Date: January 29, 2021
To: Board of Directors, Music Library Association
From: Hermine Vermeij, Chair, Cataloging and Metadata Committee
Subject: CMC Quarterly Report to MLA Board of Directors, October 2020-January 2021

I. Report date: January 29, 2021

II. Name of Committee: Cataloging and Metadata Committee

III. Members:
   ● CMC
      Hermine Vermeij (Chair), Keith Knop (Content Standards Subcommittee Chair), Karen Peters (Encoding Standards Subcommittee Chair), Rebecca Belford (Vocabularies Subcommittee Chair), Casey Mullin (BIBCO Music Funnel Coordinator), Mark Scharff (NACO-Music Project Coordinator), Beth Iseminger (SACO Music Funnel Coordinator), Joshua Henry (CMC Secretary/Webmaster), Kirk-Evan Billet (MCB Editor), Susan Vita (LC Representative), Jay Weitz (OCLC Representative)
   ● Content Standards Subcommittee
      Keith Knop (Chair), Linda Bagley, Benjamin Barba, Kristi Bergland, Janice Bunker, Reed David, Monica Figueroa, Ivan Kaproth-Joslin, Chuck Peters, Jacob Schaub, Hannah Spence, Michelle Urberg, Casey Mullin (BIBCO Music Funnel Coordinator), Christopher Holden (LC Representative), Jay Weitz (OCLC Representative)
   ● Encoding Standards Subcommittee
      Karen Peters (Chair), Jim Alberts, Ethan D’Ver, Matthew Ertz, Chelsea Hoover, Rahni Kennedy, Jeff Lyon, Felicia Piscitelli, Tomoko Shibuya, Amy Strickland, Damian Iseminger (LC Representative), Jay Weitz (OCLC Representative)
   ● Vocabularies Subcommittee
      Rebecca Belford (Chair), Anne Adams, Anne Churukian, Patty Falk, Joshua Henry, Mary Huismann, Marty Jenkins, Leonard Martin, Allison McClanahan, Jennifer Olson, Treshani Perera (resigned January 4), Kyle Shockey, Tracey Snyder, Beth Iseminger (SACO Music Funnel Coordinator), Mark Scharff (NACO-Music Project Coordinator), Maarja Vigorito (LC Representative), Jay Weitz (OCLC Representative)

IV. Board Action Required
   ● None
V. Brief Summary of Activities

- Cataloging and Metadata Committee (Hermine Vermeij)
  - Involvement with other groups
    - Several CMC members (Keith Knop, Chuck Peters, and Hermine Vermeij) are participating in the Electronic Scores Working Group, which is charged with gathering, generating, and sharing information to inform and assist librarians working with digital scores and performing materials.
    - Volunteers from various CMC subcommittees maintain a running list of changes to content standards, encoding standards, and vocabularies that may need to be addressed in subsequent revisions of Music Discovery Requirements; CMC chair will communicate with ETSC chair annually about these changes.
    - A volunteer from CMC who is also an officer of the IAML Cataloguing and Metadata Section represents the North American music cataloging community in IFLA’s review and revision of ISBD.
    - A volunteer from a CMC subcommittee is representing the music community on a NISO group looking at metadata standards for audio and video resources. The emphasis is on digital files used as instructional materials.
  - Resources and communication
    - The CMC liaisons attended or are planning to attend various virtual meetings in lieu of the in-person ALA midwinter conference; reports will be available on the CMC Website and the MCB. Additionally, CMC has made an effort to publicize now-open virtual meetings that would have been inaccessible to most catalogers had they been held at ALA.
    - The CMC Blog is used as needed for sharing documentation such as business meeting agendas, promoting events such as MLA program sessions, announcing resources such as cataloging tools and task force reports, and detailing updates to various best practices documents, vocabularies (such as LCGFT and LCMPT), content standards (such as RDA), and encoding standards (such as MARC).
    - The CMC Channel is used as needed for hosting screencasts that describe the work of the CMC and demonstrate how to find and use various CMC resources as well as how to apply standards and vocabularies according to the most up-to-date practices.
    - CMC members routinely field questions on electronic mailing lists about application of MARC, RDA, LCMPT, LCGFT, and more.
Programming

- CMC is involved in an e-course series on music librarianship for non-librarians, to be offered in 2021 in collaboration with ALA Editions; Keith Knop will teach the music cataloging basics course. CMC also plans to schedule and plan revised versions of four music cataloging webinars originally presented in 2014 and 2015. The CMC Chair attends regular conference calls with representatives from ALA Editions and MLA’s Education Committee.

MLA Linked Data Working Group

- The MLA Linked Data Working Group (LDWG) is an MLA working group convened by CMC. LDWG plans to test aspects of the Performed Music Ontology (PMO) in Sinopia, the linked data editor developed as part of the LD4P grant projects. Currently Linked Data for Production: Closing the Loop (LD4P3) continues to develop the tool, but testing of the ontology may be able to happen in the near future since much of the development now concentrates on UI features rather than backend functionality.
  - Kevin Kishimoto (chair) created a draft testing plan and timeline in late 2020 and has met with Jim Soe-Nyun (UCSD) and Nancy Lorimer (Stanford) to discuss the current state of Sinopia and the proposed process. After these meetings, we have determined that existing Sinopia profiles and resource templates must first be evaluated and revised before any practical testing can be accomplished. Additionally some parts of the PMO ontology itself (created 2016-2017) may need to be edited to accommodate new developments in the BIBFRAME ontology and associated vocabularies over the last few years. Kevin will work with Nancy and Jim in spring 2021 on these new tasks.

Content Standards Subcommittee (Keith Knop)

- The Content Standards Subcommittee Chair has continued to attend monthly meetings of the RDA Toolkit Policy Writers Group.
  - At the January 2021 meeting, the ALA representative indicated the shell creation script for the MLA Best Practices would be run within the month.
  - Melanie Polutta from the Library of Congress presented on the workflows developed at LC to allow batch editing and uploading of policy statement files. The subcommittee chair is investigating the feasibility of this workflow for future maintenance.
- Work continues on mapping the MLA Best Practices for Music Cataloging to the new RDA Toolkit, which became the “official” toolkit on December 15, 2020.
Barring technical delays, the first batch of MLA Best Practices should be publically available in the toolkit after the next scheduled update in April.

- In October the subcommittee released a revision of Supplement 1 of the RDA Best Practices that corrected issues reported through the MLA web form and forwarded to the Subcommittee Chair by Jay Weitz.
- At the request of Manon Théroux at LC, the subcommittee began drafting best practices for use of MARC field 348 in authority records.
- The subcommittee submitted responses to two RDA Steering Committee papers to the North American RDA Committee and the RSC.

- Encoding Standards Subcommittee (Karen Peters)
  - As the result of an email discussion initiated by Adam Schiff (University of Washington), a number of music catalogers agreed that having the option to link music keys to their corresponding Wikidata items in MARC field 384 (Key) would be beneficial. Having prior experience writing similar fast-track proposals, Mr. Schiff offered to draft one for MLA. His offer was gratefully accepted and ESS members, with input from other CMC members, approved the resulting proposal, “Adding Subfields $0 and $1 to Field 384 of the MARC 21 Bibliographic and Authority Formats” with very minor modifications. The Chair submitted the proposal to NDMSO in October; it was approved in early November, with the change implemented in December as part of MARC Update No. 31.
  - Based on comments received at the July 1, 2020 meeting of the MARC Advisory Committee, the Chair revised MARC Discussion Paper No. 2020-DP12 as a MARC proposal and presented it to ESS members, followed by all CMC members, for feedback. In early November, after modifying the draft to incorporate ESS and CMC members’ comments, the Chair submitted the result, “Renaming Field 348 and Defining New Subfields for Form of Musical Notation in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format” (now MARC Proposal No. 2021-05: https://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/2021/2021-05.html) to NDMSO on behalf of the Music Library Association, for consideration at MARC Advisory Committee meeting(s) to be held January 26-28, 2021.
  - In November, Jodi Williamschen of NDMSO requested feedback from MLA in connection with a discussion paper she was drafting to explore adding Capture and Storage Technique to MARC field 344. The Chair initiated a discussion with ESS members, later opened up to all CMC members, seeking answers to Ms. Williamschen’s questions. Our feedback informed the resulting discussion paper, “Defining a New Subfield for Original Sound Capture and Storage in Field 344 of the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format” (now MARC Discussion Paper No. 2021-
DP04: https://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/2021/2021-dp04.html), as well as a related discussion paper, “Terms and Definitions in Field 007/13 for Sound Recordings in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format” (MARC Discussion Paper No. 2021-DP05: https://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/2021/2021-dp05.html). Both discussion papers will be considered during the MARC Advisory Committee meeting(s) in January 2021.

- In late November, the Chair received word that the request she had made to NDMSO in late September for an editorial change to the MARC 382 (Medium of Performance) field instructions in the Bibliographic and Authority formats (initiated by Sue Weiland and supported by Rebecca Belford and Jay Weitz) was approved. The change, which has since been implemented, removed a sentence suggesting that $n$ (Number of performers of the same medium) could be omitted when that number is 1.

- In the past quarter, the Metadata for Music Resources (MMR) Task Group, led by Ethan D’Ver, completed the design of its user experience test for the MMR site. The test consists of three components: (1) a preliminary multiple-choice questionnaire/survey designed to determine participants’ familiarity with the MMR, the kinds of jobs they hold, and the data they work with; (2) a card sort activity, in which participants are asked to create categories appropriate for, and then use them to sort, a sample set of 18 resources from the MMR; and (3) a concluding comments section, in which participants can provide any additional feedback as free text. After finalizing the test, the Task Group solicited participants by reaching out to CMC members and putting out calls for participation on MLA-L and MOUG-L. In the upcoming quarter, the Task Group plans to make one final call for participants, after which it will conduct a preliminary analysis of the data and compile the key points into a report that will be presented during MLA 2021 at the ESS business meeting. After that, the Task Group plans to do a deeper dive into the data that will permit it to recommend changes to the current organizational structure of the MMR.

- In the past quarter, the Music Cataloging Inefficiencies (MCI) Task Group, led by Matt Ertz, completed the first draft of a survey to be sent to music catalogers, systems librarians, and heads of technical services departments to determine the possible impact on local discovery systems and current cataloging practice of the recommended modifications to MLA’s Best Practices for Music Cataloging Using RDA and MARC21 that the Task Group is planning to make. The Task Group will edit, finalize and distribute the survey in January 2021, and hopes to report the results at the ESS business meeting during MLA 2021 at the ESS business meeting.
- Vocabularies Subcommittee (Rebecca Belford)
  - Types of Composition List Maintenance Task Group (Henry, coordinator):
    - No requests/suggestions for specific terms received during this time period
    - Continue project to enhance full list with plural terms
  - LC Vocabularies Maintenance Task Group (Adams, TG coordinator, in collaboration with B. Iseminger, SACO Music Funnel Coordinator):
    - Continued monthly review of LC Tentative Lists, sending recommendations to LC when appropriate
    - Completed discussion paper and set of proposed modifications to LC Medium of Performance terms for voice that include gender-specific scope notes or references; routed to SACO Coordinator October 13
  - Thematic Indexes List [MLATI] Maintenance Task Group (Shockey, coordinator):
    - No requests/suggestions for specific terms received during this time period
    - No status change for any active items
  - MLA Best Practices for LCMPT and LCGFT (Huismann, coordinator):
    - Routine monitoring of suggestion box for future revisions, tracked in wiki
  - Task Group for Deriving Faceted Music Terms from LCSH (Jenkins, coordinator; in collaboration with Gary Strawn (programmer, Northwestern University)):
    - Gathering list of questions for Strawn regarding version and functions of the OCLC Music Toolkit itself; collect bug reports from suggestion box; no substantial revision requests received