

United States, report 2013

Board of Directors: Michael Colby (president); Jerry McBride (past-president); Pamela Bristah (recording secretary); Paul Cary (administrative officer); Linda Blair (assistant administrative officer); Paula Hickner, Steve Landstreet, Mark Scharff (members-at-large, 2012-2014); Stephanie Bonjack, Michael Duffy, IV, Richard McRae (members-at-large, 2013-2015).
Membership: 121 individual members, 116 institutional members, 237 members total.

Strategic Plan

Work continued on the implementation of the strategic plan begun in 2011. A Task Force of the Board was formed, which took the operational objectives which had been prioritized by the Steering Committee and shaped them into a two-year action plan. This plan examined actions related to the objectives in each goal area and compiled about a dozen shorter-term action items; these actions were presented as a recommendation to the entire Board. The Board revised and accepted the action plan, which was announced on MLA-L and posted on the website.

Information Technology

Information technology is a major section of the strategic plan. Items related to information technology are found in each of the goal areas: Advocacy, Publications, Convention, Fundraising, Membership, Outreach, Organizational Excellence and Education. A Web Site Services Implementation Task Force was formed with the charge "To recommend a company to partner with MLA with the goal of providing a website with the greatest potential to meet the information technology needs of MLA now and in the future, at a cost that is affordable." The task force's recommendations were in two areas: content management systems and association management software. The Board decided to pursue association management software first and entered into negotiations with the firm YourMembership.com. After successful negotiations, MLA entered into contract with the firm and the Web Committee began the process of migrating our management data into the new system.

Social media

Social media was another area of importance identified in the strategic plan. The association now has an official presence on Facebook. A blog has also been launched.

Conferences

The 2013 MLA Annual Meeting was held in San Jose, California on 27 February through March 2 with a registration of 409 members and 37 exhibitors. As is customary, the meeting was preceded by a two-day meeting of the Music OCLC User's Group (MOUG). A pre-conference

workshop on Resource Description and Access (RDA), co-sponsored by the MLA Bibliographic Control Committee and MOUG, was enrolled to capacity and well-received. Three plenary sessions were held: "A View from the Top: The 21st Century Music Librarian Panel on the Future of Subject Collections," "A Tour of Northern California Music Archives," and "RDA for All: RDA, Music Discovery, and Beyond." Among the other program sessions offered were: "E-scores Made E-asy: Acquisition, Licensing, Storage, and Access," "Information Literacy Beyond the Classroom: Reaching Music Students in Non-Traditional Environments," "From the Ground Up: Building Community Through Space Planning," "Here, There, and Everywhere: Recent Bibliography Initiatives by MLA Members," "RDA Best Practices for Music: a Conversation," "The Eclectic World of Contemporary Jewish Music: The Age of Mash-Up and Blend," "The Grateful Dead and the S.F./Bay Area Music Scene: a Musical History," "Base Lining: Follow-up on the Interlibrary Loan and Music Collections Survey of 2011," "New Frontiers in Database Development at the Barry S. Brook Center for Music Research and Documentation: Music in Gotham and RILM," "Ozalids and Open Reels: Preservation Problems for 20th Century Music Collections," "Back from the Future: What's Missing in Music Librarianship Education Today?" "Collaborative Collection Development: Challenges and Solutions," "Using In-Class Assessments as an Active Learning Tool," "Do They (or We) Know It's Clipping?: Sound Quality and the Music Librarian's Role in Educating Younger Listeners," "The Stories We Tell: California and MLA Perspectives," "From Text to Live-Action Video Tutorial: Tailoring Music Information Literacy to the YouTube Generation," "Stretching for Music Librarians," "And Now for Something Completely Different: New Exercises to Keep Your Students Engaged in Library Instruction," "Discovery Interfaces and Music," "Orpheus Looks Ahead: Reinventing NPR's Music Library," "Music Librarianship: What Types of Jobs are Available, Who's Hiring, and How to Land One of Today's Jobs," "How to Incorporate Music into Almost Any Course," "Local and Regional Music Collections: Issues and Strategies," "Untangling the Tricky Web of Sheet Music Publishers, Self-Publishers, Rentals, Licensing, and the Impact of Legislation."

Future conferences will be held 26 February-1 March 2014 in Atlanta, Georgia; and 25-28 February 2015 in Denver, Colorado. The Atlanta conference will include a pre-conference workshop on managing change.

Publications

MLA publishes three periodicals: the quarterly journal, *Notes*; the quarterly *Newsletter* and the monthly *Music Cataloging Bulletin*. The journal and newsletter are available as a benefit of membership, and all three publications are available by subscription. Volume 68 of *Notes* was published under the editorship of Jane Gottlieb, continuing its tradition of interesting, informative, and well-written articles in the areas of music librarianship, music bibliography and discography, the music trade, and on certain aspects of music history. MLA also publishes

three monographic series. This year *Money for the Asking: Fundraising in Music Libraries* by Peter Mundstedt and *Basic Music Reference: a Guide for Non-Specialist Librarians, Library Assistants and Student Employees* by Michael J. Duffy, IV and Alan Green were published as numbers 7 and 9 in the Basic Manuals Series.

Awards

Kirstin Dougan was the recipient of the Lenore F. Coral IAML Travel Grant. She received support to attend the annual IAML meeting in Montreal.

MLA's highest honor is the MLA Citation, a tribute for lifetime achievement, awarded in recognition of distinguished service to music librarianship over a career. This award is not presented every year; this year it was awarded to Bonna J. Boettcher, currently Director of Music and Fine Arts Libraries, and Adjunct Professor of Music at Cornell University. Ms. Boettcher's service to the profession has included terms as MLA President, MLA Convention Manager, and Executive Secretary, as well as a member of the IAML-US Board of Directors and ex-officio service on the RILM/US Office Governing Board.

The A. Ralph Papakian Special Achievement award is given for extraordinary service to the profession of music librarianship over a relatively short period of time. This year awards were given to Ruthann McTyre and Judy Tsou, for their work on the MLA/IAML-US merger and to Kathy Glennan for her contributions to and leadership in music cataloging, including her significant contributions in the drafting and implementation of RDA.

MLA presents awards and grants annually to foster excellence in publication and research and to further professional development. In 2013, the Vincent H. Duckles Award for the best book-length bibliography or other research tool in music was awarded to Jerry McBride for his work *Douglas Moore: a Bio-Bibliography* (Middleton, Wisc.: A-R Editions, 2011). The Eva Judd O'Meara Award for the best review published in *Notes* was awarded to Lance W. Brunner for his review of *Inside the Offertory: Aspects of Chronology and Transmission* by Rebecca Maloy in *Notes* 68:2 (December 2011), 332-334. The Richard S. Hill Award for the best article on music librarianship or article of a music-bibliographic nature was awarded to James L. Zychowicz for his article, "Gustav Mahler's Second Century: Achievements in Scholarship and Challenges for Research," *Notes* 67:3 (2011): 457-482.

The following research grants were awarded. The Carol June Bradley Award supports studies that deal with the history of music libraries or special collections. The 2013 award goes to John Beckwith and Robin Elliott, to support work on *Mapping Canada's Music: Selected Writings of Helmut Kallmann*, to be published this year by Wilfrid Laurier University Press. The Dena

Epstein Award supports research in archives or libraries internationally on any aspect of American music. This year's recipient was Alecia Barbour for her research into Japanese American containment camps and examining the role of music and sound therein. The Walter Gerboth Award is for members of MLA who are in the first five years of their professional library careers to assist research-in-progress in music or music librarianship. Jessica Nay received this year's award to further her research work on developing a catalog to the words of Ferdinand Praeger.

MLA also awards travel grants to encourage attendance and involvement at MLA and IAML conferences. The Kevin Freeman Travel Grant is awarded to students, recent graduates, or other colleagues who are new to the profession to support attendance at MLA annual meetings. For the 2013 meeting in San Jose, California, the Freeman recipients were Sarah Alexander, Kirk-Evan Billet, and Jacey Kepich.

Obituaries

Two long-time IAML US members left us in the past year. Mary Wallace Davidson served as head of the Sibley Music Library at the Eastman School of Music and head of the Cook Music Library at Indiana University. Her numerous contributions to the profession includes service as President of the Music Library Association. Her 11 October 2012 passing was noted in *Fontes Artis Musicae* 59/4.

John Tanno, who was Associate University Librarian at two University of California campuses (Riverside and Davis) was also a classical guitarist. He passed away 15 February, 2013.

Committees

Much of the work of MLA is done through its 27 committees, 10 subcommittees, 3 joint committees, and 20 round tables. The Archives and Special Collections Committee, chaired by Matthew Snyder, has been established to address the concerns and interests of music librarians responsible for archives and special collections. The Retirees Round Table coordinated by Linda Solow Blotner was established this year as a forum for the discussion of issues by those retired from careers in music librarianship who choose to remain active in the association. Additionally, the Investments Subcommittee of the Finance Committee was re-established with a charge to track and monitor MLA's investments, and provide information and advice to the Finance Committee and Board about investments.

Space limitations prevent listing all of the committee activities and accomplishments over the past year here, so this report will only recount some highlights. The Bibliographic Control Committee and its five subcommittees (Authorities, Descriptive Cataloging, MARC Formats,

Metadata, and Subject Access) remain quite active. Much, but not all, of their efforts are in the continuing development and implementation of RDA, including the RDA Music Revisions Facilitation Task Force, a joint committee with other national library associations. The BCC Genre/Form Task Force continues to review genre/form and medium of performance lists posted by the Library of Congress.

Upon the recommendation of the Legislation Committee, the Best Practices for Fair Use of Music Materials Task Force was established. It has been charged to write an MLA Statement of Best Practices for Fair Use of Music Materials. Also in response to the committee, MLA has endorsed the Association of Research Library's Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Academic Libraries. This is meant to be a clear and easy-to-use statement of fair and reasonable approaches to fair use developed by and for librarians who support academic inquiry and higher education. It may be accessed at: <http://www.arl.org/focus-areas/copyright-ip/fair-use/code-of-best-practices>

Much of the work of many committees resulted in program sessions at the conference and other projects.

Task Forces

When topics fall outside of the scope of the committee structure, task forces are often established to address them. The Digital Audio Proposal Task Force was charged to develop a grant proposal to convene a summit of nationally-representative experts for the purpose of visioning the requirements for a database for systems through which libraries can legally acquire, preserve, and provide access to digital audio files. MLA has endorsed this proposal and looks forward to participating in the summit.

A task force was established to examine the current nomination procedures and criteria for all MLA offices and for the MLA Citation and produce a Nominating Committee handbook, with a goal of more clearly codifying the practices of the committee and of the organization in relation to elections. The Board of Directors has endorsed recommendations of this task force.

The annual meeting takes a significant amount of time and energy on the part of the association, while being a major event and highlight of MLA's activities. The Conference Task Force was charged to identify the issues, and recommend one or more possible alternatives to the current conference program structure and balance; to suggest a revised program committee membership and terms; and to propose a timeline for implementation of the suggestions. The Board has received the recommendations and is already working at implementing some of them in the interest of keeping the meeting cost-effective, relevant and dynamic.

Outreach

The MLA Board decided to increase IAML outreach efforts by sponsoring four institutional memberships in countries not currently represented in IAML. The funding is to come from the Neil Ratliff Outreach Grant Fund. Past President Jerry McBride corresponded with Jon Bagüés, the Director of the Basque Music Archive, Eresbil (Archivo Vasco de la Música, Eresbil) concerning outreach to music libraries in Latin America. Letters offering to sponsor IAML institutional memberships were sent to the following individuals at these four libraries: José Antonio Robles, Centro Nacional de Investigación, Documentación e Información Musical “Carlos Chávez;” Zamira Barquero, Archivo Histórico Musical at the Universidad de Costa Rica; Dora Moreno, Biblioteca de Artes, Universidad de Chile; and Jaime Quevedo, Biblioteca Nacional de Colombia, Centro de Documentación Musical. In exchange for the membership, each institution was asked to contribute citations of literature about music in print and other media published in their country for the year 2012 to the editor of “Recent Publications in Music” and to pursue institutional support for continuing IAML membership in 2014 and into the future. If it is impossible for their institution to pay for an IAML membership, MLA will consider sponsoring the institution for a second year.

Board Operations

The MLA Board continued to experiment with the use of video conferencing. While the original intent was to eliminate some face-to-face meetings, we have not been able to achieve this goal. Still, there seem to be fewer technological glitches in these online meetings than were experienced in the first attempts. Consequently, we have been able to reduce the length of face-to-face meetings by a day or two, thereby achieving some savings for the operating budget.

Greater transparency was one of the goals of the strategic plan. The Board continues to follow the recently adopted Open Meeting Guidelines to increase and insure greater communication with the membership. Documents and reports to the Board not containing sensitive or confidential information are made available to the membership prior to the Board meeting. The minutes of the Board meeting are also circulated to the membership via the MLA-L listserv.

This has been another active, productive, and challenging year for MLA. Our financial position, while not robust, is sound as we adapt to current economic challenges. The association is in a strong position with a committed core of dedicated members. We are responding to the goals and actions set out in the Strategic Plan to help us remain relevant and responsive to a changing profession and society. MLA has strong representation in important library organizations through its liaison program, at important national bibliographic committees, in the national legislative arena, and as the United States branch of IAML. We look forward to the challenges

that lay ahead and along with our colleagues in other countries to contributing toward the improvement of music libraries in the world.

Michael Colby

President, Music Library Association, IAML-US