

United States

Board of Directors: Michael Colby (President); Michael Rogan (Vice-President); Lisa Shiota (Recording Secretary); Paul Cary (Administrative Officer); Paula Hickner (Assistant Administrative Officer); Stephanie Bonjack, Michael Duffy, IV, Richard McRae (Members-at-Large, 2013-2015); Tracey Rudnick, Damian Iseminger, John Shepard (members-at-large, 2014-2016). Membership: 120 individual members, 117 institutional members: 237 total members.

Strategic Plan

Good progress continued to be made on the implementation of the strategic plan begun in 2011. Committees and officers have begun to achieve many of the goals outlined in the two-year action plan. Some details will be found in this report.

Information Technology

Great strides were made in this major section of the strategic plan. Migration of most membership data was successfully migrated to the new platform, which was contracted for with YourMembership.com. Members now have the ability to manage their own profile on the site. Additionally, under the auspices of the Web Committee, the entire web site was reconceived and redesigned.

Social media

While an official Facebook presence and a blog had been launched, a more deliberate social media strategy was desired. The Social Media Task Force was charged and appointed. Their recommendations were adopted by the board and a plan for implementation is in place.

Conferences

The 2014 MLA Annual Meeting was held in Atlanta, Georgia on 26 February through March 2 with a registration of 401 members and 39 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 entitled *Navigating Change and Thriving: What Every Music Librarian Needs to Know*, co-sponsored by the MLA Education Committee and the Career Development and Services Committee, was well received. There were three plenary sessions: *Sacred Harp Singing: Shape Notes, Songbooks, and Southern Culture*, *Moving on from MARC: An Examination of BIBFRAME*, and one on the Library of Congress National Recording Preservation Plan.

Among the other program sessions offered were: *Music Programming and Partnerships at Public Libraries*, and two sessions on the new web site: *Web of Opportunities: Get Caught Up in the New MLA Website* and *A User-Centered Website Redesign*, as well as many other music and library topics (for a complete program see (http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/page/mla_2014_program)). Slides and handouts can be viewed at (http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/page/mla_2014_slides).

Future conferences will be held 25 February to 1 March 2015 in Denver, Colorado, and 28 February to 6 March 2016 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Denver conference will likely include a pre-conference workshop, whose topic was under discussion as this report was submitted.

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 69 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 *Keeping Time: Archival Best Practices for Music Librarians*, by Lisa Hooper and Donald C. Force, was published as ninth in the Basic Manual Series, and *Careers in Music Librarianship III: Reality and Reinvention*, edited by Susannah Cleveland and Joe C. Clark, was published as number 33 in the Technical Report Series.

Awards

Daniel Boomhower was the recipient of the Lenore F. Coral IAML Travel Grant. He received support to attend the 2014 IAML annual conference in Antwerp.

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 James P. Cassaro, currently head of the Theodore M. Finney Music Library of the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Cassaro's service to the profession has included terms in many of MLA's most important offices, including President, *Notes* Editor-in-Chief, Treasurer, Fiscal Officer, and Development Officer. In addition, he also served as the IAML Treasurer.

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 two individuals: Brenda Nelson Strauss for her key role in organizing and drafting the National Recordings Preservation Plan, and Tracey Rudnick for her exemplary service as Assistant Editor of *Notes* and chair of the *Notes* Royalties Task Force.

MLA presents awards and grants annually to foster excellence in publication and research and to further professional development. In 2014, the Vincent H. Duckles Award for the best book-length bibliography or other research tool in music was awarded to David Lasocki and Richard Griscom for their work *The Recorder: A Research and Information Guide*, 3rd edition.

The Eva Judd O'Meara Award for the best review published in *Notes* was awarded to Erik Entwistle for his review of *Bohuslav Martinů: The Compulsion to Compose* by James Rybka in *Notes* 69:1 (September 2012), 93-96. The Richard S. Hill Award for the best article on music librarianship or article of a music-bibliographic nature was awarded to Christopher Reynolds for his article, "Documenting the Zenith of Women Song Composers: A Database of Songs Published in the United States and the British Commonwealth, ca. 1890-1930," *Notes* 60 (2013): 671-687.

The Dena Epstein Award supports research in archives or libraries internationally on any aspect of American music. This year two awards were given: to Alice Miller Cotter for research on John Adams' operas in Adams' private archive at his home in Berkeley, California, and in other California collections; and to Devora Geller for research in the Rumshinsky archive at UCLA in support of her project *Paradise's Flower: Joseph Rumshinsky and Yiddish Theater Music in New York, 1900-1950*.

In cooperation with the Association of Research Libraries, MLA supports the ARL/MLA Diversity and Inclusion Fellows, a scholarship opportunity for library school students from under-represented racial and ethnic minority groups. This year's recipients were: Joy M. Doan, Rahni B. Kennedy, Jakilah Mason, Patrick Sifuentes, and Ricky Williams.

MLA also awards travel grants to encourage attendance and involvement at MLA as well as 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 2014 meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, the Freeman recipients were Angela Pratesi, Jennifer Vaughan, and Elin Williams.

Committees

Much of the work of MLA is done through its 26 committees, 12 subcommittees, 3 joint committees, and 22 round tables. The Digital Humanities Round Table, coordinated by Anna Kijas, was established this year. Several committees have been actively engaged in the goals of the Library of Congress National Recording Preservation Plan, including Bibliographic Control, Preservation, and Legislation.

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 (BCC) and its five subcommittees (Authorities, Descriptive Cataloging, MARC Formats, Metadata, and Subject Access) remain quite active. They continue to work on the development and implementation of Resource Description and Access. This year also saw the release of *Library of*

Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus (LCMPT), with which the Subject Access Subcommittee was heavily involved. The BCC was also responsible for MLA's first joint webinar with ALA Editions; "RDA for Music: Popular Music, Jazz and World Music Audio Recordings," presented by Tracey Snyder and Kevin Kishimoto, was highly successful and well received.

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

Board Operations

The Board endorsed the goals of the Library of Congress National Recording Preservation Plan, published December 2012; MLA will take a leadership role on plan recommendations in areas in which MLA is already working, as well as initiatives new to MLA. The Board also endorsed the ProMusica project, a metadata project for music performances and recordings akin to the IMDB. The Board also adopted an anti-discrimination policy, to ensure an inclusive and welcoming environment in all our activities and operations.

This report finds MLA in good shape. Our financial position appears to be stable. The Board has made the difficult decision to phase out honoraria for most of its special officers. The association continues to retain a committed core of dedicated members. Although recent years have seen a disturbing trend toward shrinking membership, that trend appears to have slowed somewhat. Positive movement is being made on many of the goals of the Strategic Plan. Advances in outreach and education are being made through our new partnership with ALA in presenting webinars. Our work with the Library of Congress on audio preservation helps to serve our goals in advocacy and the value of the profession. The past few years have

presented us with significant challenges, and no doubt there is much work ahead, but MLA remains vital, vibrant and engaged in the profession. We look forward to continuing to engage with our colleagues in other countries to continue to effectively advocate for the cause of music libraries in the world.

Michael Colby
President, Music Library Association, IAML (US)