

ARTS

NEWSLETTER

Association of College and Research Libraries Arts Section v. 11 no. 2 Spring 1996

Exciting Program Planned for New York: Albee and Seldes Featured

This year the Arts Section is co-sponsoring a program with the English and American Literature Section and the Theatre Library Association. The program is entitled "Beyond the Stage Door" and will look at theater professionals' use of library resources in their work, plus an analysis by theater librarian/respondents. The panel of theater professionals will include actress Marian Seldes, playwright Edward Albee, set designer Ming-Cho Lee, and lighting designer Jules Fisher. Librarian/respondents will be Robert Taylor, Curator of the Billy Rose Theatre Collection and Susan Peters, Chief Coordinator of Collection Management, Emory University.

Time: Monday evening, July 8th, 7-10 p.m.

Place: Bruno Walter Auditorium of the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts (Lincoln Center), 111 Amsterdam Ave. at 65th.

We expect a wonderful program. We are very pleased to be able to hold it in Lincoln Center. I hope that many Arts Section members will be able to attend.

Chris Whittington
Arts Section Chair
Social Sciences and Humanities Reference Librarian
University of Maine

IMPORTANT: Please make a reservation for a seat at the program. Through May 31, Susan Peters will be taking reservations from Arts Section, EALS, and Theatre Library Association members **only**; other ALA members may reserve spots after June 1st. Send a reservation request to Susan Peters (EALS Program Planning Chair) at libslp@unix.cc.emory.edu OR fax (404) 727-0053 OR mail to:

Susan L. Peters, Ph.D.
Coordinator for Language and Literature
Emory University, Woodruff Library
Department of Collection Management
Atlanta, GA 30322

Reception at NYPL for Arts Section Members

Madeleine Nichols, Curator of the Dance Collection of The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts is pleased to invite Arts Section members to an Arts welcoming reception at the Dance Collection on Friday evening July 5 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Enjoy a relaxing moment after any meetings you may have that day and before performances you may be attending that evening. RSVP is essential, so you can be sent special instructions for entering the Library for the Performing Arts which will be closed to the public at that time. RSVP to 212-799-7865. We look forward to welcoming you, to seeing old friends and to meeting new ones.

Statements from Candidates for Arts Section Chair

Stephen C. Bloom
Director of Libraries
University of the Arts:

The success the Section currently enjoys comes from its increasing ability to attract academic librarians from a wide range of interests and work environments throughout the arts. Its conference programs, liaison activities with arts organizations beyond ALA, and recent initiatives with other ALA organizations should be encouraged. But we also need to devise strategies to export the perspectives and expertise of librarians in the arts to influence wider discussions within the profession.

The maturing of new technologies places arts librarianship in the midst of some of the most important issues of our day. Forums which address image and sound technology in libraries, the revision of copyright, the potential for electronic interlibrary cooperation, etc., will be enriched by the contributions of librarians involved in the arts. In as many ways as possible, the Section's leadership should encourage its members to become more active in their influence on the entire profession.

The means we have to accomplish this are at our fingertips. Naturally we should continue to do what we do so well now--run interesting and popular conference activities and programs; connect and stay in touch with professional organizations which share interests and activities, both in ALA and outside; and encourage projects which attempt to disseminate information about the section and the expertise resident in it. We should also follow up aggressively the recent Art Section resolution to promote publication and involvement in forums beyond our own, and look for opportunities to promote art librarians' involvement in these central issues of our profession.

Henry DuBois
Acting Associate Director
University Library & Learning Resources
California State University, Long Beach:

I value the professional contacts and relationships which have resulted in my membership and active involvement in the leadership of the Arts Section over the years. The Arts Section provides a forum for those from a wide range of interests and backgrounds to discuss important issues and to network with one another and with other organizations. I appreciate, too, the continuing education opportunities the Section, and its constituent committees, have provided. Unfortunately, much that the Arts Section has to offer its members has been available only to those attending Midwinter or Conference events.

As Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect I would try to advance the recommendations of the Planning Committee to experiment with new ways to involve and provide benefits to the 90 percent of Arts members who rarely or never attend ALA national events. Regional programs, possibly in co-sponsorship with other organizations, might be one possibility. The Arts Section needs to maintain its role as a vital and responsive link between information professionals in the fine and performing arts and their colleagues in ACRL and ALA. I am committed to these goals and see my candidacy as a vehicle for working toward their achievement.

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Past Arts Section Leaders Needed

A Note from the Chair

The Arts Section has been very fortunate in that past chairs, past committee chairs, and other longtime members have continued to lend their talents, support, and encouragement to Arts Section leadership long after leaving office. Some of these Arts Section members have become active in other ALA or ACRL units, sometimes because of changing professional responsibilities. Over the years, many Arts Section chairs and other officers have called upon these dedicated individuals for assistance, especially in matters involving Arts Section history.

In 1992, the Arts Section attempted to formalize the participation of these members by establishing the Ad Hoc Leadership Committee. It has become clear that a more informal structure for this group will be preferable to a committee structure. Their involvement with other professional activities makes it difficult for past leaders to attend Arts committee meetings on a regular basis and it is impractical to ask one past leader to take on the responsibility of chairing the group. A formal committee structure also places unnecessary limits on the number of past leaders who could serve on the committee at any one time, when in fact we would like to encourage the continued participation of all past leaders to the extent that they are able to help us.

At the Arts Section Midwinter Executive and Membership Meeting, the Executive Committee decided to disband the Ad Hoc Leadership Committee and replace it with a resource list of colleagues who have formerly been active in the Arts Section and would like to continue to contribute, despite moving on to other activities. The immediate past Chair of the Arts Section will be responsible for compiling and maintaining the list. In addition to e-mail and snail mail addresses, and telephone and fax numbers, the list will include information about Arts Section activities with which the person was involved.

I hope that past leaders who have not been active with the Arts Section for a while will allow us to include their names and activities on the list. We

believe that this will be a way for leaders to move to other areas of ALA/ACRL activities while maintaining their links to the Arts Section and contributing to its continuing success. Members who wish to be included on the list or recommend someone else for inclusion may call or send a note to:

Christine Whittington
Reference Department
Fogler Library
University of Maine
Orono, Maine 04469
(207) 581-3611
e-mail: christin@maine.maine.edu

I know that the present and future leadership will be most grateful for your participation!

Christine Whittington
Arts Section Chair
University of Maine

Dance Librarians Discussion Group Tours McNay Museum, San Antonio

During the 1996 ALA Midwinter Conference, DLDG members were treated to a thorough and thoroughly entertaining tour of the performing arts collections of the Marion Koogler McNay Museum, lead by Chief Curator and Curator of the Robert L. B. Tobin Collection of Theatre Arts, Linda Hardburger. The Tobin collection includes an extensive array of original opera, musical and dance set designs, design sketches and notes, costumes designs, costumes; maquettes, and a collection of over 20,000 prints, drawings & paintings. The 80,000 volume rare book collection includes extensive festival book holdings. Anne Jones, Head Librarian, gave us a brief tour of the library which includes materials on theater arts, architecture, the art of the book and artists' books. When we are next in San Antonio, I would urge all Arts Section members to visit this lovely museum. Besides its premier performance arts collections, the McNay European and American Impressionist, post-Impressionist and other 20th century art collections, complete a small jewel that is the McNay.

Sylvia Y. Curtis
Dance and Black Studies Librarian
University of California, Santa Barbara

Dance Librarians Committee News

A proposal for *A Core Collection in Dance*, submitted by Mary Strow, was accepted for publication. This forthcoming book is intended to assist non-specialist librarians in academic or public libraries. The Core Collection Monograph Subcommittee, consisting of Mary Strow (chair), Mary E. Edsall, Kim Hale, Virginia Moreland, and Nancy Stokes will continue to work on preparing this work. Contributors are still needed for some sections of the publication. Please contact Mary Strow at (812) 855-9857 or e-mail at boppm@ucs.indiana.edu with names of prospective contributors. Extra special thanks to Mary Strow for organizing this effort and to Paula Murphy and Lorelei Tanji for championing this cause with the ACRL Publications Committee.

The Subcommittee on Video ILL, chaired by Paula Murphy, completed a set of proposed guidelines for the interlibrary loan of video materials. It is expected that the Video Roundtable will bring the document to ALA Council for a vote. The guidelines have been endorsed by both the DLC and the Arts Section Executive Committee.

Other committee projects in progress include the drafting of dance collection development policies (Kim Hale), the compilation of a world dance videography with sources for acquisition (Sylvia Curtis), and a review of working cataloging guidelines for dance materials developed and used by the Dance Heritage Coalition (Elizabeth Rebman). DLC has appointed Jim Cassaro, Cornell University, and three members of the Film and Broadcast Studies Discussion Group to review the document "Cataloging Moving Image Materials" recently drafted by the Dance Heritage Coalition.

The Dance Librarians Committee is seeking new members to be involved in this active committee. For more information, contact Mary E. Edsall (DLC chair) at (617) 495-4995. Official appointments are made by Arts Section Chair-Elect Nancy Stokes. She may be reached at (216) 972-6011 or R1NLS@VM1.cc.uakron.edu.

Mary Edsall
Assistant Curator
Harvard Theatre Collection

Film/Broadcast Studies Discussion Group Inaugural Meeting in San Antonio

Four main issues were discussed at the midwinter meeting of the Film/Broadcast Studies Discussion Group in San Antonio. The chair had received an invitation from the secretary of the Association of Moving Image Archivists to exchange information between groups. This group decided to appoint a liaison with AMIA who would report to us on issues raised by moving image archivists that are of mutual concern. Sandy Garcia Myers, from the Cinema/Television library at USC, agreed to act in this capacity.

The second issue was the Mission Statement for this group. One change was requested, to broaden the language in the Mission Statement so the group's constituency would not be so strictly defined. The phrase "and those disciplines that utilize motion media for its historic, social, and/or aesthetic qualities" was added to the list of target academic disciplines. Comments on this phrase are requested prior to the New York meeting; e-mail to AlbitzR@elmer1.bobst.nyu.edu.

Collection evaluation was the key topic of discussion. Kris Brancolini (Indiana University) requested information as she and an intern begin a comparative collection evaluation project for the cinema book and journal collection. While no other member had attempted such an evaluation, many suggestions regarding collections and tools were offered.

Finally, the group discussed possible changes in the format of the discussion group at future meetings. One suggestion was to invite vendors to demonstrate and discuss new products related to film and broadcast studies disciplines, and another was to sponsor site visits during ALA.

This discussion group was thrilled to have received official status so quickly, and thanks the Planning and Executive Committees, and Chris Whittington in particular, for their help and support.

Becky Albitz
Librarian for Media and the Performing Arts
New York University

Did you know that the Arts Section has a listserv?
To subscribe, send an e-mail request to Nancy
Stokes at R1NLS@VM1.CC.UAKRON.EDU.

Liaison Committee Never Sleeps

The Liaison Committee never stops; we work day and night on our liaison activities. This past year has seen more editorial and address changes than in the previous three years. Out of thirty-six newsletters sent out 25 percent of the recipients had address changes or no longer exist. I have revised my database eliminating some and adding a few new organizations which reflect our section's expanding interests.

My future goal is to try to identify Arts members involved in activities in multiple organizations. I have already worked with the Membership Committee to include a question in their membership letter asking about 'other' organizational affiliations. [The question is also included on the form appearing on page seven of this newsletter. Ed.] The purpose is to identify members who belong to multiple organizations and to try to recruit them into promoting the Arts Section. I would like to see what interests our members have, so that we can enhance the benefits we offer our members, help develop interesting programs and workshops; and see which organizations would be interested in exchanging newsletters. I was appointed by ARLIS/NA to be their liaison with the Arts Section. This has not only been favorably accepted but has brought up the possibility of co-sponsorship of programs. This is generating excitement and I hope we can follow up on that. ALA guidelines are more stringent than those of ARLIS are where funding is concerned. For this to become a reality discussions between the program committees of both organizations need to take place in a timely manner.

Please drop me an e-mail, snail mail or phone call regarding your other organization memberships and your interests. I would like more members to become liaisons (remember I work tirelessly day and night) and tell others not only of the wonderful and talented people in Arts Section but inform them of the superb programs and

discussion sessions we present.

Paula Epstein
Chairperson, Liaison Committee (Ad Hoc)
Coordinator of Library Outreach
Columbia College Library
600 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60605-1996
phone: (312) 663-1600 x5353
e-mail: paula.epstein@mail.colum.edu

Professional News

Sherman Clarke is now Head of Original Cataloging at New York University Libraries, since September 1995. He was formerly Associate Librarian at the Amon Carter Museum Library.

Mary E. Edsall has accepted the position of Assistant Curator of the Harvard Theatre Collection, Harvard College Library. She previously was Dance Archivist for the Dance Heritage Coalition Preservation and Access Project in the Music Division of the Library of Congress. **She also** recently presented the paper "Shakers in Cyberspace: Electronic Resources and the Bibliography of Dance" at a Congress on Research in Dance network conference, in October 1995 at Columbia University.

Catherine Johnson, Director of the Dance Heritage Coalition and current chair of the Technology and the Arts Committee, has completed work on *Choreographing Your Search*, a workbook that accompanies the DHC's workshop designed to provide bibliographic instruction for searching the Internet, bibliographic utilities, and library catalogs for dance research and documentation materials. To order a copy, mail a request to Dance Heritage Coalition, P.O. Box 479, Pelham, NY 10803; cost is \$10.00. Also available for \$3.00 is *Beyond Memory*, a booklet providing information on documenting and preserving dance and dance archives. *Choreographing Your Search* was developed with the assistance of members of the Arts Section's Dance Librarians Discussion Group.

Jane Kemp is the co-preparator with David Kamm for an exhibit called *The Iowa Connection: Iowa Artists in the Luther College Fine Arts Collection*, which will be shown in Preus Library, Luther College, Decorah, IA, from April 20 - August 25, 1996. The exhibit is designed to recognize the work of Iowa artists in support of the 1996 Iowa Sesquicentennial. Approximately 30 artists will be featured and the artwork itself will cover nearly 100

years of Iowa's cultural history. The exhibit is available for viewing on the Internet at <http://www.luther.edu>.

Martha Kreisel, Humanities Librarian at the Axinn Library at Hofstra University has written *Papercutting: an International Bibliography and Selected Guide to U.S. Collections*, published by Scarecrow Press in 1994. It has been favorably reviewed in *ARBA* (1995) and in *First Cut*, a publication of the Guild of American Papercutters.

Timothy Shipe, Arts and Literature Bibliographer, University of Iowa Libraries, collaborated with Rudolf E. Kuenzli on "Bibliographie Dada global," in *Dada Global*, edited by Raimund Meyer et al., 443-62. Zurich: Limmat Verlag, 1994.

Loanne Snavelly, Head of the Art and Architecture Library at Penn State University, will be curator of an exhibit of the wood engravings of Warren Mack to be held at the Palmer Museum of Art from July 9, 1996-January 3, 1997. Loanne is researching the life and work of Warren Mack (1896-1952), whose wood engravings are a sensitive recording of the agricultural and natural Pennsylvania landscape that shaped his career and inspired his art. Any information tucked away in your clippings or vertical files would be most welcome. Please contact her at LLS@PSULIAS.PSU.EDU or at (814) 865-3064.

Lynn Williams, Humanities Reference Librarian at Auburn University and immediate past-chair of the Arts Section, has written an article on the Dixie Art Colony (1933-47) that is to be published in the summer issue of *Alabama Heritage Magazine*.

Floyd Zula, Coordinator for Acquisitions and Art Bibliographer, California State Univ., Fullerton, was the editorial assistant for the *Handbook of the Collection, New Orleans Museum of Art* (selected by E. John Bullard and coordinated by Sharon E. Stearns) which was published in December 1995.

Need a guide to New York City? Columbia University's home page on the World Wide Web provides an excellent place to begin exploring. The page provides links to information on cultural and arts events, dining guides, subway maps, etc. The URL is <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/nyc>.

Film/Broadcast Studies Discussion Group Sponsors Vendor Demos in NY

The ARTS Film/Broadcast Studies Discussion Group will be meeting at New York University's Bobst Library on Monday, July 8 from 2-4 p.m. A number of major vendors whose products support these disciplines have agreed to demonstrate their products, including: CineBooks, Voyager, Rutgers University Press, Primary Source Media, and, tentatively, Chadwyck-Healy. Bobst Library is located at 70 Washington Square South in Greenwich Village, and is easily accessible by cab or subway. For more specific directions, or to have any questions answered, please contact Becky Albitz at albitz@is2.nyu.edu.

Arts Section Meetings at ALA New York

Saturday, July 6, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.:
All Committees meeting (includes Conference Planning, Dance Librarians, Government and Private Sector Activities, Membership, and Technology in the Arts Committees)

Sunday, July 7, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.:
Executive Committee and General Membership meeting (**Dutch Treat Lunch for New and "Old" Members Follows This Meeting**)

Sunday, July 7, 2 - 4 p.m.:
Dance Librarians Discussion Group

Monday, July 8, 8:30 - 11 a.m.:
Technology in the Arts Discussion Group

Monday, July 8, 2 - 4 p.m.:
Film and Broadcast Studies Discussion Group

Monday, July 8, 7 - 10 p.m.:
"Behind the Stage Door," Program co-sponsored with EALS and TLA (see feature story on page one)

An Important Message for all members of the ARTS Section from the Membership Committee:

Currently there are nearly one thousand members in ARTS. It consists of librarians and other professionals who have a broad range of talents and interests and who are affiliated with a wide variety of institutions serving the arts. Only a fraction of these members regularly attend ALA conferences, and the information available to the section leadership from ACRL lacks the detail we would like. Therefore, we are turning to you for help. By completing and returning the following form, you will help us to establish a database of ARTS members that will enable the section to help you network with other members who share similar professional interests or affiliations. The committee will serve the membership better by knowing more about its composition.

Please take the time to answer these questions and mail it to the membership committee.

NAME (last, first,): _____ TITLE: _____

INSTITUTION name and address: _____

WORK TELEPHONE: () _____ WORK FAX: () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ HOME TELEPHONE: () _____

HOME ADDRESS (optional): _____

What is your **primary** area of arts interest (television, dance, theatre, etc.): _____

List up to three other arts related or **other organizations** with which you are affiliated: _____

List up to four other **ALA divisions** to which you belong (besides ACRL): _____

Do you attend their meetings? (Please check one) YES _____ NO _____

Do you receive a copy of their newsletters? (Please check one) YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please list the professional publications you receive: _____

The above information will be used to compile a database of ARTS Section members which will be sorted according to interests and affiliations and shared with contributors to facilitate networking, dissemination of information, and discussion of common concerns. The intent is to improve communication among ARTS members and between the membership and the executive committee.

Please return completed forms to:

**University Library
Att: Henry DuBois, Acting Associate Director
California State University, Long Beach
Long Beach, CA 90840-1901
Fax: (310) 985-8131**

**CHOOSING
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