

I. REPORT DATE - May 10, 2021

II. NAME OF OFFICE or PUBLICATION - MLA Archivist

III. NAME - Christina Taylor Gibson

IV. BOARD ACTION REQUIRED- not immediately

- I would like the Board to discuss establishing a regular field study at UMD's Special Collections in Performing Arts (SCPA), where the MLA papers are held, starting in summer 2022.
 - The planned field study would align with MLA's organizational mandate to "promote the establishment, growth, and use of music libraries" and "to promote the profession of music librarianship" through training and supporting new archival professionals interested in working with music materials. It would also support SCPA's strategic objective to "serve as a laboratory for archivists in training."
 - UMD would supply space and mentoring support (in summer 2022, I would be the lead mentor with assistance from the curator, John Davis)
 - MLA would select the recipient and, ideally, pay the recipient, either with a subvention or an honorarium.
 - Work would center around an intensive processing project culminating in a set of deliverables including a detailed finding aid for one record group uploaded to ArchivesSpace and an outreach project (e.g. digital exhibit, poster for annual meeting, article for newsletter).
 - As a practical matter, this collaborative endeavor would allow us to make the MLA materials much more accessible, and the activities of the MLA (both present and past) more transparent. Increased accessibility and transparency allow for thoughtful Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion planning.

V. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

- I assumed the position of MLA archivist following the March meeting.
- I have submitted a budget report including the unused processing subvention from the FY20 budget and a new line for the FY21 budget, and plans are underway to assign one student worker at SCPA to the MLA records for the Fall 2021 semester.
- I have begun transferring Finding Aids into ArchivesSpace, so that they may be searchable through UMD's website.
- I have emailed the MLA list advising outgoing and current Officers to add their materials to the repository.
- I have communicated with Jacey Kepich about the possibility of creating a regular "From the Archives" feature in the MLA Newsletter

VI. IMPLICIT BIAS TESTING REPORTING

- I have completed the implicit bias testing by taking two tests offered by Harvard's Project Implicit.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the MLA as archivist! I'm looking forward to working with you. Please send me your materials! Not only will it make me happy, but future MLA members will thank you, as it will allow them to learn from your wisdom and continue to shape a healthy professional association.