and associateship. I look forward to strengthening connections with members and supporting the elections process to develop the future of WAMFT leadership.