MARC Formats Subcommittee: MARBI/MAC and Music-Related MARC Changes

Available Reports
ALA Annual Meeting 2013 MARBI Report
   No MLA-sponsored papers were presented.

ALA Midwinter Meeting 2014 MAC Report
   Not yet available online.
   No MLA-sponsored papers were presented.

MARC Formats Annual Report (July 2012-June 2013)

MARBI to MAC Transition
MARC Formats will now be maintained by the MARC Advisory Committee whose members are made up of representatives from different communities of practice (such as MLA). The members have voting privileges to make recommendations that will be carried forward to the MARC Steering Group, made up of the Library of Congress, Library and Archives Canada, the British Library, and the German National Library. The MLA BCC MARC Formats Subcommittee has revised its charge to reflect the change.

MAC Papers to Include BIBFRAME Examples
The purpose of including BIBFRAME examples in MAC papers is to start looking ahead and to consider another perspective. Does it or does not easily translate from MARC to BIBFRAME? Sally McCallum (Library of Congress) created the BIBFRAME examples and a new version was released the previous week. No group is yet vetting BIBFRAME as it is not set. We are currently in the implementation experimentation stage which will help inform the overhaul of the vocabulary. McCallum encouraged people to experiment with implementing BIBFRAME to help discover what works and what doesn’t work.

Music-Related MARC Changes
1. Revised code definitions “a” and “z” in MARC 008/20 Format of Music to accommodate RDA definitions. Changes indicated in red.

   20 - Format of music (006/03)
   One-character code that indicates the format of a musical composition (e.g., piano-conductor score). Unless otherwise indicated, the values apply to music written using graphic, symbolic (e.g., staff), or word-based notation.
   
   Information for this data element is generally derived from terms appearing in field 300 (Physical Description). If the item being cataloged consists of one or more scores along with other materials (e.g., one or more parts), consider only the score or scores in coding this character position. Used for notated music; for sound recordings, use code n (Not applicable).
   
   a - Full score
   Staff notation representing the sounds of all the parts of an ensemble (instrumental and/or vocal), arranged so that they can be read simultaneously. Note: code I (Score) may be used for works recorded with graphic, symbolic (e.g., staff), or word-based notation representing
the sounds of all the parts of an ensemble, arranged so that they can be read simultaneously, or a work for solo performer or electronic media.

I - Score
Graphical, symbolic (e.g., staff), or word-based musical notation representing the sounds of all the parts of an ensemble, arranged so that they can be read simultaneously, or a work for solo performer or electronic media. Do not confuse with Part.

z - Other
None of the other defined codes are appropriate. Usually it signifies that the item is not a score. Choir books, table books, and sets of parts are examples in which code z is appropriate.

2. Revised the definition for MARC 008/20 “j” performer-conductor part to provide more clarity.

Old definition:
   j – Performer-conductor part
   Score reduced to a single instrument for which the score was written or for the conductor.

New definition:
   j - Performer-conductor part
   A performance part for a single instrument in an ensemble, with cues for the other instruments that enable the performer of that part also to conduct.

3. Revised MARC Bibliographic: Sound Recordings 007/04 (configuration of playback channels) “q” definition to align with the equivalent definitions in Motion Pictures and Videorecordings 007/08, allowing the use of “q” for surround sound.

Old definition:
   q – quadraphonic
   Configured to be played back on four separate channels

New definition:
   q - Quadraphonic, multichannel, or surround
   Configured to be played back on more than two channels. Use this code for Dolby surround sound tracks and other multichannel techniques.

Note: NDMSO has held off on renaming until it is issued in the next MARC Update. The change will need to be noted in the content designation history.

Handout prepared by:
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