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The Midwest Chapter’s 74th annual meeting will be held October 15-17, 2015, in Louisville, Kentucky. The chapter has not met in Louisville in well over a decade, and we are very much looking forward to hosting this year’s meeting!

Located in downtown Louisville, and just 5 miles from the airport, the beautiful, historic Brown Hotel will serve as the meeting’s headquarters. A Louisville legend, the Brown Hotel is beloved by generations of guests for its Georgian-Revival elegance and timeless Southern charm. Opened in 1923, the luxurious hotel features a breathtaking lobby, fine dining options at the English Grill, casual dining at J. Graham’s Café, and a glamorous lobby bar featuring a wide selection of Kentucky bourbon. Guest rooms and suites feature a pillow-top bed with Egyptian cotton linens and European goose-down comforters, and an eclectic collection of artwork and accessories. Hand-polished Spanish Ramora marble floors anchor spacious bathrooms featuring luxury bath amenities. The hotel is within walking distance of numerous restaurants, bars, and museums. Single and double rooms are available at the rate of $149 per night, plus tax. The meeting rate will be available three days before and after (subject to room availability) for those wishing to extend their stay. Free WiFi is available throughout the hotel. Parking is available for $20 per night for self-parking and $24 per night for valet. The Brown Hotel provides free transportation to and from the Louisville International Airport!

Thursday afternoon’s committee meetings and the opening reception will be held at The Brown. Friday’s sessions will take place at the Elaine Chao Auditorium, located in the lower level of the main library at the University of Louisville, Ekstrom Library (transportation provided). In addition to program sessions, we will have a business meeting buffet lunch. Friday evening has been left open for all to partake in exploring the city. Saturday program sessions will be held in the Gallery Ballroom on the 16th floor of the hotel.

Louisville is served by the Louisville International Airport (airport code SDF). Major airlines with service to the airport include American, Delta, Southwest, United, and US Airways. The city is also served by megabus.

The conference website will be available soon. Registration rates have not yet been set, but they will be similar to previous years’ rates. Watch for the program committee to issue a call for program session proposals in May. We look forward to seeing everyone in Louisville soon!

--The Local Arrangements Committee
Kerri Scannell Baunach (University of Kentucky)
Matt Ertz (University of Louisville)
Paula Hickner (University of Kentucky)
Rachel Hodge (University of Louisville),
James Procell (University of Louisville), chair

Churchill Downs. Photo by Jeff Kubina.
Springtime in Indianapolis is truly beautiful! There are countless gardens bursting with tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths, and budding redbud, Magnolia, dogwood, and crab apple trees lining the streets. All indications are that spring indeed is finally here! Another sure sign of the new season is the quasi-annual Lenten visit to my campus of the students in the Indiana University School of Informatics and Computing seminar in Music Librarianship. They come to learn how “the other half” does it (i.e., those librarians who manage small-to-medium sized music and performing arts collections). I always look forward to their visit. The students are energetic and eager to know more about the wonderful world of music librarianship. The professor gives me fairly free reign in terms of deciding what to say to the students (and I try to allow plenty of time for questions). This year, I was struck by how the focus of my talk shifted from the joys of music librarianship to the challenges that those of us who manage music (and arts) collections are faced with in today’s technology-driven landscape. Indeed, these are changing and challenging times not only for music libraries but for higher education in general.

It is these very challenges that cause me to feel an ever-growing appreciation of the value of both national and regional membership in the Music Library Association and of attendance at MLA-sponsored meetings and events. Our recent national conference in Denver was packed from beginning to end with informative and engagingly executed programs on so many relevant issues, including archiving, emerging technologies and services, internships, copyright, assessment, identifying and securing relevant grants, and effective information literacy instruction (especially in light of the new ACRL “threshold concepts”). The meeting included some fascinating talks about music indigenous to the Denver area as well. As if that weren’t enough,
we had excellent accommodations strategically located near some fabulous eating establishments and even some unique shops for after-hours entertainment.

This year, the Midwest Chapter will be involved in hosting meetings at both the regional and national level. Actually, the 2016 national meeting in Cincinnati will be a transitional one in terms of the Chapter’s hosting obligations. The MLA Board of Directors has been working with our meeting procurement agency, Helms Briscoe, to decrease the number of responsibilities that have traditionally fallen on local arrangements folks (usually members of whatever chapter the conference city is in). At the close of the Denver meeting, select members of the MLA leadership met with representatives from the Midwest Chapter to try to map out the division of duties relating to conference planning. Paula Hickner (University of Kentucky), Kerri Baunach (University of Kentucky) and I will be traveling to Cinci in a few weeks to meet with Mark Palkovic (retiring Head, Cincinnati College-Conservatory Music Library) to scope out the various attractions and tour/entertainment possibilities. We also will be working to define an event which our Chapter (as “Unhost Chapter” this year) might sponsor. This will most likely be on a smaller scale than in previous years but we hope it will have an equally favorable impact on those attending the meeting. Speaking of which, I hope that you will be marking your calendars (if you have not already done so) to attend the MLA National Meeting in Cincinnati which will take place on March 2-5, 2016 at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, a National Historic Landmark known for its stunningly beautiful French Art Deco décor.

On a related note, I know that the Scholarship Committee under the able leadership of co-chairs Andi Beckendorf (Luther College) and Bob Delvin (Illinois Wesleyan University) has been finalizing its guidelines for the Troutman Scholarship for music library support and paraprofessional staff and the Schoonover Scholarship for Student Members. I encourage you to donate early and often to these very important scholarship funds. Since we usually get many applications for the Schoonover Scholarship, I strongly urge you to consider supporting that fund in particular. If you do not have a preference regarding how your dollars should be used and simply wish to support the activities of the Chapter in whatever areas are most needful, you can mark your donation as “unrestricted.” Your gifts should be directed to: James Procell, Secretary-Treasurer, Music Library, University of Louisville, 2301 S. 3rd St., Louisville, KY 40292. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

--Sheridan Stormes, Butler University

Coming up much sooner—October 15-17, 2015—is our Chapter Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, at the historic Brown Hotel. Local Arrangements Chair James Procell has been working with his LAC colleagues to secure for us first-rate accommodations at an affordable cost. Keith Cochran is our Program Chair for this meeting. Look for a call for proposals on MWMLA-L and MLA-L sometime in May.
>> Anna Alfeld LoPrete (Indiana University) was awarded a 2015 Ralph Papakhian Travel Grant.

>> Heather Fischer is now Metadata/Catalog Librarian and Music Liaison at Saginaw Valley State University.

>> The Mudd Library at Lawrence University was recently given the unique opportunity to exhibit an original Mozart manuscript, an autograph leaf from the fourth movement of his Serenade in D major, K. 185. Music Librarian and Associate Professor Antoinette Powell and Director of Technical Services and Assistant Professor Jill Thomas put together a presentation focusing on not just the manuscript, but also historical background to put it in context for students. Antionettet explains, “By researching and examining the leaf, Jill and I were able to talk about Mozart’s compositional style, the types of materials he used, the history of western Europe at that time and daily life in Salzburg. It was an extraordinary opportunity for students and faculty to see something Mozart touched.” Over 60 people viewed the item over four days in the Milwaukee-Downer room in the Mudd Library. The students and faculty were primarily from music composition and theory classes in the Conservatory. The students saw the autograph and were able to compare it to a modern published edition, as well as other pieces that were published around the same time and after to analyze the differences in paper making. The thoughtful owner of the leaf is a Lawrence University alum from the class of 2010. Although it has been returned to its owner, Mudd Library is grateful to have had the opportunity to share such a rare piece of history with students at Lawrence.

Scholarships: Call for Applicants (and Donors!)

The Midwest Chapter offers scholarships to eligible members who wish to attend its annual meeting. The Phyllis J. Schoonover Student Scholarship and the Leslie Troutman Scholarship support meeting attendance for library school students and library support staff, respectively. Nominations from chapter members as well as applications from students and staff are encouraged. To nominate or apply, download the appropriate form from the chapter website:

Phyllis J. Schoonover Student Scholarship

Troutman Scholarship

Please submit completed forms to the chapter chair by U.S. Mail or e-mail to: Robert Delvin, Co-Chair, MLA Midwest Chapter Scholarship Committee, The Ames Library, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL 61701, bdelvin@iwu.edu

DEADLINE: Friday, August 21, 2015

Please consider donating to the Schoonover or Troutman scholarship funds. Each year, the Scholarship Committee receives more applications than it can grant for the Schoonover scholarship, in particular. Receiving a scholarship can make the difference in our paraprofessional and student colleagues being able to attend a Midwest Chapter meeting. Thank you for your financial support!
Chair: Sheridan Stormes (Butler University), 2015
Chair-Elect: Keith Cochran (Indiana University), 2015
Secretary-Treasurer: James Procell (University of Louisville), 2015
Newsletter Editor: Anne Shelley (Illinois State University), 2015
Web Editor: Elizabeth Hille Cribbs (Northern Illinois University), 2015

Bylaws
Beth Christensen (St. Olaf College), Chair, 2015
Sheridan Stormes (Butler University), 2015

Membership
Paula Hickner (University of Kentucky), Chair, 2017
Michael J. Duffy (Western Michigan University), 2015
Jason Imbesi (University of Michigan), 2015
Jack Knapp (Oberlin College and Conservatory), 2016
Richard LeSueur (Ann Arbor, MI), 2016
Rebecca Littman (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), 2015
Sheridan Stormes (Butler University), 2015
Lynne Weber (Minnesota State University, Mankato), 2015
Carla Williams (Indiana University), 2016

Program
Keith Cochran (Indiana University), Chair, 2015
James Procell (University of Louisville), 2015
Sheridan Stormes (Butler University), 2015

Publications
John Wagstaff (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Interim Chair, 2015
Rob Deland (Vandercook College of Music), 2015
Therese Dickman (Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville), 2015
Michael J. Duffy (Western Michigan University), 2016
Kathleen Haefliger (Chicago State University), 2016
Kathleen Harrison (Southern Illinois University, Carbondale), 2018
Ruth Inman (Kennedy-King College), 2015
Amy Pennington (Saint Louis University), 2015
Anne Shelley (Illinois State University), 2015

Terms expire in October of the year indicated. This version of the administrative structure should reflect changes made at the 2014 chapter meeting. Please report errors and omissions to the editor (anne.shelley@illinoisstate.edu).