

ARTS Newsletter

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Fall 2000

From the Chair:

I anticipate an exciting year ahead for the ARTS Section. Betsy Wilson (ACRL President) and the ACRL Executive Board have approved a one-time allocation of \$1,500 to each Section to be used during 2000-2001 for activities that support the new Strategic Plan (see below "Letter & Call for Ideas").

In terms of programs, the ACRL ARTS/LITA Technology and the Arts Committee and Interest Group are developing ideas for their program, "Electronic Poetry." The program is tentatively slated to deal with issues related to creation, access to, preservation of, and promotion of electronic poetry, specifically through web-driven delivery. And the ARTS Conference Program Planning Committee and LES (Literatures & English Section) have received approval for a jointly sponsored program, "Collaboration and Community in the Beat Generation" (<http://www.hope.edu/lib/eals/>).

This is the first year of the new ALA program tracking system, so we ask for people's flexibility and cooperation in scheduling meetings. We hope to avoid conflicting time-slots, but that might be inevitable this year.

Some of our goals for the Section are to:

- * Encourage current members to become more active in the Section; provide opportunities for involvement and input.
- * Actively recruit new members to the Section.
- * Begin revision of the ARTS Section Orienta-

tion Manual.

- * Begin revision of the ARTS Section Bylaws.
- * Depending on funding approval, create an ARTS Section brochure.
- * Encourage Section activities that support the goals of the ACRL Strategic Plan.

There are additional important goals that the various committees and discussion groups have identified, but I anticipate those will be addressed in their respective reports in the newsletter.

As stated on our Section's website (<http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/arts/>):

"The Arts Section represents librarians and specialists working in or interested in the fields of visual and performing arts. ARTS provides an umbrella organization for the promotion of library service in this field through discussion of current issues, the exchange of information, and the carrying out of suitable projects."

Feel free to contact me (Ltanji@uci.edu), or the other members of the ARTS Section Executive Board, if you have suggestions on ways to enhance our Section's effectiveness.

EXTRA FUNDING TO ACRL SECTIONS & CALL FOR IDEAS

Below is the letter from Betsy Wilson (ACRL President) and the ACRL Executive Board giving

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each Section a one-time allocation for activities that support the ACRL Strategic Plan 2005: <http://www.ala.org/acrl/plan2005.html>.

I encourage each ARTS Section member to send his or her ideas to me on how to use these extra funds. The deadline for first consideration of ideas is NOVEMBER 30, 2000. I'm setting that deadline early in case there are ideas that we can incorporate for Midwinter. If we have not received enough ideas, there will be time for brain-storming and discussion at the Midwinter Conference General Membership Meeting.

Lorelei Tanji
ARTS Section Chair (Ltanji@uci.edu)

Dear ACRL Section Chairs:

I am writing to share some exciting news with you. At its July 11 meeting the ACRL Board voted to approve a one-time allocation of \$1,500 to each Section to be used during 2000-2001 for activities that support the new Strategic Plan. This allocation is in addition to the basic services program allocation distributed to each Section.

With this allocation, the ACRL Board wishes to

empower the Sections to be innovative and creative in launching our new Strategic Plan. The Sections have many wonderful ideas on how to move forward the Association and better serve its membership. The ACRL Board anticipates a flourishing of good work and creativity emanating from the Sections. I hope that this special allocation will allow your Section to take ACRL boldly beyond the routine and into the 21st Century. I am asking that you as a Section Chair assume the responsibility that these funds are used in accordance with existing ACRL and ALA fiscal policies and procedures. The deadline for using these funds is August 15, 2001. The ACRL Board will work with the Section leadership to assess this pilot funding program at the conclusion of the year.

On behalf of the ACRL Board and the ACRL Office, I wish you a most productive and exciting year. It is our hope that this special allocation will help us all move the Association towards its vision and strategic goals. Please do not hesitate to contact me at betsyw@u.washington.edu should you have any questions.

Sincerely

Betsy Wilson
ACRL President

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ARTS Section Executive Board 2000/2001

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Mary Strow, Vice-Chair/Chair Elect
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Visit the ARTS Section website:
<http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/arts/>

The **ARTS Newsletter** invites comments and contributions from all of its readers. Please send your ideas for articles, items of interest, or other news to either of the editors. Electronic format is preferred for correspondence and submissions.

To keep up with the latest ARTS Section news, activities, and meeting times, sign up for the ARTS listserv:

<http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/arts/artslib.html>

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Conference and Program Planning

Chair: Nadine Flores

Email: n_flores735@hotmail.com

At the American Library Association's Annual Conference held in Chicago, the ARTS Section's 2001 Conference Planning Committee met to discuss next year's annual program: "Collaboration and Community in the Beat Generation," to be held June 14-20, 2001, in San Francisco, California. Much like our program title, the ARTS Section Conference Planning Committee has been "collaborating" with the Literature and English Section to discuss our annual program.

At this point this is where we are with our plans: ACRL, and in turn, ALA, has formally approved our program proposal for Annual 2001. However, our request for a Saturday time slot is still pending. In addition to funding provided by ACRL, Viking Penguin has given us \$500.00 toward a reception. They also will be sponsoring one of our guest speakers, writer Diane DiPrima. This is a nice addition to the poetry readings and other prospective speakers we have planned for Annual. We are also fortunate to have received an anonymous donation via LES member Michaelyn Burnett! So we are well on our way to formalizing plans for 2001. I would like to thank the Conference Planning Committee members: ARTS SECTION - Nancy Friedland, Mary Edsall, Mary Strow, Dena Thomas, and Lorelei Tanji for working with LES members; William Wortman (Chair, LES), Michaelyn Burnett, Michael Adams, Judy Reynolds, Mark Christel for all their hard work and great suggestions.

Dance Librarians

Chair: Paula Murphy

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Report on the Core Collection

The meeting of the Dance Librarians Committee (DLC) began with a report by Mary Edsall on the progress of the *A Core Collection In Dance* publication. She said that after four years of hard

work, the publication was in the final stages of editing and would be available in September 2000. All of the participants who worked on this publication should be congratulated for their diligence.

Program for "Dancing in the Millennium"

A discussion concerning the participation of the DLC in the "Dancing in the Millennium" conference in Washington, D.C. included final planning for the panel discussion and the literature distribution table that would be the Committee's contribution to this meeting sponsored by the Congress on Research on Dance, Dance Critics Association, National Dance Association, Society of Dance History Scholars and sixteen other dance organizations.

The panel discussion called "Marketing Dance to the World Community--It Is Free and In Your Backyard" was scheduled to be a one-hour session on July 22 that would address the role of the library as a grassroots supporter of dance, which can facilitate the distribution of dance information worldwide. It would feature Mary Strow speaking on dance and libraries and how dancers can find a second career as a professional librarian, Paula Murphy talking about four Chicago dance community and library cooperative efforts and Mary Edsall discussing the *A Core Collection In Dance* publication.

The literature distribution table for the event would include two flyers, one describing the activities of the DLC, and another flyer on *A Core Collection In Dance*. Also available at the table would be a bookmark, which would be furnished by Mary Strow.

Logo for the Dance Committee

While designing the handouts for the "Dancing in the Millennium" table, Mary Strow was able to work with an artist who created three designs that are potential logos for the DLC. Mary said that the artwork would come free of charge to the committee. It was decided that the issue of which of the three designs would be used will be discussed at the Midwinter meeting.

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Video Label

Another project of the DLC was to create a video label for distribution to dance organizations making their own videos. Beth Kerr and Paula Murphy worked on the label. The label is now ready to be printed. However, since much of the information on the label was drawn from the Dance Heritage Coalition's Cataloging Guidelines, committee members thought it would be best to wait to complete the label until official approval of these Guidelines could be sought from ACRL and ALA. In order to begin this process, Mary Strow moved that the DLC accept the Guidelines and send them to the Arts Executive Committee who will forward them to ACRL and ALA. The motion was approved. A discussion concerning encouraging the Arts Executive Committee to create a Standards Committee for this purpose followed.

Mission Statement

A revised mission statement for the DLC was drafted by Mary Strow:

The mission of the Dance Librarians Committee is to develop policies and projects relative to the accession, organization, documentation, evaluation, and preservation of dance materials and collections. In conjunction with the Dance Librarians Discussion Group, the Committee additionally serves to inform and educate librarians and arts professionals about dance documentation and preservation issues. Members of the Committee work closely with dance communities to enhance dance collections and assure adherence to standards.

It was decided to discuss this statement at the Midwinter meeting when more time was available.

Regional Dance Plan

The Committee also has been drafting a plan addressing the development of regional groups in order to facilitate the implementation of documentation, preservation, organization and access for dance at the grassroots level. Paula reported that Mary Strow, Bob Sloane from the Chicago Public Library, Diana Haskell from Newberry

Library and she had already begun to address forming a network to begin discussing the issues in the Midwest. Mary Edsall reported that the Pew Charitable Trust had funded a small project for her to study the question in the Philadelphia area. It was decided that both groups would report back to the DLC about common threads that would help these communication networks begin to address these larger issues in a consistent manner.

Planning

Chair: Betty Bryce

E-mail: bbryce@bama.ua.edu

The Planning Committee hopes to regain strength after the tragic loss of Chair Kim Fisher. After a call for volunteers for membership, several names have been added to the committee roster.

In the coming year the committee will assist the section chair with the revision of the orientation manual. Also, the committee plans to recommend the establishment in the Arts Section of a standards committee for cataloging and labeling of arts materials.

The committee looks forward to other planning ideas coming from the section leadership.

ACRL CONFERENCE IN DENVER

Explore the critical issues facing academic librarianship and higher education at ACRL's 10th National Conference

Join ACRL in Denver, March 15-18, 2001 for ACRL X: Crossing the Divide. Stimulate your thinking with our diverse slate of keynote speakers and featured presenters. Choose from over 200 peer-reviewed programs and gain skills to take back to your library. Network with colleagues during poster sessions and roundtable discussions. Visit with over 200 vendors and learn about state-of-the-art products and services at the exhibits. See what the Mile High City has to offer - participate in a tour or hit the deep March powder on the slopes!

Reserve your space today for the only conference focused on the issues and topics facing academic librarians! Complete details and registration forms are available on the Web at www.ala.org/acrl/denver.html.

Questions? Call 800-545-2433; ext. 2522 or e-mail: acrl@ala.org.

DISCUSSION GROUP REPORTS

Film & Broadcast Discussion Group

Chair: Rick Provine

E-Mail: provine@depauw.edu

At the meeting of the ACRL Film and Broadcast Studies Discussion Group, Kris Brancolini (Indiana University) presented to the group a project ongoing with IU to digitize and deliver the *Film Literature Index*.

The *Film Literature Index* (FLI) has been published by the Film and Television Documentation Center at SUNY-Albany since 1973. Of the three major indexes devoted to the periodical literature related to film studies and broadcast studies, FLI is the only one still published exclusively on paper. Librarians, students, and scholars would all benefit from electronic access to this important resource.

Brancolini demonstrated the prototype database and described future plans for the project. Feedback was gathered about a variety of issues related to converting this index to electronic form and publishing future volumes on the web.

Topics for future meetings were solicited. They include:

- Notable print resources for film and media reference.
- Resource Indexes for production services, sound effects, stock footage, etc.
- Meeting Reports - Updates on other ALA programs and meetings, updates on other organizations doing related work, updates on institutional R&D efforts (for example, Carnegie Mellon's work with CNN and automatic indexing of video programming).
- Access to news transcripts and footage.

Dance Librarians Discussion Group

Report by Helice Koffler

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Interested librarians and members of the local dance community gathered in the Trustee Conference Room of the Chicago Historical Society for the Dance Librarians Discussion Group meeting at the Annual Conference. The main topic of discussion was the use of video in dance documentation and preservation.

The meeting was kicked off with a presentation by Andrea Snyder, the new Executive Director of the National Initiative to Preserve America's Dance (NIPAD), who shared an excerpt from a forthcoming promotional video from NIPAD that highlights the many projects the agency has sponsored since 1994. NIPAD grantee, Stephanie Clemens, discussed her efforts to develop a documentation project covering the work of Doris Humphrey and other American modern dance artists. Also on hand was Bob Sloane, from the Chicago Public Library, who talked about the library's state-of-the-art facilities for recording and performance. He also spoke of the rapid growth of the video collection and estimated that about ten percent of the collection was in urgent need of preservation. Diana Haskell, from the Newberry Library, spoke eloquently about the challenges of collection development and discussed the scope of the Newberry's collecting program in dance. James Scholtz, Chair of ALA's Video Roundtable, discussed new technologies and issues in video preservation.

The meeting concluded with the presentation of recognition awards to members of the local dance community who have contributed to the preservation and documentation of dance. Among those honored were Clemens, Ann Barzel, a noted critic whose incredible collection forms the core of the Newberry Library's holdings in dance, and Larry Long, the founder of the Ruth Page Society. Following the presentation of the certificates, refreshments were provided by the Chicago Historical Society. Many thanks must go to Paula Murphy and the Chicago Historical Society for agreeing to host the meeting.

ARTS Section goes "Dancing in the Millennium"

Report by Beth Kerr
E-mail: bethkerr@mail.utexas.edu

Dancing in the Millennium: An International Conference

<http://www.artsnet.org/dance2000/>

July 19-23, 2000

Washington Marriott Hotel

The George Washington University

Kennedy Center

Washington, D.C.

A landmark conference, held in Washington D.C. this summer, brought a wide variety of dance related groups together for the first time ever. Jointly presented by the Congress on Research in Dance, the Dance Critics Association, the National Dance Association and the Society of Dance History Scholars, with sixteen other groups also actively participating, this meeting was held to "encourage dialogue and growth in dance and related areas of study and interest, and to promote the visibility of dance in our time." ACRL's Dance Librarians Committee was well represented and there were quite a few presentations dealing with the preservation and documentation of dance.

Aside from an impossibly crowded schedule of programs, workshops and demonstrations (highlights follow), there were also free dance performances in the Kennedy Center, banquets, a square dance, showings of rare dance films, a dance photography exhibit, a movement choir performance at the FDR memorial, a special student performance at the Duke Ellington School of Arts and many vendor/organization booths.

Robert L. Lynch, from Americans for the Arts, gave the keynote address, emphasizing strategic alliances, collaboration and networking.

Some Highlights:

- The Dance Librarians Committee's program,

titled "Marketing Dance to the World Community: It Is Free and In Your Backyard," featured Mary Strow (Indiana University), Paula Murphy (Chicago Historical Society) and Mary Edsall (president of CORD [their first librarian president] and Consulting Archivist for the Dance Heritage Coalition). They spoke about dance librarianship as a career; some specific programs and collections in the Chicago area, which reflected an active link between the community, dancers and the area's libraries; and how the Committee's forthcoming core bibliography was developed.

- "The Value and Uses of Primary Research Material" was led by Madeleine Nichols (Dance Division, New York Public Library for the Performing Arts). This roundtable featured Patricia Harrington Delaney, from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, discussing that institution's extensive collaboration with NYPL's dance collection for the reconstruction of Agnes de Mille's work, *Gold Rush*; Deborah Jowitt, *Village Voice* dance columnist and noted dance scholar, describing her use of the collection for a biography of Jerome Robbins which she has been commissioned by his estate to write; and George Dorris, noted dance scholar and author (standing in for José Sasportes - who had been named the Cultural Ambassador for Portugal) delineating the history and development of the Cia Fornaroli and Walter Toscanini Collection of material about 18th and 19th Century European dance.

- For "Technology and Dance," Mary Edsall demonstrated the Dance Heritage Coalition's new web site in "Jacob's Pillow Archives: A Web Presentation." Edsall showed a collection of electronic finding aids, focusing on the creation and development of the Jacob's Pillow collections. Then Ilene Fox, Executive Director of the Dance Notation Bureau in New York, presented "From Pixel to Pirouette," in which she demonstrated new developments in linking Life Forms (a movement animation software used, for example, by Merce Cunningham to create choreography) with LabanWriter (software for the creation of dance movement scores).

- In "Preservation Is an Active Verb," Andrea Snyder, Executive Director of Dance/USA and of the

National Initiative to Preserve America's Dance (finishing its last funded year), discussed some of NIPAD's projects as well as some of the work of DHC.

- Carolyn Adams (curator for The American Dance Legacy Institute, one of her many executive hats) introduced and showed "Images and Reflections: Celebration of a Masterpiece," a documentary on Donald McKayle's 1959 work, *Rainbow Round My Shoulder*. Adams described the intention of the documentary as a look at a living artist's life by focusing on a piece that the artist had identified as his signature piece. In the case of *Rainbow*, the process was aided immensely by the discovery and permission for use of an original copy of the complete dance done for a 1959 television program as well as interviews with a number of dancers who had performed the piece throughout the years.

- "The Life and Work of Ivor Guest: 2000 CORD Award for Outstanding Contribution to Dance Research" was a panel celebrating Guest's many interests. George Dorris moderated as Marian Smith (University of Oregon) analyzed the use of mute/miming characters in "Three Parisian Opera Ballets circa 1830;" Jane Pritchard, (English National Ballet and the Rambert Dance Company) compared "Collaborative Creations for the Alhambra and Empire"; and Beth Genné (University of Michigan) covered Guest's military years in "Freedom Incarnate: The Dancing Sailor as an Icon of American Values in World War II."

- Sondra Lomax, from the University of Texas at Austin, chaired "Agnes de Mille." For this much acclaimed panel, dancer, teacher and author Carole Schweid presented her one-woman stage adaptation, *Agnes de Mille: Dancer* and Shelley C. Berg, from SMU, discussed de Mille's choreographic technique and the documentation and preservation of her work in "Saving a Legacy: Two Duets from *Gold Rush* by Agnes de Mille."

- And "Capitalism, Collectivism, Racism: Aspects of 20th Century American Dance" was chaired by Ginger Macchi Carlson, Office Ad-

ministrator for CORD and dance and movement student. This panel consisted of Elizabeth Cooper (UT at Austin) delightfully analyzing the film *Silk Stockings* in "The Capitalist Contagion and the Dancing Vector: Watch Your Step, You Might Catch the Bourgeois Bug;" Elena Brown (writer and research consultant for the Isadora Duncan Foundation for Contemporary Dance in New York) examining the cultural and political climate of turn-of-the-century New York's Lower East Side in "Helen Tamiris: Creative Collectivism before the Federal Theatre Project;" and Holly Williams (UT at Austin) looking at challenges to accepted artistic values in "Two Millennia of Salome: The Bible's Dancer in the Twentieth Century."

This conference was unprecedented and well attended by scholars, practitioners and fans from all areas of the dance world. It was a wonderful opportunity for these groups to come together and communicate their concerns to each other. It was fun to see and hear the big names in the field and even to rub shoulders with them. The proceedings will be published in the future but no estimated date has been publicized.

For other views and reviews, check out:
<http://www.artsnet.org/dance2000/pressc.htm>.

Calendar of Selected Upcoming Meetings

44th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Theatre Research and the Theatre Library Association
 New York City November 9-12, 2000
<http://www.inform.umd.edu/ASTR/Pages/ASTRConference.html>

Music Library Association Annual Meeting
 New York City February 21-25, 2001
<http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/>

Visual Resources Association Conference
 Chicago February 27-March 3, 2001
<http://www.oberlin.edu/~art/vra/con1.html>

ARLIS/NA Conference
 Los Angeles March 29-April 4, 2001
<http://orpheus-1.ucsd.edu/csjarlis2001/>

Costume Society of America Annual Meeting & Symposium
 Providence, Rhode Island April 4-7, 2001
<http://www.costumesocietyamerica.com/welcome/>

SELECTED ARTS WEBSITES FOR WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARCHIVES, LIBRARIES, AND MUSEUMS

Corcoran Gallery of Art: <http://www.corcoran.org>
 District of Columbia Public Library:
<http://www.dclibrary.org>
 Library of Congress: <http://lcweb.loc.gov>
 National Archives & Records Administration:
<http://www.nara.gov>
 National Building Museum: <http://www.nbm.org>
 National Gallery of Art: <http://www.nga.gov>
 National Museum of Women in the Arts:
<http://www.nmwa.org>
 Smithsonian Institution: <http://www.si.edu>

PERFORMING ARTS LISTINGS

Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington:
<http://www.cultural-alliance.org/>
 District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia
 Theatre and Travel: <http://dcmdva-arts.org/>
 Greater Washington, D.C. Area Theatres Groups,
 Performances:
<http://www.georgetown.edu/murphy/netsearch/washdc.html>
 John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts:
<http://www.kennedy-center.org>
DC Music News: <http://www.musicdc.com>
Washington City Paper:
<http://www.washingtoncitypaper.com>

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