Norfolk 2020 Survey
152 responses

What is your MLA membership status?

152 responses

- Regular: 65.1%
- Regular, non-US: 15.8%
- Sustaining: 1%
- Sustaining non-US: 0.67%
- Paraprofessional/non-salaried: 1%
- Retired: 0.67%
- Student: 1%
- Honorary: 1%

Approximately how many MLA Annual Meetings have you attended (including the most recent)?

151 responses

- None: 22.5%
- 1: 25.2%
- 2-3: 17.2%
- 4-6: 16.6%
- 7-10: 10.6%
- 11-20: 5.3%
- Over 20: 1.3%
What is your affiliation. Please select all that apply.

152 responses

- Academic or conservatory library: 130 (85.5%)
- Public library: 8 (5.3%)
- Orchestral library: 2 (1.3%)
- Governmental library (federal, state, a…): 5 (3.3%)
- Student: 5 (3.3%)
- Retired: 7 (4.6%)
- Unaffiliated: 0 (0%)
- Other (please specify): 3 (2%)

Did you attend the Annual Meeting in Norfolk in person?

152 responses

- Yes: 95.4%
- No: 4.6%

Sección sin título
Did you stay at Hilton Norfolk The Main (i.e., the conference hotel)?
145 responses

- Yes: 84.8%
- No: 14.5%
- Partially: 1%

How satisfied were you with the hotel in proximity to grocery stores? (Skip if not applicable.)
60 responses

- Rating 1: 7 (11.7%)
- Rating 2: 16 (26.7%)
- Rating 3: 16 (26.7%)
- Rating 4: 13 (21.7%)
- Rating 5: 8 (13.3%)
How satisfied were you with the hotel in proximity to variety of restaurants? (Skip if not applicable.)

132 responses

[Bar chart showing distribution of satisfaction levels]

How satisfied were you with the hotel in proximity to public transportation? (Skip if not applicable.)

45 responses

[Bar chart showing distribution of satisfaction levels]
How satisfied were you with the hotel in proximity to shopping? (Skip if not applicable.)

68 responses

How satisfied were you with the hotel in proximity to arts, music, other entertainment? (Skip if not applicable.)

52 responses
How satisfied were you with the hotel in proximity to other hotels? (Skip if not applicable.)

27 responses

![Graph showing satisfaction levels with hotels in proximity to other hotels.]

How satisfied were you with the food at the OPENING reception? (Skip if not applicable.)

108 responses

![Graph showing satisfaction levels with food at the OPENING reception.]

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19laWiyquE91y711_JV11HUAP4IOry35yL3Buw7_YoA/viewanalytics
How satisfied were you with the refreshments at the COFFEE/TEA breaks? (Skip if not applicable.)
135 responses

How satisfied were you with the food at the CLOSING reception? (Skip if not applicable.)
93 responses
This year the Program Committee included for the first time a Community Choice session, featuring presentations that were selected by the MLA community. Do you think this should be a regular offering at future conferences?

142 responses

- Yes: 94 (66.2%)
- No: 7 (4.9%)
- No opinion: 41 (28.9%)
Please add any comments you might have regarding the Community Choice session.

17 responses

I liked it, as a student, because it let me see what people already in the field are most interested in and looking into.

Not only did the presentations end up being good, but it allowed the larger MLA community to share in the decisions being made about the conference. Providing that sense of ownership, or shared responsibility, inherently creates a more collegial organization overall.

It might be another popularity contest?

I attended it, and it was fantastic!! I loved it and definitely think it should continue to be a part of future meetings.

I saw parts of two presenters, and I was impressed with both. I don't know if they would have been included if there was not Community Choice, but I thought they were well deserving of having a slot.

I wasn't able to attend

The seating arrangement in the plenary presentation room this year included some large round tables as well as the traditional theater seating. Do you think we should continue this practice?

145 responses

- Yes: 53.8%
- No: 34.5%
- No opinion: 11.7%
How much do you agree with the statement, "I personally felt welcomed by those in attendance at MLA Norfolk?"

145 responses

1 (0.7%) 2 (1.4%) 10 (6.9%) 47 (32.4%) 85 (58.6%)
At the MLA 2020 Business Meeting, the Membership voted to remove all restrictions on remote presentations. Speakers to the motion noted that remote presentations, regardless of the technical challenges they sometimes create, promote greater inclusivity and accessibility for both presenters and conference attendees. What are additional ways we as an organization can be more inclusive and accessible at our Annual Meetings?

38 responses

The cost of attendance and registration for conferences, as well as memberships, is very unaffordable for students and paraprofessionals. There should be a way to lower the costs for all members these groups, as well as nonmembers (in addition to the wonderful paraprofessional travel grant), to encourage MLA meeting attendance.

Nursing rooms, and greater ADA compliance in the presentations themselves (legible fonts, captions, etc.)

There's nothing wrong with remote speakers as long is it's just limited to one person who is not an MLA member and they are not a significant part of the presentation. There can even be technical challenges with people onsite. I was always told with presentations to just assume that there will be technical issues and have a back-up plan. So just require those who want to have a remote speaker to state what their back-up plan is.

Remote presentations seem like a great way to make MLA more accessible. As a new member, I don't have past experience with remote presentations that other members seemed to be upset about. The hotel setup seemed a little difficult to me, with so many escalators and the elevators were sometimes slow.
MLA provided options for accessing live video streaming and archived videos of a portion of the programming that took place at the Norfolk Annual Meeting. Did having these options affect your attendance at those sessions?

145 responses

The program this year featured sessions with interactive elements, such as small group or large group discussion. Please select the option which best represents your feelings on the following: “I enjoyed these interactive sessions and would like to see similarly formatted sessions at future annual meetings.” (Skip if no opinion.)

125 responses
What THREE TOPICS would you most like to see addressed during sessions at our annual meetings? Please select no more than three.

144 responses

- Cataloging/Metadata: 33 (22.9%)
- Linked data: 24 (16.7%)
- Collection development: 21 (14.6%)
- Collection management: 19 (13.2%)
- Diversity, equity, inclusion: 32 (22.2%)
- Digital scholarship/humanities: 30 (20.8%)
- Data/information visualization: 21 (14.6%)
- Reference: 21 (14.6%)
- Copyright: 22 (15.3%)
- Critical librarianship: 19 (13.2%)
- Social justice, public policy, and activism: 17 (11.8%)
- Local music: 15 (10.4%)
- The session that was geared to getting sessions on our discovery layers interdisciplinary approaches to music leadership/management (not the same as ...)
Do you have any other comments regarding the 2020 Annual Meeting in Norfolk?

74 responses

Having some more gluten free, lactose free, etc. options for food at the receptions/coffee breaks would be highly beneficial for those with dietary restrictions. There were not a lot of viable choices, at least for myself and a few others I spoke with, in terms of food that would be safe for us to consume. Thank you, Jonathan and all, for putting this great survey together!

I attended more sessions in Norfolk than I usually have in the past. It was a very useful program for a variety of reasons. Congratulations to the Program Committee.

Rooms / spaces for ALL Committee meetings should have tables at which to sit, discuss, and WRITE / TYPE.

Found sessions engaging and most speakers very well prepared, with new ideas, information to enhance and grow our knowledge as music librarians. The wonderful hotel venues were very conducive to presentations, styles and learning and contributed substantially to overall success and satisfaction of this meeting. I enjoyed it, and learned a lot. While I still miss the old "banquet" format -- I found this year's closing reception the best we've had recently-- except 1/2 hour between end o the Business meeting and the start of the Big Band-- is not enough time -- so Big Band

Why did you not attend the Norfolk Annual Meeting? Please select all that apply.

7 responses

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At the MLA 2020 Business Meeting, the Membership voted to remove all restrictions on remote presentations. Speakers to the motion noted that remote presentations, regardless of the technical challenges they sometimes create, promote greater inclusivity and accessibility for both presenters and conference attendees. What are additional ways we as an organization can be more inclusive and accessible at our Annual Meetings?

3 responses

I've long preferred attending physical meetings and chosen to focus on attending fewer meetings more regularly to build connections within a network. However, the pandemic has made me reconsider this philosophy - I'm finding that I would be interested in attending a wider range of meetings if they are available virtually. Apparently the time, cost and stress of travel was a bigger factor than I thought in deciding which professional communities I would be part of.

Can MLA afford two simultaneous streams, so more content can be available online?

Be sure that modification does not simply narrow the restriction. Requiring pre-recorded presentation IS ALSO an accessibility restriction, intentionally excluding participation in discussion-based panels. Discussion-based panels are desirable, and will increase in number from year to year. The more of those there are, the fewer accessible (to the disabled community--a federal requirement, punishable by law) and inclusive (to those underrepresented socio-economically) opportunities there will be for participation. Kinda the opposite of the point, and bordering on outright segregation (also illegal).

Do you have any other comments regarding the 2020 Norfolk Annual Meeting?

2 responses

I'm sorry I wasn't able to attend.....

Best of luck to MLA. May it find its way to being a sustainable organization through intentional and systemic bias.