Message from the Chair

Greetings all!

I’m enjoying Colorado’s typical spring weather, which gyrates playfully between six-inch snowfalls and sunshine-filled days in the balmy high 60s. Perhaps these springtime weather fluxes are a metaphor for the hurried, dynamic atmosphere of the academic year’s end. We are busy welcoming admitted students as we prepare to launch graduates into an uncertain future. After graduation we begin the main library’s renovation—anticipating several months of staff relocation and the “creative” provision of library services from decentralized locations. The official opening of the new library home is scheduled for August 2017.

I was energized by conversation and members’ updates at our traditional chapter dinner at MLA in Cincinnati. This meeting was a wonderful time to meet new folks and rekindle old friendships. The MOUG and MLA meetings provided a variety of great sessions and the opportunity to explore fresh ideas and repurpose current practices. We all had our conference highlights; I was most excited and encouraged by the focus on the ARL/MLA Diversity & Inclusion Initiative and the opportunity to meet and chat with several Initiative participants.

Daryll Stevens, Colorado College

Table of Contents

MPMLA 2016...........................2
Chapter News...........................3
MPMLA Travel Grant ..............2, 13
MPMLA Call for Papers..............13
Steve Luttmann will host our upcoming chapter meeting, May 20th-21st, at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado. Check out the conference website, created by Woody Colahan, for information. Woody and I are serving as the Program Committee; we’ve received many compelling proposals, and would love more! Contact us at elwood.colohan@du.edu and/or dstevens@coloradocollege.edu with your additional ideas for panels, poster session, papers, lightning rounds, performances, workshops, or?

Elections! Chris Mehrens, our Vice-Chair and chair of the Membership Committee, will be posting a request for nominations soon on MPMLA’s listserv. Please consider nominating fellow members or yourself to stand for election. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve your chapter and work with our delightful, thoughtful, resourceful, adventurous, curious, talented, intrepid, wacky, and dedicated colleagues that are MPMLA.

Finally, I invite you to submit agenda items for our annual business meeting, to be held immediately following our Saturday lunch at Greeley. Your board has already identified several concerns and welcomes your additions to the agenda. Please send these to my email address for inclusion.

And, now….here’s to spring and the renewed energy it brings!

Daryll Stevens
Chair, MPMLA
DStevens@coloradocollege.edu

MPMLA 2016

Save the dates! May 20-21
Hosted by Steve Luttmann
University of Northern Colorado

Think about applying for the Mountain Plains Chapter Travel Grant (details on page 13)

Greeley, Colorado
May 20-21, 2016
Chapter web page:
http://intranet.library.arizona.edu/users/eagleson/mpmla/

TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 25, 2016

For more information contact:
Daryll Stevens, Chair, MPMLA
DStevens@ColoradoCollege.edu
389-6126 or 389-6561 fax
Myrna Layton – Brigham Young University

As editor of this newsletter, I want to thank all of you who have submitted news and photos to share. Your contributions are what make the newsletter—this would not be a very good newsletter without your news!

I am happy to continue to serve as the manager of the listserv. I know it isn’t a perfect system. I am trying to fix some of the flaws, but it is still not exactly behaving the way I want it to. I will continue to investigate. In the meantime, please bear with it, and continue to share items of business or information with your peers in MPMLA.

Earlier this semester, I worked with a colleague, Brian Champion, the political science librarian, to sponsor a concert series in February for Black History month. It was a great experience to collaborate with faculty and students to present music by African American composers.

Janet Bradford and Janice Bunker shared their mad piano skills. I look forward to the second annual Black History Month Concert Series in 2017!

Arianne Smith-Piquette – CKUA Radio Network, Edmonton AB

Here is a recent photo of me! Looking about the size of a small house – due date is May 29th, so still a ways to go.

In the above photo, notice that my pose is similar to the one in the historical photo that was accidentally sent to the whole MPMLA list:
We’ve got the original of this photo at CKUA, and I believe it was also published in the CKUA book.

Actually, we have an open house/celebration called Party in the Park each summer, and at the 2014 event we had a local artist named Justina Smith come in and create two paintings based on photos, one of which was this photo!

Painting 1: 1951 photo replica

[Image of a painting]

Painting 2: the CKUA studio

Justina donated the paintings to CKUA for eventual auction – there’s photos of her creating the mixed media paintings on our Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/CKUARadio/

Janice Bunker – Brigham Young University

Since our lovely dinner at MLA, nothing much has happened. Except that on March 14, I started another cataloging job. I am now the head cataloger at Provo City Library, where I work 25 hours a week; and I’m still cataloging music at BYU the other 15+ hours a week. It’s been interesting and a little frustrating to deal with configuring software and permissions and learning new call number systems and quirks of processing. But it’s fun to see the cool books that come through our office. There’s no way to keep on top of it, especially since the previous head cataloger was full-time and the library reduced the position to part-time, but I’m doing my best! I guess this qualifies me as a double cataloging nerd 😊
The rest of my life is pretty stable. By the time we meet in Greeley, my oldest son and his wife will be in the throes of spring term at college, dealing with my grandson, who will be 5 months old. My oldest daughter will be home from her mission to Kentucky, and my second daughter will be home from her first year of college in Italy. My 17-year-old son will have finished all his AP tests and will hopefully have decided which colleges he wants to apply to. My 15-year-old son will be filthy rich from mowing people’s lawns and in the midst of drumline training. And my 11-year-old will have been on at least one scout camping trip and maybe will have learned to keep his clothes off his floor, but I’m not holding my breath. And my husband is planning LEGO robot projects and magnetic train projects for his 3rd graders to do near the end of school.

Can’t wait to see you all!

Stephen Luttmann - University of Northern Colorado

This past March once again found Steve Luttmann spending too much time on the other side of the world. First he spent a week in the Bangkok area assisting a delegation representing the University of Northern Colorado School of Music in successfully negotiating memoranda of understanding and exchange agreements with music programs at five universities: Chulalongkorn University, Burapha University, Silpakorn University, Rangsit University (where a former student of his is now Dean of the College of Music), and Mahidol University (by now his old stomping grounds). Then after a couple of days in the caves of Vang Vieng (Laos), he went to Vientiane for the 2016 annual meeting of the Southeast Asian Directors of Music and, together with Hiroshi Ando of the Kunitachi College of Music (Tokyo), delivered a presentation with the title “Library Preservation and Access for Everyone.” As of this writing he is still waking up at 11 in the evening with that awful feeling he’d overslept...

Katy Levings – Oklahoma Panhandle State University

There isn’t much library news here, but on the music front, I have a couple of things. I joined the Amarillo Wind Ensemble, and we’re playing a benefit concert April 13th for the Amarillo police department. After that, West Texas A & M is hosting Bassoon Bash on April 30th. Bassoonists of all levels converge on Canyon, Texas and play an informal concert. It will be epic.
David Day – Brigham Young University

We would like to congratulate David Day and his beautiful wife, Tomoko Numa. They were married on Friday, February 12, 2016, in Payson, Utah.

Tomoko is a harpist from Japan. She and David met at the World Harp Congress held in July 2014 in Sydney, Australia.

Anita Breckbill – University of Nebraska-Lincoln

News from the Music Library at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. With a new Learning Commons in the Main Library, we have organized a pilot half-season of noontime concerts, called Notes@Noon, taking place in the new space. Pictured is the Chiara Quartet, the quartet in residence at UNL, who are kicking off the concert series in the Commons. Notice the lack of music stands. This quartet is known for playing some of their repertoire by heart—things like Brahms and Bartok.

Chiara Quartet

Beth Fleming – Oklahoma City University

Leichter Listening Library at Oklahoma City University had a new installation of several shelves. Which, unfortunately, are already mostly filled.
A very strong rumor is that the library will be expanded during the summer of 2017 to miraculously provide about half again the footprint of the total current space...but the librarian has decided not to hold her breath until this actually happens.

Janet Bradford – Brigham Young University

We survived our move to level six last fall and have been busy doing lots of projects. I’m calling 2016 the year of the LP—actually we hope to have all our old format recordings cataloged by January 2017! Here’s a report.

Recordings

LPs: 78,850 items (approx. 5000 left to do)

78 rpm records: 32,173 items (only around 1000 left to do)

NEW project 45 rpm records: 2350 items cataloged thus far

Sheet Music Collections

Early Sheet Music (pre-1921): 9794 items (94 cataloged since last fall)

Historic Sheet Music (1921-) : 8470 items (70 cataloged since last fall)

Josef Bonime Sheet music collection: 5320 items (3531 cataloged since last fall)

This report is above our “normal cataloging” of items new to the library including books, scores (remember we collect extensively for harp and viola), CDs, Blu-rays, DVDs and all the other cool stuff we get. 😊

This summer we hope to move all un-cataloged backlogs to level 6 and will be counting each and every item we have yet to catalog. Look forward to my report of the grand total in the next newsletter.

Our daughter is home from her mission in Ohio. She returned on GOOD Friday, 27 March 2016. She is registered to return to BYU this spring and we just found out she will be working here in the library in our receiving department. I’m so happy!

Ron Rooth– MacEwan University

The Fitt Collection of Jazz Recordings at MacEwan University, Edmonton, Aberta

Early in 2015, MacEwan University Library, along with the Music Department, accepted a donation of approximately 16,000 jazz recordings from Michael Fitt, an Edmonton collector and discographer who has since retired to the UK. About 75% of the donation is in vinyl LP or 78rpm format, with a few 16” radio broadcast discs and other unusual carriers mixed in.
Last month, I came across a 78rpm record from 1947 that seemed to be an original issue of saxophone legend Charlie Parker playing his tune, “Bird’s Nest.”

Oddly, the matrix number etched into the dead wax of the record indicated that this was an ‘alternate take’ of that tune.

Several authoritative jazz discographies say that this alternate take was never issued in 78 format, and never issued at all until 1954, on LP. (It’s now widely available to listen to on CD re-issues, which have also found their way to YouTube).

The alternate take, take ‘B’, of “Bird’s Nest” isn’t very good: there’s a short drum solo introduction they decided to try, and the drum sound is a bit too loud and echoey – the sound is better on the next take. Worse than the sound, though, is that Charlie Parker makes a few noticeable mistakes in the opening melody. Parker was a perfectionist, and insisted on take after take of a song until it was suitable for public release.

Ross Russell, the owner of Dial Records, was already in Parker’s bad books for releasing an embarrassing recording of the great saxophonist playing “Lover Man.” When Parker left Dial for Savoy Records later that year, Dial began to receive legal threats to cease the production of recordings made from that disastrous “Lover Man” session that saw Parker check-in to rehab for eight months afterward.

Whether Dial kept the release of the inferior take of “Bird’s Nest” quiet because of the scandal surrounding “Lover Man” is a matter of speculation. And whether this particular copy we have of “Bird’s Nest” is in fact the wonky, but entirely sober, alternate take has yet to be tested empirically (a 78 needle cartridge is on order for the library turntable). But I’ll look forward to sharing any further developments with those interested at MP-MLA 2016.

Amy Hunsaker – University of Nevada (Reno)

Things are happening at the University of Nevada, Reno!

Amy J. Hunsaker joined the faculty as the Digital Initiatives Librarian in the fall of 2014. Because of staff limitations, many librarians at UNR wear
multiple hats to cover liaison duties. In January, Amy assumed the role of Subject Librarian for Music. The University budget has also traditionally been steered more toward the sciences. After all, the Mackay School of Mines, now called the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering, has anchored the university from its earliest beginnings. Although UNR is known for its jazz program and has a long musical tradition dating back to the school’s establishment in 1874, the library collection—especially the score collection—has largely been neglected. Music faculty have had to rely heavily on their personal collections for instruction and research in the past.

But no more! Although the library budget for music is still miniscule, active collection development is happening! An inventory has been created, alternative support, including donations and grants, are actively sought out, and the LP collection is available for student and faculty use for the first time in decades (or for the first time ever). Most importantly, Amy has worked actively with Music Faculty to pinpoint weak areas of the score collection and is slowly building it to prepare for future expansions of the Music Department (a new Musical Theater undergraduate degree, and a DMA program).

Since Amy is also the Digital Initiatives Librarian, she is also creating a couple of music themed digital collections, including a digitized vinyl collection and a collection of downloadable musical theater sheet music (only accessible to UNR students because of copyright). Keep your eyes on Reno—more exciting things are sure to come!

Sean Luyk—University of Alberta

Announcement from November by Gerald Beasley, Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian - “I am very pleased to announce that Sean Luyk, Music Librarian in the Humanities & Social Sciences Library, has been awarded an appointment with tenure by the Library Evaluation Committee.

Sean is multi-degreed, he has a Bachelor of Music, a Diploma in Music Performance (Percussion), and a Master of Arts in Music Criticism, all from McMaster University and he obtained a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Western Ontario in 2010. Sean has been the Music Librarian with the Libraries since 2011, first as a member of our Academic Library Internship Program and then on the tenure-track. Throughout this time he has been involved in numerous collections projects and is notably proud of the Edmonton Music Collection (involving the Edmonton music community), the Walder G. W. Sheet Music Collection (now available through the multi-
institutional Sheet Music Consortium) and the Department of Music Convocation Hall Recordings Digitization Project (sound recordings back to 1967). Sean has made significant contributions to professional associations, such as the Canadian Association of Music Libraries, Archives, and Documentation Centres, the Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians, the Music Library Association, and its Mountain-Plains Chapter, and the Music OCLC Users Group. Closer to home he has also been President of the Greater Edmonton Library Association, on the Executive of the Association of Professional Librarians: University of Alberta, and involved with the Academic Librarians Committee. In addition, Sean has numerous presentations and publications to his credit. One of Sean’s references described his “apt sense of humor and a characteristic aplomb”; both are wonderful attributes for a Music Librarian.”

Congratulations to you from MPMLA, Sean!

Kristi Austin – Idaho State University

In early May of 2015, I enthusiastically responded to a message that appeared on MLA-L that bore the subject line, “Looking for a good home.” A librarian at Yale University had agreed to help the family of deceased conductor Haymo Taeuber find a worthy new home for the music scores he had collected and used during a long, international career.

By early July, Idaho State University’s Oboler Library had received over 750 scores, lovingly wrapped and carefully packed into 17 large boxes.

Over the course of a long career that spanned continents, Haymo Taeuber (originally spelled Täuber) had conducted operas and symphony orchestras in Graz and Vienna, of the Vienna Boys Choir, orchestras of Ankara, Turkey, Teheran, Iran, Calgary (Alberta), and finally, Monterey (CA). Born in 1908 in Graz, Austria, he learned to play the violin, piano, and organ, began collecting and studying music scores at 14, and trained at the Musikakademie in Vienna, where he began conducting; following his graduation, he moved to Basel, Switzerland, to continue his studies with Felix Weingartner. He worked with the Vienna Boys Choir (Wiener Sängerknaben) before World War II, and was instrumental in rebuilding the group after the war had ended. In fact, building, or rebuilding, orchestras became one of his hallmarks and passions. He worked with the Monterey County Symphony for 17 years, from 1968 to 1985, including a bicentennial gala at the Carmel Mission to celebrate the 200th “birthday” of both the mission, and composer Ludwig von Beethoven. Taeuber passed away in 1995.

The scores we received from the Taeuber family are a rich and varied treasure trove, including pocket or study scores, full scores, and vocal
music; composers represented run the gamut from Bach to Bartok, Handel to Hovhaness.

During the course of our negotiations with Maestro Taeuber’s family, we got to know his daughters Christiane and Barbara, and their mother Gisela, quite well, so when I was in Monterey in late October, I arranged to meet them to thank them personally for the wonderful gift.

At that time, Gisela presented me with another incredible treasure: a group of 5 folders in which she had painstakingly collected newspaper clippings and other memorabilia from Haymo’s career, organized by date and year. The package is marked, “From the archives of Haymo Taeuber as presented by his family. 10/31/2015.”

This archival material would be a tremendous resource for a scholar interested in the life of an international conductor during the 20th century. Barbara and Gisela were very warm and friendly, and said again how happy they were that this collection had found a good home, as the scores hold great personal value to them; Gisela used to help him memorize the scores by reading them while he conducted, checking his accuracy. Many of these scores have Haymo’s notes and even newspaper clippings and cartoons inside them. They told me about the family get-together in which Barbara, Christiane’s daughter, and Gisela had carefully wrapped and boxed up the scores to ship them to us, giving them a loving send-off.

We are delighted to be the recipient of this generous gift.

Matthew Stock – University of Oklahoma

The OU Fine Arts Library has completed its first season participating in the city wide 2nd Friday Artwalks. Over 300 people attended six events and the videos posted to Facebook have been viewed over 3,900 times.

Highlights can be seen at: www.facebook.com/OUFineArtsLibrary/videos

Daryll Stevens – Colorado College

Change is afoot at Colorado College!

Like many academic institutions, we too have been shaken by recent events that appear to threaten our commitment of promoting diversity and inclusion on campus. Several events have tested the natural tension between intellectual freedom and egalitarian treatment. College Administration and the Butler Center--CC’s hub of diversity, inclusion, intercultural exchange, equity, and empowerment for the
Colorado College community—are leading us as we grapple with these issues.

Boy, have we been busy librarianating this past year! In preparation for the main library's renovation the Music Library staff has finished weeding the M collections at the main library, moving several items into our collection. Now it’s time to revisit the interrupted weeding of our own collection. And...our cataloger’s office is overflowing with circulating digital technology equipment, supporting courses taught by our new music technology professor.

And finally, don’t miss this! This fall CC Professor Ryan Banagale co-chairs “It’s Still Rock and Roll to Me”: The Music and Lyrics of Billy Joel—A Public Musicology Conference at Colorado College. Dates are October 7-8, 2016.

The Music Library and Music Department are busily repurposing facilities to make creative use of limited space and growing resources. Within the next academic year, we expect to celebrate the installation of a new 5.1 studio and a remodeled larger sound studio!

The Music Department has redesigned the music major’s core curriculum to provide the opportunity for students to more easily pursue coursework outside of the Western art music canon. We are awaiting the approval of two additional minors—in performance and music education.

Humor from Buzzfeed:
MPMLA Call for Papers

Conference: Mountain-Plains Music Library Association (MPMLA) annual chapter meeting

Dates: May 20-21, 2016
Place: Greeley, Colorado
Submission Deadline: April 20, 2015

A reminder that the MPMLA Program Committee is now accepting proposals for oral presentations. You also may consider non-traditional submissions (e.g. ideas for panels, lightening rounds, workshops, performances, etc.). We welcome proposals for a Friday poster session. MPMLA has not had a poster session in the past. Please feel free to submit your ideas for a poster or for any other type of presentation / activity you would be interested in offering.

Student proposals are welcome, with the sponsorship of a faculty member.

Send your proposal, (with a short bio suitable for the session chair to use to introduce you to the audience) to Daryll Stevens DSTevens@ColoradoCollege.edu and/or Woody Colahan Ellwood.Colahan@du.edu

The Conference Website is at: https://sites.google.com/site/mpmla2016/home

MPMLA TRAVEL GRANT

Chapter Meeting, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado May 20-21, 2016

TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 25th, 2016

Eligibility: The scholarship provides monetary support for attendance at chapter meetings. The applicant must be a chapter member in good standing or agree to join the chapter upon receiving the award. Preference will be given to first-time attendees who are music librarians or library school students in the Mountain Plains area: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming--and the Canadian province of Alberta. Preference will also be given to those who are presenting at the meeting and to librarians from the Mountain Plains area in their first five years of employment in a music library.

Applications directly from individuals and nominations from chapter members are encouraged.

Date of application:

Name of applicant:

Applicant’s email address:

Name of library school, employing library, or other affiliation:

Degree date or no. of years in position:

Name of nominating chapter member, if applicable:

Please describe the applicant’s achievements and interests in music librarianship (up to 200 words). Note previous MLA or MPMLA meetings attended, if applicable, and whether or not the applicant will be presenting at the MPMLA annual meeting. The applicant should also submit a brief budget for travel and lodging.

Please submit application by e-mail or U.S. mail to: Daryll Stevens, Chair, MPMLA dstevens@coloradocollege.edu

719 389-6126