



International Association
of Music Libraries, Archives
and Documentation Centres

Australia

Submitted by Julia Child – President

National board members

- President – Julia Child
- Vice President – Judith Foster
- Vice President – Linda Papa
- Treasurer – Peter Campbell
- Secretary (interim) – Ryan Weymouth
- Communication Officers – Jeremy De Korte & Lisa Mackie

State Representatives

- New South Wales – Sarah Dundon & Marie Chellos – University of Sydney)
- Western Australia – Cassandra Podbury
- Queensland – Ryan Weymouth – Queensland University of Technology
- Australian Capital Territory – Nikki White – National Library of Australia
- South Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory – Vacant
- Victoria – Robert Stove

Board meetings held during the year

- October 2021 (video conference)
- February 2022 (video conference)
- June 2022 (video conference)

Annual branch meetings

Annual General Meeting October 2021 (video conference)

Branch membership figures

- *Individual members: 25*
- *Institutional members: 16*
- *Honorary members: 3*

Branch constitutional matters

The Management Committee has recently written to members to advise that a vote will be taken at our next AGM on whether the Association, incorporated in Queensland should be voluntarily canceled. The Committee has proposed instead to continue as an informal network and we are working with the IAML International executive committee to consider what this might mean in terms of managing memberships in Australia. For over 10 years now we have struggled to attract Committee members, particularly as membership has also declined as specialist roles have reduced.

Cancellation of the Association would be a significant change for the Australia branch, but one that we hope will bring positive long-term sustainability for our network. We believe that with reduced costs for members, and less Committee level administration, a more informal network could truly thrive.

Branch activities

[IAML Australia Online Conference](#), 30 Sep – 1 Oct 2021, Music rights for all: Libraries as enablers

In 2021 we once again took advantage of the necessity of online conferencing to overcome the geographical challenges that can often prevent member attendance, resulting our most successful conference to date with 100 registrants. Taking inspiration from the Five Music Rights our program included;

Keynotes:

[Creative Identity, Songlines of Belonging](#) – Professor Deborah Cheetham, OA, Monash University and Artistic Director, Short Black Opera Company

[Music Rights are Human Rights: Ensuring Musical Expression for All](#) – Professor Cat Hope, Monash University

IAML International President Address: Pia Shekhter

Traditional knowledge, music copyright and libraries: a beginner's guide – Phillippa McKeown-Green, Auckland University of Technology

Short papers

[Supporting Homegrown Stars, Library Maker Spaces as Creative Incubators](#) – Scott Mundell, Yarra Plenty Regional Library, Victoria

[Music and the First World War at the Australian War Memorial](#) – Therese Cronk

[Patreon, Subsonic and all that jazz](#) – Ashley Sutherland, Julie Cohen, & Nathan Parry, University of Melbourne

Lightning talks

The Times They Are A-Changin': Contemporary sounds, the library, and its relevance in the school instrumental music program – Damien Ryles, Monash University and Melbourne High School

Introducing practice-led research: a collaborative approach – Meredith Beardmore, Melbourne Polytechnic

What can Herbie Hancock teach advisors? – Marie Chellos, University of Sydney

The Five Music Rights and Cultural Competence in Library Service: Perceived Western Universality and Postcolonial Diversity, Freedom and Empowerment – John Wu, University of Sydney

Adaptations at the AMC: Balancing music rights in a global pandemic – James Lee, Australian Music Centre

[Digitising John Cargher 78 rpm records at Monash University Library](#) – Irene Guidotti, Monash University

Insights from a new chorus of voices: Highlights from two international congresses and two national meetings during lockdown – Jackie Waylen, Monash University

What's new at BTMI: A brief look at some of the developments in music publishing information systems from BTM Innovation including Zinfonia and the new In© copyright clearance portal – Peter Grimshaw, BTMI Innovation Pty Ltd

Music in the time of COVID: Online performances and the copyright implications – Megan Stapleton Hal Leonard

We were also able to facilitate social & networking sessions with a novel ice breaking activity in song!

Branch publications

Monthly E-newsletter: We continue to use Mailchimp to send out monthly e-news to 147 subscribers, as well as IAML Australia member only messages. Our monthly e-news includes updates from IAML Australia and International IAML, notifications of relevant conferences and events, and highlights from our social media streams that you may have missed.

Branch website

<http://www.iamlaustralia.org.au>

Papers and recordings from our 2021 conference are available

Social media activity

www.facebook.com/IAMLAustralia/

www.twitter.com/iamlaustralia

Our Facebook page continues to retain 244 followers with 3,340 people seeing our content over the last 12 months. Our Facebook Group continues to have 17 members though engagement here is relatively low. Our Twitter following has hit the 1,000 mark. Our social posts are regularly shared by IAML International and IAML New Zealand.

Additional comments

As was the case with libraries across the world, our Australian libraries were forced to temporarily close their doors during the pandemic. In many cases this worked to highlight the value of our libraries and collections, particularly in the public and education sectors. Some libraries were able to remain open whilst others quickly adapted to posting or digitising materials and delivering a range of activities, events, and learning opportunities online. In Melbourne, the Yarra Plenty regional libraries even called all of their patrons over the age of 70 to check on them. Libraries are now back open across the country with many in-person services and activities returning to a great reception from users.

The impacts of COVID brought about some reflection on the enormous achievements of our very own Australian Music Centre library, which has been ensuring our music communities have access to digital scores for sale and loan for well over a decade. None of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication of Judith Foster who recently took a step back from her role as Music Resources Manager after 26 years with the organisation. Her colleagues at AMC were extremely sad to say goodbye and we know her skills and experience will be a great loss to the organisation. We're grateful that Judith continues to support IAML Australia as Vice President.

Many institutions were forced to turn to redundancies as finances were impacted by COVID. Ludwig Sugiri took voluntary redundancy from the University of Sydney after 17 years of service.

We also experienced a significant blow to the sector when the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) announced that 58 librarian and archives roles would be cut. IAML has offered support to the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) campaign to condemn the cuts.

There is still however a great deal of positive work happening across the sector in Australia. The Council of Australian University Libraries (CAUL) introduced new Read & Publish agreements to support open access publishing free of Article Processing Charges (APCs). This significant step in research publishing has included a number of music and performing arts journals from major publishers.

The National Library is currently hosting "On Stage", an exhibition that shines a spotlight on Australia's performing arts history, through its extensive performing arts collections. On Stage: Online provides a global platform for some of these fascinating materials.

Academic institutions and opera companies have partnered to launch Australian Opera Digital Library, a catalogue of Australian operas from companies around the country featuring production videos, media clippings, design drawings, interviews with the creators and programs.

University of Sydney Library continues to host an exhibition each semester exploring the work of researchers at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music (#sydneyconresearch). Most recently Jodie Kell shared her work spanning music, language, Indigenous studies and gender studies including Instagram Live performances & discussions.

University of Sydney also recently released sector-leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols to promote culturally safe practices across services, spaces and resources. The protocols are designed to address wide-ranging issues including access to culturally sacred and secret materials, racism and inaccuracies in historical materials, and representation of First Nations voices and perspectives.