



Wind Chest, American Organ Institute, University of Oklahoma

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Susannah
Cleveland, MLA
President

As we prepare for MLA later this month (where has the time gone??), I wanted to remind you of a few things related to the meeting and catch you up on Board activities.

First, for this meeting, we are asking members to consider the needs of colleagues who have medical concerns like asthma and migraines that can be triggered by alcohol-borne scents and refrain from wearing

perfumes, colognes, or strongly scented oils during the annual meeting, if the purpose of the scent is aesthetic only and not part of a cultural or spiritual belief. We are not creating a policy for this now, merely asking folks to think about how personal choices can have a negative effect on our peers and to act thoughtfully.

This is also a good time to remind our members of the [Music Library Association Code of Conduct](#) that is designed to create a collegial environment for all attendees. Specifically, harassment is described in the code:

Activities that may constitute harassment include, but are not limited to, offensive verbal comments related to gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, race, religion, age, national origin (ancestry), pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, or other group identity, as well as actions such as deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention.

At the same time, the Code of Conduct does note that, "Discussion or critical examination of viewpoints, as well as the use of sexual imagery or language, may not, by itself, and in the context of

professional discourse, constitute harassing or hostile behavior." If you experience or witness behavior that you think qualifies as harassment during our meeting, please let me or another member of the Board know as soon as possible.

In other news, this meeting will be the first time that our newly appointed Strategic Planning Task Force will be meeting together face-to-face. Holling Smith-Borne (our Strategic Planning Task Force chair) and I put out a call for volunteers in the late fall and were excited by the volunteers we received. After recruiting a couple more members to widen representation, we finalized the group with the following membership: Erin Conor, Terry Lewis, Ruthann McTyre, Chuck Peters, Charley Roush, Lisa Shiota, and Matthew Vest. Their charge is as follows:

The Strategic Planning Task Force shall create a strategic plan for the organization for 2021-2030. As part of this process, the Task Force will develop a) four or five main goal areas, and b) two to three measurable and actionable annual objectives for each goal area. All goals and objectives should reflect the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion. This plan should incorporate input from the membership through several feedback opportunities. Once the plan is drafted and approved, the larger goal areas will be reevaluated every three years by the Planning Committee, incorporating new information from the organization's regular Climate Surveys and updating and rolling over the goal areas as necessary. The annual objectives will also be evaluated annually by the Planning Committee at each Spring Board Meeting.

Please let them or me know if you have any concerns you'd like to see addressed as part of the strategic-planning process.

And finally, I wanted to be sure that everyone was aware of a new initiative that the Board voted on last year and that we'll be implementing this year. We

have decided to do a pilot to make a place for a student or early-career member on the Board. The intent of this effort is to capture the feedback of those new to and entering into the profession of music librarianship while also helping newer members to gain an early insight into how the organization functions.

Because a change to the voting membership of the Board requires a change to the constitution, we're trying this now with the student serving as a non-voting member and, if it goes well, put the proposed change to the membership for a vote at the conclusion of a three-year pilot. If it passed as a constitutional amendment, the new Board member would have full voting rights.

This will be a one-year appointment to allow for the swift transitions during this part of a person's

career. Candidates for this position must qualify for early-career or student membership status in MLA and be a member in good standing in the relevant category. MLA will cover the usual members-at-large travel for this member for board meetings (Spring/Summer in Middleton; Fall somewhere else; Winter at the annual meeting) as outlined in the [Administrative Handbook](#). The elected member will have regular duties assigned to them and will get to choose between serving on the Board's Planning Committee or Finance Committee. We're still finalizing details ahead of our upcoming election this spring/summer, so it's possible the position might still evolve a bit in the meantime.

I can't tell you how much I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Norfolk in a few weeks. Until then, I wish you happy Winters with exactly the amount of snow you prefer.

MLA Norfolk 2020

First, the business...

INVOICES AND RECEIPTS FOR MLA NORFOLK 2020

from James Zychowicz, MLA Business Office

Invoices and receipts for registration to the Music Library Association's annual meeting are available on the [MLA website](#). Sign in to the site, visit your profile, and select "Manage Profile." From the "Invoicing, Payments & History" area, select "Invoices." If there are any open invoices, you may open it and print to send with a check or proceed with paying online. To view any receipts, change the "Filter by status" drop-down menu from "Open" to "Any status." Questions? Send a message to the [MLA Business Office](#).

HILTON EXERTING POWER OVER STRIPS

from Andrew Justice, MLA Assistant Convention Manager

The Hilton has informed us in no uncertain terms that we are NOT to bring our own power strips for the conference -- reasons cited include defective ones blowing the power and the hotel's liability if someone should trip on a cord and injure themselves.

For committees and other group meetings, they offer rentals at the *sensible* rate of \$25 per day, per power strip. Given the number of such entities within MLA, there's not enough contingency in the conference budget to guarantee this for everything.

If you are concerned about this and haven't already discussed with Wendy Sistrunk (MLA Convention Manager) please feel free to email [Andrew Justice](#) (MLA Assistant Convention Manager) to coordinate.

MLA CAREER ADVISORY SERVICE AVAILABLE IN-PERSON IN NORFOLK

from Jan Guise, MLA Career Advisory Service Coordinator

The Career Advisory Service is now accepting requests for in-person consultations at the Norfolk meeting! Please sign up for this service by Friday, February 21 (the conference starts the following week).

The Career Advisory Service is sponsored by the Career Development and Services Committee of the Music Library Association, and it seeks to address the need for advice and discussions about professions in music librarianship.

Experienced librarians across many specialties have volunteered to be advisors. Anyone interested in music librarianship at any stage of their career is welcome to use this service year-round. However, our annual meetings present a unique opportunity to meet with an advisor in person.

To request a consultation at the Norfolk meeting (or at any other time), please see the [Advisor Bios](#) for a list of advisors in various specialties and then [send me an email](#) with your request. I will contact your requested advisor and, if available, the advisor will contact you to set up a meeting. Not sure which advisor is right for you? Send me a request anyway and we'll figure it out together.

All advising sessions are held in the strictest confidence.

OPPORTUNITY FOR HIRING INSTITUTIONS TO ENGAGE WITH POTENTIAL PERSONNEL

from Sara Outhier, MLA Placement Officer

The Eastman School of Music and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will conduct informal information sessions with interested job seekers at MLA Norfolk 2020. These are not formal interviews, but question and answer sessions about the position and the institution. Most sessions will be scheduled for 30 minutes, but may be shortened to accommodate more people.

[Associate Dean/Head Librarian](#)

Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester
Representative: Sandy Lemmon

[Music and Media Program Head](#)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Representative: Nina Davis-Millis

Email [Sara Outhier](#) (MLA Placement Officer) to schedule an appointment by **Friday, February 21, 2020**. Meetings with the representative(s) will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis; late requests will be accommodated if possible. Sign-up and scheduling will be kept confidential; however, if you forget your scheduled time, a copy will be kept discreetly at the Placement Service table during the conference.

CANCELLED CRAWL

from Chuck Peters, Organ Crawl Coordinator

The expected date of the organ crawl for the MLA Norfolk 2020 Annual Meeting prevent area organists from opening their instruments to the audience of MLA organists. If you registered for the MLA Norfolk 2020 organ crawl, don't worry: there's nothing you need to do.

Thanks to those who assisted with plans for the organ crawl: Janice Bunker (Brigham Young University), Carla Williams (Ohio University), and Janet Scott (Indiana University). Look forward to visiting the remarkable instruments when the organ crawl resumes at MLA Cincinnati 2021!

BUY SOMETHING!

<http://www.cafepress.com/shopmla>

SILENT AUCTION OFFERS THE BEST

from the MLA Marketing Subcommittee

What do the collected works of C.P.E. Bach, bourbon balls, and a pink corset have in common? Each of these fabulous items has been available at MLA's Silent Auction for purchase or in a raffle! The Marketing Subcommittee is looking forward to another great year of matching hard-to-find (and possibly, hard-to-explain items) with a loving, new owner and, at the same time, raising money for our beloved MLA.

How can you be a part of this philanthropic event? It is so easy! Just follow these steps:

- Select item(s) and/or services to donate
- For each item, fill out the [online registration form](#)
- Bring your item(s) to the Silent Auction table at the Annual Meeting in Norfolk on Wednesday, February 26 (2:00-10:00 p.m.) or Thursday, February 27 (9:00 a.m.-noon)
- Stop by the Silent Auction tables and bid on those items that speak to you!
- More detailed information can be found on MLA's page [Donate to the Silent Auction](#)

Past best sellers include:

- Hand-crafted items (you knitters and jewelry-making artists know who you are)
- Music-themed gifts (ties & socks with notation, composer's mugs, money clips shaped like treble clefs)
- Regional consumables (local hot sauces, coffees, candies, wines, craft beers, and other popular adult beverages)
- Dance lesson before the closing reception
- Foot massage after the closing reception
- Scores, books, and AV are *always* popular
- Foundation garments (see above)

The MLA Marketing Subcommittee

Liza Weisbrod

Allison Rae

Paula Hickner

SILENT AUCTION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY DURING MLA NORFOLK 2020

from the MLA Marketing Subcommittee

The Marketing Subcommittee needs your help! We are looking for volunteers to staff the Silent Auction tables during our meeting in Norfolk this month. It's a great way to meet other MLA-ers, support MLA's fund raising activities, and see all the fabulous merchandise up close.

The following hours are available:

Wednesday

- 7-8 p.m.
- 9:30-10 p.m.

Thursday

- 9-10 a.m.
- 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
- 1-2 p.m.
- 3-4:30 p.m.

Friday

- 11 a.m.-noon
- Noon-1:30 p.m.

If interested, please contact [Paula Hickner](#) (member, MLA Marketing Subcommittee) directly and include the hour or hours you wish to volunteer.

The first five volunteers to respond will receive a custom-made button of the Silent Auction's totally, like literally, unofficial 2020 mascot—CPE Bach in a pink corset with a bottle of bourbon. A true collector's item!

FIRST TIME HERE? WELCOME! THE FIRST-TIMERS RECEPTION IS JUST WHAT YOU NEED!

from Brendan Higgins and Jessica Abbazio, Co-Coordinators, New Members Forum

There will be a reception for first-time attendees at **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26th, 2020**. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the conference, hear about some ways to get involved with the organization, and to meet some new music librarian friends - both other first timers and some seasoned conference attendees! Oh, and eat some delicious food!

If you have tried to attend this reception last year but couldn't due to arriving too late, please know that you're encouraged to attend this year! We would love to meet you and provide you the opportunity to network with others and learn more about the organization. If you fall into this category (or would just like to attend), please feel free to contact [Brendan Higgins](#) (Co-Coordinator, New Members Forum) to get on the list.



Image by [Gordon Johnson](#) from [Pixabay](#)

And, the reminders...

Weather

- You can scope out the weather from your favorite source. The Weather Channel predict temps. in the 40s and even 60s. If you wish to do much walking around outside, do bring your bumbershoot (umbrella), as there could be rain showers on occasion.

Conduct Awareness

- We will again be providing live-streaming of plenaries and other programs in the 4th Floor Salon E. While cameras will be focused on the primary speakers in the front of the room, session attendees may also be circumstantially recorded.
- We ask also that should you be a budding cinematographer and/or blogger, you please be respectful of any photographic restrictions, and first ask persons in your photographic shots for their permission.

Going Green

- In addition to our [online program](#), we will be offering a print program for those who want one. The print program is an option, and is not financed through your hard-won registration fees. If you don't want a print program or had indicated on your registration that you don't want one, and if perchance you are inadvertently handed one, please just hand it back (with that bright smile of yours!).
- For some years, we have not offered commemorative conference bags. If you need something in which to stash your loot, you will need to bring your own suitable conveyance. That said, ***if anyone wishes to recycle some their past bags to donate to a general pool, feel free to drop your donation at the registration desk.***

Sustenance

- The hotel has several dining establishments on the premises: Grain (a craft beer place on the 5th floor with outdoor fire-pit), Varia (a "speak-easy" vibe offering Italian fare and wood-fired pizzas – also a great little space for ordering wines by the glass), and Saltine (some of the best seafood and oysters in town). In addition, the ground floor hosts Norfolk's very first vegan restaurant, Fruitive. There should be something for all diets and palates. That said, there is plenty to choose from just outside the doors of the hotel and/or a short walk away.
- Speaking of food, we again will be reducing the amount of food offered at our morning and afternoon breaks ***somewhat.*** These really will be coffee breaks with some delectable food, but which won't be a substitute for a four-square meal. Grab a cup and a bite and schmooze with your hard-working exhibitors and with your friends, new and old. Our opening and closing receptions will offer mighty fine reception food and drinks.

Health & Safety

- There has been some concern expressed about flu season and the important precaution of keeping our hands washed and such. Please keep yourselves clean and healthy! To aid in the thwarting of germs, we will have extra napkins ***and*** those "donut" tissues available at all food stations. We hope you will use these and then throw them in the handy nearby receptacles when you're done. Or bring your own personal bedazzled napkin to use, but ***only*** for use at the food stations and not for wiping your nose 😊

*But then, the **food** and networking...*

MLStEP WILL ALSO MEET FOR DINNER

from Bonnie Finn, MLStEP Programming Officer

Are you attending MLA in Norfolk? In addition to the Music Library Student and Emerging Professionals (MLStEP) Interest Group meeting on Friday afternoon, we are gathering at the Brick Anchor Brew-House for Friday night dinner at 6:30 p.m.

[Please RSVP here.](#)

It is only a 5-minute walk from the hotel, and attendees will leave from the meeting hotel lobby at 6:15 for those that want to walk as a group. Otherwise, meet at the restaurant at 6:30 p.m.

NEMLA WILL MEET FOR DINNER

from Sarah Funke Donovan

Are you a New England Chapter of MLA (NEMLA) member (or interested in meeting NEMLA members) and attending the MLA annual meeting in Norfolk, VA? In lieu of a chapter meeting, NEMLA will have a chapter dinner on Thursday, February 27, at 7:00 p.m. at Brick Anchor Brew-House, 241 Granby Street. This brew-pub with a steampunk vibe has vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options and can accommodate our need for separate checks. It is about a 5-minute walk from the meeting hotel. Either meet us in the meeting hotel lobby at 6:45 p.m. to walk there with the group or meet at the restaurant for a 7:00 p.m. reservation. **RSVP by Thursday, Feb. 20** to [Sarah Funke Donovan](#).

DRINKS AND APPETIZERS ON ASP

from Danielle Relyea Sargent, Product Manager, Performing Arts, Alexander Street Press

New decade, new scene: we're swapping the Alexander Street breakfast for a Happy Hour in Norfolk! Please join us for drinks and appetizers on Friday, February 28, 5-7 p.m. at The Grain Rooftop Indoor Lounge at Hilton Norfolk The Main. Kindly [register](#) by Friday, February 21.

RILM PROVIDES LUNCH: RILM AT MLA 2020

from Elizabeth Martin-Ruiz, Sales, RILM International Center

RILM is looking forward to MLA 2020, where we will be sharing some exciting news and information. Of special note is the release of *RILM Music Encyclopedias* on our own platform, which builds on the functionalities we developed for *MGG Online*.

You are cordially invited to our luncheon presentation and Q&A, which will take place on Friday, February 28, from 12-2 p.m. in the Momentum Room, Norfolk the Main Hilton. [Please RSVP by February 21.](#)

For those who cannot attend or want to have an individualized discussion tailored towards the specific needs of their institution, RILM will also be offering one-on-one meetings throughout the conference. Aside from getting up-to-date on the developments of our resources and subscription options, we would also like to help your institution get the most out of their subscriptions. To book an appointment, email [Elizabeth Martin-Ruiz](#).

RIPM PROVIDES LUNCH

from Benjamin Knysak, Managing Associate Director, RIPM: Répertoire international de la presse musicale

You are invited to lunch with RIPM on Thursday, February 27, 12:30-2 p.m. in the Momentum Room, Hilton Norfolk The Main. Following lunch, Ben Knysak will discuss the *RIPM Jazz Periodicals* database--including a preview of forthcoming content and metadata updates--and highlight recent updates to the *RIPM Preservation Series* and the *RIPM Retrospective Index with Full Text*. Space is limited--[please RSVP before February 24](#).

PARTY AT MLA NORFOLK 2020

from Marci Cohen

After the MLA Big Band wraps up at the Saturday night closing reception, a group of attendees are putting together a set of rock songs to continue the entertainment. If you'd like to keep the party going longer, there are instruments (drum kit, electric guitar and bass, keyboard) and mics available for jamming. Make arrangements with your friends and colleagues in advance or just wait for spontaneous inspiration.

MLA Publications

MUSIC CATALOGING BULLETIN (MCB) AVAILABLE

The January 2020 issue (vol. 51, no. 1) and the February 2020 issue (vol. 51, no. 2) of the [Music Cataloging Bulletin](#), a monthly publication of the Music Library Association, are now available.

Paid Subscribers can access the *Music Cataloging Bulletin*. If you do not see the current issue in the list, please reload the page or clear your browser's cache.

For matters concerning subscription and online access, contact the Music Library Association Business Office (email: mla@areditions.com; phone: 608-836-5825). Comments concerning the content of the *Music Cataloging Bulletin* should be sent to Chris Holden, editor (email: christopher.david.holden@gmail.com, or chold@loc.gov; phone: 202-707-7874).

NOTES E-EDITION AVAILABLE

The newest [e-edition of Notes](#) is now available to members on the MLA website.

MLA members must log in to the MLA website in order to access *Notes* content on Project MUSE. Please contact [Anne Shelley](#) (*Notes* Assistant Editor for Electronic Vendors) with any questions.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: MLA TECHNICAL REPORTS...

The Music Library Association invites proposals for books to be published in the *MLA Technical Reports and Monographs in Music Librarianship Series*. Since 1973, the series has produced thorough, in-depth professional resources covering various aspects of music librarianship. Topics addressing trends in music research, the history of music librarianship, new media technology, metadata and cataloging issues, collection development, preservation, and facilities management are of particular interest. Both completed manuscripts and preliminary ideas on these and other topics are welcome.

The most recent titles in the series are *Music Description and Access: Solving the Puzzle of Cataloging* (vol. 34, 2017) by Jean Harden, *Information Literacy in Music: An Instructor's Guide* edited by Beth Christensen, Erin Conor, and Marian Ritter (vol. 35, 2018), and *A Music Librarian's Guide to Creating Videos and Podcasts* by Katie Buehner and Andrew Justice (vo. 36, 2018). Forthcoming additions to the series will include volumes on music data research management, notes for music catalogers, and careers in music libraries.

[Complete list of titles published in the series](#)

Subscriptions to the series may be made by contacting [A-R Editions](#).

All submissions and inquiries should be directed to [Jonathan Saucedo](#) (*MLA Technical Reports and Monographs in Music Librarianship Series* Editor).

Committee & Interest Group News

PENDING MLA COMMITTEE VACANCIES

by Bruce J. Evans, Member-at-Large, Planning and Reports Officer

At the end of MLA Norfolk 2020, many folks will be rotating off of MLA's various committees, thereby presenting opportunities for service. Listed here are MLA committees, including the anticipated number of vacancies for each. The name and contact information of either the incoming chair or the chair of each committee is included. If interested in volunteering to serve, contact the person listed with the committee of interest.

An additional opportunity to explore committee service will take place during the "Get Involved" session in Norfolk on Thursday, February 27, 2:30 p.m. Committee chairs and members will be available to share information about the committee and gather information about interested parties.

[Archives and Special Collections Committee](#)

2 openings; Chair: [Maristella J. Feustle](#)

[Awards: Best of Chapters Committee](#)

1 opening; Incoming Chair: [Sara White](#)

[Awards: Dena Epstein Committee](#)

1 opening; Incoming Chair: [Laurie Sampsel](#)

[Awards: Diversity Scholarship Committee](#)

1 opening; Chair: [Treshani Perera](#)

[Awards: Kevin Freeman Travel Grant Committee](#)

1 opening; Chair: [Jason Imbesi](#)

[Awards: Publications Committee](#)

1 opening; Chair: [Allison McClanahan](#)

[Awards: Walter Gerboth Committee](#)

1 opening; Incoming Chair: [Lina Sheahan](#)

Career Development & Services Committee

4 openings; Chair: [Emma Dederick](#)

Cataloging and Metadata Committee

openings on its three subcommittees (see below); Chair: [Tracey Snyder](#)

CMC: Content Standards Subcommittee

between 2 and 5 openings; Chair: [Mary Huismann](#)

CMC: Encoding Standards Subcommittee

between 2 and 5 openings; Chair: [Karen Peters](#)

CMC: Vocabularies Subcommittee

between 2 and 5 openings; Chair: [Rebecca Belford](#)

Development: Marketing Subcommittee

2 openings; Chair: [Liza Weisbrod](#)

Diversity Committee

1 opening; Chair: [Joy M. Doan](#)

Education Committee

3 openings; Chair: [Sonia Archer-Capuzzo](#)

Emerging Technologies & Services Committee

3 openings; Incoming Chair: [Amy Jackson](#)

Finance: Investments Subcommittee

1 opening; Chair: [Tracey Rudnick](#)

Joint Committee: MLA, MPA, & MOLA

0 openings; Chair: [Jane Gottlieb](#)

Joint Committee: MLA/AMS Joint Committee on RISM

0 openings; Chair: [James P. Cassaro](#)

Joint Committee: RILM/US Governing Board

0 openings; Chair: [Jane Gottlieb](#)

Legislation Committee

0 openings; Chair: [Kyra Folk-Farber](#)

Membership Committee

3 openings; Chair: [Mallory Sajewski](#)

Music Library Advocacy Committee

1 opening; Chair: [Linda B. Fairtile](#)

Nominating Committee

4 openings; Incoming Chair: [Melissa Moll](#)

Oral History Committee

4 openings; Chair: [Therese Z. Dickman](#)

Preservation Committee

2 openings; Chair: [Treshani Perera](#)

[Public Libraries Committee](#)

1 opening; Chair: [Kristine E. Nelsen](#)

[Public Services Committee](#)

1 opening; Chair: [Sara J. Manus](#)

[Public Services: Instruction Subcommittee](#)

1-2 openings; Chair: [Angela L Pratesi](#)

[Public Services: Reference & Access Subcommittee](#)

1 opening; Chair: [Kate Lambaria](#)

[Public Services: Reference Sources Subcommittee](#)

0 openings; Chair: [Donna M. Arnold](#)

[Resource Sharing and Collection Development Committee](#)

2 openings; Chair: [Stephanie Bonjack](#)

[Web Committee](#)

1 opening; Chair: [Kerry C. Masteller](#)

MORE ON CMC COMMITTEE VACANCIES

by Tracey Snider, Chair, MLA Cataloging and Metadata Committee

The MLA Cataloging and Metadata Committee invites all interested persons to apply for membership on its subcommittees. There are open positions on all CMC subcommittees: Content Standards, Encoding Standards, and Vocabularies.

[Cataloging and Metadata Committee](#)

openings on its three subcommittees (see below); Chair: [Tracey Snyder](#)

[CMC: Content Standards Subcommittee](#)

between 2 and 5 openings; Chair: [Mary Huismann](#)

[CMC: Encoding Standards Subcommittee](#)

between 2 and 5 openings; Chair: [Karen Peters](#)

[CMC: Vocabularies Subcommittee](#)

between 2 and 5 openings; Chair: [Rebecca Belford](#)

If you are interested in serving on a CMC subcommittee (a four-year term), please send a *brief* application to both the CMC chair and the relevant subcommittee chairs. Applications must be in writing and should state:

1. your specific interest with regards to the subcommittee(s) to which you would like to apply and your order of preference of subcommittees;
2. your cataloging/metadata background; and
3. your abilities to meet CMC service expectations.

Applications must be received via email or posted to the bulletin board at the MLA Norfolk 2020 annual meeting by end of day on Friday, February 28, 2020. (Email is preferable, and early submission is very helpful.) Decisions regarding appointments are made at the end of the MLA conference and communicated to the applicants in the week or so following the conference.

Requirements for CMC subcommittee membership include the following. Requirements are also listed in the CMC handbook, available on the [Groups](#) page of the CMC website. (An updated CMC handbook are coming soon!)

- Member-in-good-standing of MLA national
- Attendance at MLA Annual Meeting to the best of one's ability
- Active participation throughout the year in subcommittee work via email and other web-based tools
- Specific professional interest in subcommittee business and a particular skill, area of expertise, or perspective to contribute to subcommittee deliberations

Subcommittee members are encouraged to do the following subcommittee work:

- Participate in group discussions, both in person and in electronic forums, drawing on personal experience, skills, and knowledge
- Take assignments seriously and complete them in a timely fashion
- Provide feedback on documentation and proposals and respond to requests for comments

You may find out more about the subcommittees' work by attending subcommittee business meetings at the MLA Norfolk 2020 annual meeting or speaking to the chairs in person. Committee and subcommittee business meetings are open to all, as is the meeting of the [PCC music funnels \(NACO/SACO/BIBCO\)](#). You may also learn more about CMC by checking out the FAQ, YouTube channel, and Blog at the [CMC website](#). Business meeting agendas will be posted on the CMC Blog shortly before MLA Norfolk 2020. Also consider attending the Cataloging and Metadata Town Hall and any other program sessions related to cataloging and metadata on [the program at MLA 2020](#).

CMC DEBUTS NEW WEBSITE

by Tracey Snyder, Chair, MLA Cataloging and Metadata Committee

The [Cataloging and Metadata Committee](#) (CMC) of MLA has a new website! The CMC website is the best place to find CMC news and CMC reports, and it also gives access to various resources useful in music cataloging, including Best Practices for RDA, LCMPT, and LCGFT. The newly revised FAQ page answers common questions, offers a way to make suggestions, and now also enables users to ask for help with music cataloging questions. Further improvements to the organization, usability, and accessibility of the site are in the works. Special thanks to Katie Buehner (MLA Web Master) and Josh Henry (CMC Webmaster) for all of their hard work bringing the site into existence.

CMC ATTENDS ALA

Members of the MLA Cataloging and Metadata Committee (CMC) of MLA attended the ALA Midwinter meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. They serve as liaisons to various committees of ALA as well as the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), represent MLA's positions and concerns in a variety of cataloging- and metadata-related meetings, and attend and report on a number of relevant program sessions. The following CMC members attended:

- Mary Huismann, Chair, Content Standards Subcommittee (CMC/CSS)
- Karen Peters, Chair, Encoding Standards Subcommittee (CMC/ESS)
- Rebecca Belford, Chair, Vocabularies Subcommittee (CMC/VS)

[Reports from the meetings and sessions](#) are available on the CMC website.

YOU'LL NEVER PROCESS ALONE: HOW MLA'S ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE CAN HELP YOU AND YOUR UNIQUE COLLECTIONS

by Maristella Feustle, Chair, MLA Archives and Special Collections Committee

Do you ever have that dream where you've taken delivery of seven mystery boxes of personal papers, music manuscripts, and Betamax tapes from an eminent local composer, and then your office is suddenly an aquarium supply store and Lionel Richie asks for your algebra homework? No? Just me?

Well, there's help for the first part. Your friends at MLA's Archives and Special Collections Committee (ASCC) are here to identify concerns and interests related to archival and special collections, recommend best practices, and provide a forum for information exchange and discussion. As chair of the committee, I'd like to give an overview of what we have to offer, and invite MLA members to our committee meeting in Norfolk on Friday, February 28 at 4:30 to 5:25 p.m.

About Us

The committee's activities are well situated in the values and best practices of the broader archival profession, in close coordination with the Society of American Archivists, where I serve on the Technical Subcommittee for *Describing Archives: a Content Standard* (DACS). However, archival work is [far more than just description](#). It also includes the appraisal and acquisition of collections, reference and access, preservation, outreach, and advocacy, and our committee is engaged with all of those issues in addition to the special requirements of archival description of music materials.

Archival Description

It is important to articulate some significant differences between archival description and conventional library cataloging. Archival practice emphasizes the integrity of a collection as a whole as well as of its constituent parts in an attitude known as *respect des fonds* - literally, respect for the source. *Respect des fonds* calls for attention to the provenance of a collection, or its chain of custody and external boundaries -- not interfiling or combining with other collections.

Within a given collection, archival practice privileges the *original order* where one exists. Deference to original order and intellectual arrangement preserves the context of how a collection was actually used, and saves the archivist from reinventing the wheel for an abstract "ideal" order. The aforementioned *Describing Archives: a Content Standard* (DACS) drives this point home by stating that practitioners "should never disrupt or obscure evidence of recordkeeping practices through their own interventions; for instance, it is inadvisable to alter the received order of collection material without a compelling, user-driven need to do so." For that matter, item-level description is not a necessary or desirable goal for every collection, in a significant departure from cataloging practices. In these ways, the unique characteristics of archival description create a definite need for guidance in best practices.

To that end, DACS also includes a set of principles which address additional core values of archival practice. These principles have recently been updated; the original principles from DACS' first publication in 2004 were more focused on materials, and remain useful reading. The [updated principles](#) incorporate the prior principles, but focus much more intentionally on *why* we do what we do, placing the user at the center of our work.

In 2016, MLA's Archives and Special Collections Committee under Matthew Snyder's leadership formed a Working Group for the Archival Description of Music to address a recognized need in the profession for

guidance on the archival materials in music collections. This working group crafted an extensive guide to archival description which includes a companion to DACS that was endorsed by the Society of American Archivists. We are currently pursuing co-publication with the SAA; please visit our [committee page](#) for more information.

Talk to Us!

Our charge as a committee--to identify concerns, recommend best practices, and provide a forum for discussion--requires ongoing, two-way communication with people in the proverbial trenches who work with or may be asked to work with archival materials as part of "other duties as assigned." I again invite you to join us in Norfolk, and to contact me or the committee with concerns, ideas, interests, or questions.

REFERENCE SOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE: REFERENCE SOURCES SPOTLIGHT BLOG SERIES

by Donna Arnold, Chair, Reference Sources Subcommittee

On behalf of the Reference Sources Subcommittee, I invite you to visit two recent blog posts in our Reference Sources Spotlight series. The latest, by Amy Edmonds: [Google Trends](#)
The previous one, by David King: [Oxford Companion to the American Musical](#)

We welcome your comments, and we welcome suggestions for future posts. Our scope encompasses both electronic and print sources, music-specific or not, with value for reference work.

SHEET MUSIC INTEREST GROUP NEWS

by Andrea Cawelti, Coordinator, MLA Sheet Music Interest Group

Greetings, fellow sheet music enthusiasts! The Sheet Music Interest Group (SMIG) has been hard at work on your behalf, and we have generated the following collaborative ventures, all available from the [MLA SMIG page](#).

1. Robert Cunningham and I have put together an [outline of the procedures](#) we use to catalog bound volumes of sheet music as collections, as presented previously at MLA and MOUG. This doc is not open to edit, but if anyone has comments or questions, please feel free to contact us.
2. The spreadsheet I generated for the latest Sheet Music Round-up in *Nineteenth Century Music Review* (appearing this spring) is [available here](#), listing significant digital and analog collections, online exhibits and interpretive material, and collected links concerning sheet music particularly, from a wide variety of sources. This sheet is open to edit: please feel free to add or change anything which you feel would be of interest to researchers, or to add yourself as a contact if you are so moved. I would recommend emphasis on those collections which ARE NOT found in the Sheet Music Consortium, but please include anything you want to share with the MLA community.

I have personally found research on sheet music illustrators to be challenging, so in aid of this, I would love it if folks might include any information they personally have found useful in the following docs:

3. An [online bibliography of useful sheet music resources](#) (specifically concerning illustrators/printers/lithographers), to annotate as we feel might be helpful. I plan to add any resource I find useful as I go along, either printed, or online, with comments about how it helped.

4. A spreadsheet to aid in the [identification of illustrators](#), and to collocate information found while cataloging. (To better see the thumbnails, zoom your view out to 200%.) I would particularly recommend this sheet for any illustrators that you have identified, which you think might constitute a difficulty for other catalogers--illustrators who use symbols or initials, pseudonyms, etc., which are problematic to read, or even notes about illegible signatures. I'd like for us to be able to make reference to this sheet when we are experiencing problems tracing an illustrator (etc.) in order to increase the number of sheet music records which reference illustrations. Let's empower everyone to do it, easily and efficiently!

Transitions & Appointments

Our best wishes to all those pursuing new or additional opportunities.

Sara Outhier, Performing Arts Librarian, University of Kansas

Margaret Ericson, *retiring*, Arts Librarian, Colby College Libraries

Sheridan Stormes, *retiring*, Professor, Performing & Visual Arts Librarian, Butler University

Christina Linklater, Director, US RISM Office

Chelsea Hoover, Catalog Librarian, Syracuse University

Julie Schaeffer, Electronic Resources Librarian, Boston Conservatory

Geo Flores, Library Information Specialist IV, Baylor University

Not on the list but think you should be? Contact our [Placement Officer!](#)

Looking for a transition to share? Check out the [Job Placement Service!](#)

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Anonymous (4)

Sonia Archer-Capuzzo

Winston Barham

Marsha Berman

Kirk-Evan Billet

Lindsay Brown

Casey Burgess

Deborah Campana

Jeanette Casey

Paul Cauthen

Thomas Caw

Andrea Cawelti

Lisa Chaufty

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Susannah Cleveland

Marci Cohen

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Gifts were given in honor of the following:
 Susannah Cleveland
 D.W. Krummel

Regional Chapter News

NEWS FROM THE ATMLA ANNUAL MEETING

by Beth Royall, Secretary-Treasurer, Atlantic Chapter of MLA

The Atlantic Chapter of MLA's (ATMLA) fall meeting was held at the University of Maryland College Park on October 4-5, 2019. The chapter extends warm thanks to Steve Henry for his excellent hosting and his coordination of the preceding preservation workshop by Alice Carli. Jim Cassaro announced the results of the election for chapter officers. Congratulations to Winston Barham, the new chair-elect, and Beth Royall, returning for a second term as secretary-treasurer. The chapter commends and thanks Kathleen DeLaurenti for her four years of service as chair-elect, chair, and past-chair of the chapter.

Institutions & Collections

EARLY FOLKSONG RECORDINGS DIGITIZED AT UVA

by Winston Barham

The University of Virginia Library has opened streaming access to [a collection of early folksong recordings created between 1932 and 1938 by the Virginia Folklore Society \(VFS\)](#). Recorded on aluminum discs, these represent one of the earliest folksong collection projects in North America to use the then-new grooved disc technology.

Digitization of these 173 discs was funded by [Recordings at Risk](#), a national regranting program established in 2017 and administered by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) to support preservation of rare and unique audiovisual materials of high scholarly value through digital reformatting. The grant program is made possible by funding from [The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation](#).

Aluminum direct-cut or instantaneous discs were the earliest available format for making grooved disc recordings in the field, pre-dating lacquer by several years. New, digitized master files of these discs were created and wedded with existing metadata drawn from the research of VFS members. An [improved finding aid](#) has been created for the Society's archival collection which also features sheet music, newsletters, and photographs. Disc-level records with streaming audio, freely accessible to all, are available through the UVA Library's [local instance of Avalon Media System](#).

[Read more here.](#)

RADIOHEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY

"Radiohead have launched a new online archive of their work, called [Radiohead Public Library](#), as well as releasing previously unavailable rarities to streaming services" (Ben Beaumont-Thomas, The Guardian, 1/20/2020) [Read more here.](#)

PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA CONCERTS FOR FREE ONLINE

Many of the recordings of the Philadelphia Orchestra are now available online, streaming, free of charge. The Philadelphia Orchestra [Listen On Demand](#) collection will continue to grow over time, and does not duplicate content found on physical media or downloadable content.

YALE UNIVERSITY PROVIDES ACCESS TO HSR AND OHAM RECORDINGS

by Jonathan Manton, Yale University

The Irving S. Gilmore Music Library (GML) is pleased to announce the completion of a project to describe and provide open access to a collection of 732 Berliner Gramophone discs from its Historical Sound Recordings (HSR) Collection. In the late 19th Century, Emil Berliner (1851-1929) developed the gramophone, which employed flat disc instead of cylinder based recording technology. Cylinders and discs co-existed for a few years, but eventually Berliner's discs won out and became the dominant technology. The discs in this collection, produced between 1887-1912, represent some of the very first published disc recordings, and offer a unique insight into the earliest years of music and spoken word recording. Access to the collection is available through [Archives at Yale](#) (click on the images of each disc in the finding aid to access them).

Availability of this important collection was made possible thanks to a grant to Yale University Library from the Arcadia Fund to support open access initiatives. This fund enabled GML to further develop its new audiovisual access platform, [Aviary](#). GML has now added over 2000 recordings to Aviary, providing streaming access to important collections from HSR and Oral History of American Music (OHAM). Details of other collections now available to stream, can be found in this [news post from September 2019](#). Anyone interested in GML's implementation of Aviary can check out this [Twitter thread](#).

GML will also shortly implement the results of some metadata enhancement work done on the Berliner Gramophone Disc Collection, following completion of a recent project to transcribe the labels on these discs using [Zooniverse](#), to provide more accurate and detailed metadata to supplement the existing legacy data currently included in the finding aid.

MOUG SEEKS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG) seeks members for the **2021 Program Committee** to plan for the 2021 Annual Meeting. Committee members must be MOUG members in good standing, or be willing to join MOUG before serving on the committee and remain in good standing at least through the 2021 annual meeting. For those who are interested, please submit a statement of interest of no more than 200 words to [Rahni Kennedy](#) (MOUG Continuing Education Coordinator), stating what you believe you would bring to the process of planning the annual meeting of the Music OCLC Users Group. Not all applicants may necessarily be accepted and all applications will be reviewed by the MOUG Board. Deadline for applications is **April 3, 2020**.

The MOUG Reference, Discovery, and Collection (RDC) Committee seeks new members for two-year terms to begin shortly after the [MOUG Annual Meeting](#). Committee members shall be individual MOUG [members](#) in good standing.

The Committee's charge is:

- 1) Under the direction of the Reference, Discovery, and Collection Coordinator, assist with:
 - a. Investigating issues related to OCLC's public-facing discovery, reference, and collections-related products and services
 - b. Compiling and articulating suggested improvements to public-facing discovery, reference, and collections-related OCLC products and services
 - c. Engaging in advocacy related to those products and services
 - d. Developing and maintaining content of the [Discovery, Reference, and Collections](#) section of the MOUG website and any associated subpages or forums
- 2) Provide representation on the Program Committee: one member of the committee, selected by the Reference, Discovery, and Collection Coordinator in consultation with the Continuing Education Coordinator shortly after the conclusion of each annual conference, shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Program Committee.

We encourage and welcome applications from any [MOUG member](#) interested in RDC Committee aims. We especially encourage applications from people who use OCLC reference, discovery, and collection products, including WorldShare Management Services (WMS) and WorldCat Discovery (WCD). The RDC Committee works electronically and does not meet during the MOUG Annual Meeting. Members are encouraged to participate in related MOUG sessions if they are available, but this is not required.

To apply: email a statement of interest and qualifications to [Monica Figueroa](#) (MOUG RDC Coordinator) no later than **April 3, 2020**.

Interested applicants are encouraged to approach Monica Figueroa or any member of the [MOUG Executive Board](#) or RDC Committee with questions. For those attending [MOUG Norfolk 2020](#), interested applicants--and anyone interested in OCLC Discovery Services--are invited to these MOUG sessions (open to all; MOUG registration *not* required)

- Discovery Services Update (Wed. 2/26, 11:15-11:45 am)
- MOUG Reference, Discovery, and Collections discussion (Wed. 2/26, 11:45 am-12:15 pm) with Jay Holloway (OCLC)

MUSIC ENCODING INITIATIVE CONFERENCE COMING IN MAY

The Music Encoding Conference Organizing & Program Committees invite you to register for its 8th Annual Conference

When: May 26 – 29, 2020

Where: Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts

Register here: <https://music-encoding.org/conference/2020/register/>

We are pleased to announce that this year's keynote speakers will be Dr. Tim Duguid, lecturer in Digital Humanities and Information Studies at the University of Glasgow and Dr. Estelle Joubert, Associate Professor in Musicology at the Fountain School of Performing Arts at Dalhousie University.

OLAC PRODUCES BEST PRACTICES FOR CATALOGING OBJECTS

Good news! The [Best Practices for Cataloging Objects Using RDA and MARC 21](#) just went live!

Special thanks to Julie Moore for her leadership and hard work over the years. Also thanks to the final editors, Jessica Janecki and Rob Freeborn, for their intense work over the past few weeks. Thanks also to the members of the Task Force: Scott Dutkiewicz, Sarah Hovde, and Trina Soderquist, and to the CAPC members who submitted comments during the review period.

Additional thanks go to our advisors Kelley McGrath, Bobby Bothmann, Jay Weitz as well as to Mark Ehlert for helping us with the (many, many) example records.

OLAC NEWSLETTER, DECEMBER 2019 ISSUE NOW AVAILABLE

The [December 2019 issue](#) of the *OLAC Newsletter* is available on our website in three formats, [PDF](#), [HTML](#), and [ISSUU](#).

IAML News

IAML has made the following appointments:

- IAML historian: John Wagstaff
- Chair of the Development Committee: Jim Cassaro
- Chair of the Project Group on RISM Series C: Aris Bazmadelis

Music Publications for Free Perusal

BLACK GROOVES

The January 2020 and February 2020 issues of *Black Grooves*, sponsored by the Indiana University [Archives of African American Music and Culture](#), are available at <https://blackgrooves.org/>

CD HOTLIST: NEW RELEASES FOR LIBRARIES

The January and February issues of CD HotList: New Releases for Libraries have been posted and, as always, are freely available to all at <http://cdhotlist.com>.

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The MLA Newsletter is published six times a year: February, April, June, August, October, and December, and is open to the public free of charge. The purpose of the MLA Newsletter is to keep the membership of the Association informed of events and activities presented by the Association and its members. Groups within the administrative structure of the Association are encouraged to submit content. The deadline to submit content is the 1st of each publication month.

All images courtesy of the Editor unless otherwise noted.



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Let the Editor know if your committee or interest group of MLA has any social media for readers to follow!