



# MLA / NCC NEWSLETTER

Volume 23, Number 1 (Fall 2008)

Music Library Association—Northern California Chapter

## MLA/NCC Fall 2008 Meeting

San Francisco Conservatory of Music  
50 Oak Street

San Francisco, CA 94102-6011

<http://www.sfcm.edu/departments/library.aspx>

November 21, 2008

Please bring photo ID for entrance



10:00 Registration, Coffee

10:30 Tour of SFCM Library

11:00 Presentations

Paul Kauppila, SJSU: A Brief History of Ska

Julian Woodruff: RDA

Tom Bickley, CSUEB & Nancy Lorimer, Stanford: Report on the CLA

12:30 Lunch [individual choice of location]

2:00 Business Meeting

Adjournment followed by visit to SFPL exhibits:

Amy Beach: Her Blissful Years in San Francisco

<<http://sfplamr.blogspot.com/2008/10/amy-beach-her-blissful-years-in-san.html>>

Dorothy Starr: San Francisco's first Lady of Sheet Music

<<http://sfplamr.blogspot.com/2008/10/dorothy-starr-san-franciscos-first-lady.html>>



Directions/Parking: <<http://www.sfcm.edu/prospective/visiting.aspx#directions>>

Public Transport: <<http://www.sfcm.edu/prospective/visiting.aspx#transportation>>

MUNI Van Ness; BART Civic Center

With many thanks to Kevin McLaughlin, Head Librarian, SFCM!

Tom Bickley, Chair



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Membership in the Northern California Chapter MLA is \$10.00 annually.  
Inquiries and renewals may be directed to the Secretary/Treasurer.



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## Berkeley Souvenirs



The Spring 2008 meeting of the MLA/NCC at the University of California, Berkeley, featured Mary Kay Duggan (assisted by Julian Woodruff, above) presenting an update on the California Sheet Music Project and Sheet Music Items at the Society of California Pioneers. Later, Jason Gibbs discussed his research on "Illegal Music in North Vietnam during the Vietnam War." The business meeting that followed, below, was a spirited affair.



The NCC is grateful to all planners and participants, especially to Allison Rea, for her work in hosting the event.



Vinyl Records Wanted: Seeking Vinyl records and music memorabilia. If your institution has received surplus donations or if duplicated or unwanted records are accumulating, please contact me.

Laura Miller  
P.O. Box 1172  
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## Fall Business Meeting Minutes

MLA/NCC Spring Meeting  
May 30, 2008  
UC Berkeley

In attendance:

Mary Kay Duggan, Allison Rea, Manuel Erviti (UC Berkeley); Patricia Stroh (San Jose State University & the Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies); Jerry McBride, Mimi Tashiro, Frank Ferko, Ray Heigemeir (Stanford); Michael Irvine (College of Marin); Catherine Jennings (Oakland Public Library); Kevin McLaughlin (San Francisco Conservatory of Music); Emily Laurance (SFCM, guest); Rhonelle Pillsbury (University of the Pacific); Judy Clarence, Tom Bickley (CSU East Bay); Jason Gibbs (San Francisco Public Library); Joe Boonin (retired); Terry Lewis (CSU Fresno); Julie Homi (San Jose State University-SLIS); Lynn Murdock (Berkeley Public Library); Julian Woodruff (NCC Chair).

I. Round Robin reports:

Terry Lewis (CSU Fresno): The Library is now in portable buildings while expansion and construction continues. They hope to be in the new building in January 2009. A challenging Fall semester approaches.

Manuel Erviti (UC Berkeley): Another search for Head of the Music Library has been posted and interviews are underway. The Library is getting by with reduced staffing in the wake of John Roberts' retirement; Manuel recognized Allison Rea for her extra efforts in keeping the library afloat. Allison had a great experience attending her first national MLA meeting in Newport.

Patricia Stroh (SJSU & Beethoven Center): The SJSU Library has a new Associate Dean for Collection Development who wants to make improvements in the music and dance holdings; some new purchases have already been funded. The Beethoven Center is co-organizing an exhibit with the Charles M. Schulz Museum, entitled "Schulz's Beethoven: Schroeder's Muse". It will be shown at the Schulz

Museum in Santa Rosa, August 16, 2008 through January 26, 2009, and in San Jose, May 1 through July 21, 2009. In other news, Patricia has been promoted to full Librarian.

Jerry McBride (Stanford): The Archive of Recorded Sound hosted the annual Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) Conference in late March. It was wildly successful, and garnered international headlines for the first public playback of the recently-discovered earliest-known recording of a human voice. The phonograph recording was discovered by First Sounds audio historians, and made playable by staff at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories. In September 2008 Stanford will participate in the statewide Saroyan Centennial celebrations with a concert featuring settings of Saroyan texts.

Michael Irvine (College of Marin): The College continues to modernize; work on the new Fine Arts Building is underway. Performing arts has little to no funds committed for renovations. Space for growing collections is needed. Mike is still working on getting his position reclassified. Mike will be singing with the Contemporary Opera Marin this summer.

Catherine Jennings (Oakland Public Library): Reorganization continues, and the Library has now combined multiple subjects at one public service desk, including Music. Music collections have not been affected. Catherine has purchased new 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century music scores; a sheet music inventory was conducted by a SJSU intern, and will be entered into an Excel spreadsheet for patron access.

Kevin McLaughlin (San Francisco Conservatory of Music): Kevin hired Corrine Forstot (previously of the San Francisco Ballet) as the new Assistant Librarian. Things are still settling in the new building at 50 Oak Street. Some significant gifts were acquired; they are also working on organizing the School's archives in anticipation of its centennial in 2016. SFCM professor and NCC guest Emily Laurance is conducting bibliographical research on literature for harp and voice, ca. 1770-1840, and ]

would appreciate any leads on local collections containing relevant materials.

Rhonelle Pillsbury (University of the Pacific): A new dean has been hired. The Library has recently begun subscribing to the New Grove Online, and has expanded access to Alexander Street Press products. And in other news, Rhonelle is the proud parent of a baby boy—congrats, Rhonelle!

Julie Homi (SFSU SLIS): Julie, a composer, is a recent graduate of the SJSU library program and is actively seeking a music library position.

Lynn Murdock (Berkeley Public Library): Things are stable although there have been small budget cuts. As one of the venues for the Berkeley Summer Music Festival, the Library will host a performance of highlights from Puccini's Tosca. Also, the Library will be host to a public community reading of Joyce's Ulysses.

Frank Ferko (Stanford): Frank shared some wonderful performance news with the group. His compositions were included on the April 15 song recital in Carnegie Hall presented by renowned baritone Nathan Gunn. Mr. Gunn, partnered at the piano by his wife, Julie, enhanced the recital experience with the addition of lighting, dance, and video projections. Frank's works, entitled Five Songs on Poems of Thomas Merton and For My Brother, Reported Missing in Action, 1943 were interspersed between solo keyboard works by Olivier Messiaen and songs by Samuel Barber.

Judy Clarence, Tom Bickley (CSU East Bay): The University is partnering with the South China Normal University, Guangzhou, P.R. China in 2010-11, to host 100 Chinese students for their Junior year of study abroad, with a focus on music pedagogy. Many of the students are string players and a boost to the CSUEB Orchestra is anticipated. The University Librarian is retiring and interviews for the position are underway. The Library is installing new carpeting; the jazz CD collections have gotten a recent boost; a new website is

in development; and a new information literacy course on hip hop is being developed.

Jason Gibbs (San Francisco Public Library): The San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music is sponsoring two free workshops for musicians and individuals working in the field of music. Workshop 1. Public Relations and Marketing Fundamentals, and Workshop 2. Strategic Marketing and Public Relations: Developing an Integrated Campaign, to be held at the SFPL on June 4 and 11. The Library has also been host to a number of concerts by chamber groups including the Del Sol Quartet. A current exhibit on the Works Progress Administration includes music. The Dorothy Starr Collection database of sheet music continues to grow and now has over 30,000 records. Staff are cleaning up chamber music records in the public catalog. Jason has authored articles on Vietnamese and other Asian musics, and recently performed on the bassoon in a chamber group in SF's Chinatown.

Joe Boonin (retired, and yet so busy!): Joe continues his work as principal indexer for the Index to Printed Music: Collections & Series (IPM). The IPM, containing over 40,000 records, was reviewed in the June 2008 issue of Notes. Joe did some work at the Eda Kuhn Loeb Music Library, Harvard University, where he enjoyed deciphering their unique classification system. Joe Boonin and Judy Clarence recently sang the Brahms Requiem with Chora Nova in Berkeley.

Julian Woodruff (NCC Chair): Julian is wrapping up his work on the California Sheet Music Project, and has been working part-time at the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento. He has enjoyed his year serving as NCC Chair.

## II. MLA Annual Conference

Patricia Stroh began a conversation with the Chapter about San Jose hosting the MLA Annual Conference. A proposal is due in Fall 2008 for a potential 2013 meeting. The duties of the Local Arrangements Committee are currently under review at the national level,

generally they will include maintaining the conference website, the (optional) hosting of a local arrangements reception, a concert, arrangements for local tours, and information-gathering about restaurants, tourism, and transportation. Copies of the current requirements for a LAC (section 3.0 of the MLA Convention Manual) were distributed. Comments: the Committee should have a minimum of 5 members but can consist of a dozen or more; the difficulty of tasks is directly related to the complexity of the meeting events and venue locations; it is important to get involved early with the local convention bureau. The question was raised whether another joint meeting similar to that between MLA and SAM might be considered.

In conclusion, the NCC would like to host the MLA Annual Conference in 2013 in San Jose and the majority of attendees expressed support in working towards that end. Patricia Stroh and Tom Bickley will draft a proposal for the MLA Board.

### III. Chapter meetings annually or twice annually?

Discussion commenced on whether the NCC should reduce its meetings from twice yearly to once. Reasons for this include a “reluctant enthusiasm” on the part of chapter members to serve on the board; and the difficulty we have had in securing a meeting place and arranging a program well in advance of the required 30-day deadline. Questions: Should we reinvestigate meeting jointly with the SCC, and if we do, might this have some bearing on the frequency of our meetings? Might the duties of the board be redistributed so as to make the positions more appealing? Can the hosting schedule be set up well in advance? Observations: MLA annual meet attendees have the option of meeting there, but the “flavor” of the meeting is different; if we met once per year and someone was absent, it would then be another year before they could connect with the group again; perhaps the group could focus on sponsoring activities aside from the meetings, which would also serve as a way of staying connected.

The members voted in support of continuing to meet twice per year.

### IV. CLA panel session

The California Library Association accepted a proposal from Tom Bickley and Nancy Lorimer to present a session on best practices for music materials at the annual conference in November. Tom read a statement from Nancy detailing the proposal and the MLA requirements on sponsorship of training sessions [Nancy—would you like to have that statement included in these minutes?] The members voted to name the chapter as sponsor of the session. Terry Lewis identified himself as a qualified trainer.

### V. Discussion of the recent change to the Freeman Travel Grant rules, which removed the requirement that recipients be first-time attendees at the MLA Annual Conference:

Manuel Erviti explained the recent history of the change proposal, and the missteps in communication between the NCC and the MLA Board regarding the consensus reached at our Fall 2006 meeting that a change not be made (Paramount Theater, Oakland; minutes of that meeting are included in the MLA/NCC Newsletter, v. 21/2). The first-time attendance requirement was dropped from the applications for funding travel to the 2008 Newport meeting. Mimi Tashiro relayed current exchanges with the Board, and explained the intent of the original first-timer requirement. A description of the original Freeman Award may still be viewed on the NCC website. The current changed description may be viewed on the MLA website.

Two members of the Freeman Award Committee were present (Manuel Erviti and Ray Heigemeir) and were asked if the number of applicants changed this year as compared to the recent past. It was noted that there was a slight drop.

Joe Boonin observed that students local to the annual meeting may not benefit, and that would run counter to the hope that the grants do the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

It was noted that the MLA Board's meeting calendar was not conducive to GSLIS student calendars, in that students often were unaware of the grant opportunity before they attended the annual meeting in February. This was the case for Julie Homi, who attended the Newport meeting and only then learned of the grant. Julie suggested that the grant opportunity be a specific advertised benefit to new MLA members upon their joining the organization (an individualized mailing, perhaps?)

Further suggestions included:

Increase GSLIS-targeted advertising; ask the Board to consider and approve grant committee recommendations electronically, thereby freeing the decision-making process from the Board's traditional meeting calendar; build on the interest of new MLA members by limiting the grants to first- or second-time attendees; keep the new status quo but direct the committee to give preference to first-time attendees.

Mimi Tashiro, Joe Boonin, and Patricia Stroh will compose a formal statement to send to the MLA Board by the end of July.

VI. Treasurer's report: The chapter's bank account was successfully migrated from Greater Bay Bank to Wells Fargo, which ate the smaller bank over the Winter. The chapter has \$1000.90 as of May 30.

VII. Elections: The new Chair-Elect is Patricia Stroh, and the new Secretary/Treasurer is Allison Rea; their service will commence at the Fall 2008 meeting. Outgoing Board members were thanked for their service.

*Ray Heigemeir*

### **Treasury Moment**

A gentle reminder that the MLA/NCC membership year runs from September 1 through August 31. Dues of \$10.00 are payable at the Fall Meeting.