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Remember:

SPRING 2003

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE WILL BE IN

EARLY APRIL. PLAN

TO GET THOSE

CONFERENCE

REPORTS IN AS SOON

AS YOU RETURN FROM

MID-WINTER!

General M'ship and Executive Board Mtg.
Sunday, January 26
9:30am-11am

Performing Arts Discussion Group
Saturday, January 25
8am-9am

Film and B'cast Studies Librarians Disc. Group
Saturday, January 25
4:30-5:30pm

Dance Librarians Discussion Group
Monday, January 27
9:30-12:30pm
Offsite Location:
Philadelphia Dance Collection at Temple

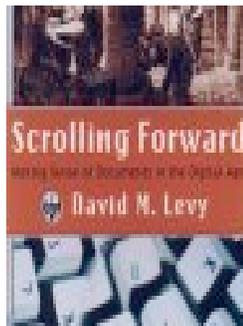
From the Chair

Ann Lindell, University of Florida, annlind@smathersnt2.uflib.ufl.edu

As we all settle into our fall semester routines, I bring you greetings from the ACRL Arts Section. As the new Chair, I look forward to working with members this year on Section projects and programs. I think one of the great strengths of our Section is our tradition of collaboration to create opportunities and contacts for our membership and to contribute excellent programming to the ALA Annual Conferences each year.

This past year was no exception. The Technology in the Arts Committee/ Interest Group, a ongoing partnership between ACRL and LITA, presented the very insightful program "The Documents of Sept. 11 and the Search for Stable Ground" [see below]. Our excellent 2002 Section Program chaired by Stephen Patrick, "Artists Books: Creating, Publishing & Collecting" came to fruition through partnerships with groups both within and outside of ALA. I am excited to report that for the ALA Annual Conference in Toronto, we will be collaborating with the ALA Video Round Table to present a program on independent film in Canada.

If you are new to the section, or a sustaining member with renewed interest, I invite you to join with us at our various meetings held during the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia [see p.2]. Meeting times are listed on this page. Location information will be posted on the Arts Section Website when it becomes available. See you in Philly!



David Levy's *The Documents of September 11 and the Search for Stable Ground*

Rina Vecchiola (rvecchio@uci.edu) and Liza Vick (lvick@uci.edu), UC Irvine

The ALA conference in Atlanta (June 13-19, 2002) hosted David Levy's presentation to the ACRL LITA Technology and the Arts Interest Group, *The Documents of September 11 and the Search for Stable Ground*. Levy is a computer scientist and studied calligraphy and bookbinding in London.

His recent book, *Scrolling Forward: Making Sense of Documents in the Digital Age*, personal photos of NYC two weeks after September 11, records his personal reaction and that of others through pictures of posters of the missing, news reports, and anthrax letters. In his view these documents comprise a democratic gallery that functions:

- as a symbol of loss and renewal
- as a symbol of mundane human activity

- as a memorial to those who died
- as an agent of destruction
- as ordinary things made beautiful and strange

To Levy, everyday documents are "talking things", that thread speech through symbols into material objects. The power of the written form lends these objects more fixity than ephemeral speech. He sees documents as our surrogates in accomplishing tasks. They extend our knowledge, reach and maintain order – thus the search for stable ground. They are a central part of our humanity and storytelling around such important events. For the future, Levy cited such documents as applicable to a transition to a digital world.

He also compared the digital transition to the re-stabilization of the

cont, on p. 3



Information at

<http://www.ala.org/events/midwinter2003/>

ARTS is a section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association. 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.



Information at

<http://www.ala.org/events/annual2003/>

ALA Midwinter, in Philadelphia, January 24-29, 2003

The 2002 ALA Midwinter Meeting will be held in Philadelphia, PA from January 24-29, 2003. The exhibition will take place from January 24-27, 2003 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia:

<http://www.paconvention.com/>

Registration information and the preliminary program is available in the October issue of *American Libraries* magazine, and on the ALA website since October 1:

<http://www.ala.org/events/midwinter2003/>

The preliminary program includes in-depth information on the various meetings and events that will comprise the ALA Midwinter meeting.

Thanks for All your Help!

Shannon Van Kirk, Miami University

vankirk@lib.muohio.edu

Getting started as the new Editor of the ARTS newsletter was a real challenge: it has been a while since I edited my last newsletter and the desktop publishing technology has changed considerably.

Added to that is the sad reality that fewer travel/professional development dollars is preventing many of us from attending as many conferences as we used to.

Because I was unable to attend ALA this year, I must thank all of you who sent articles, reports, and updates to make sure that this is actually a newsletter. I appreciate your participation more than you can know. (Of course I will be emailing you again as the Spring deadline looms.) Cheers! --shannon

Technology in the Arts

Mary.M.LaMarca@Dartmouth.Edu

Technology and the Arts is sponsored by two divisions, ACRL (Association of College and Research Libraries) where we are a committee, and LITA (Library and Information Technology Association), where we are an interest group. Please look under both ACRL ARTS events and LITA events for meetings and events. During midwinter and annual ALA events, we always meet as a group during the ACRL ARTS "all committee" meeting. We usually introduce ourselves and talk about current topics. We usually plan an event for the upcoming ALA annual. In Atlanta, we had a timely and thought-provoking talk. [See p.1]. cont. on p. 3

2003 ALA/CLA Annual Conference, Toronto, in June

American Library Association Annual Conference is the world's largest and most comprehensive library conference and exhibition. Drawing over 26,000 librarians, educators, writers, publishers and special guests, the conference includes more than 2,000 meetings, discussion groups and programs on topics affecting libraries. For the 2003 Annual Conference, the ALA will be holding a joint conference with the Canadian Library Association (http://www.cla.ca/conference/cla_ala2003.htm).

The 2003 ALA/CLA Annual Conference will be held in Toronto, ON from June 19 - 25, 2003. The exhibition will take place from June 21-24, 2003 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (<http://www.mtccc.com>) in Toronto. Registration information will be available in the December issue of *American Libraries* magazine, and on the website beginning December 1, 2002. The preliminary program will be in the March issue of *American Libraries* and will include more in-depth information on the various programs and events.

ACRL 11th National Conference: Learning to Make a Difference

Charlotte, North Carolina, April 10-13, 2003

This is your opportunity to explore the important issues facing academic librarians.

Why you should attend ACRL's 11th National Conference in Charlotte:

- Stimulate your thinking about topics such as assessment, collaboration, innovations, teaching and learning, and technical and access services.
- Take home practical ideas to put to use in your library.
- Visit with vendors to find out about state-of-the-art products and services for academic librarians.
- Network with colleagues from around the country during conference events.

Available online at [http:// www.ala.org/acrl/charlotte/](http://www.ala.org/acrl/charlotte/) :

- Registration and housing details
- Charlotte local arrangements information
- Exhibitor list
- Poster session and roundtable call for participation

Publications Committee, Laurel Bliss, Yale Arts Library, laurel.bliss@yale.edu

Thanks to the efforts of the ARTS Executive Board, the Publications Committee's request for funding for an ARTS Section brochure was approved by ACRL. We will be working on the text and design of the brochure over the next few months.

Nominating Committee, Lorelei Tanji, UC Irvine, ltanji@lib.uci.edu, Roland Hansen, and Beth Kerr

Many thanks to the ARTS members who will be on the elections ballot for these upcoming officer positions:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Sandy Mooney and Secretary: Eric Kidwell

Technology in the Arts, cont. from p.2

For 2003, we are hoping to have a presentation called "Curtain Up on Canadian Theatre," presented by librarians from the Toronto P. L. We have been talking about planning our 2004 talk on Digital Storytelling. It's a fun group, and we'd love to have more people involved. Our web page can be found at:

<http://www.lita.org/igs/Techarts/techarts.htm>

Levy, cont. from p. 1

world of written words after the invention of the printing press and cited the article, "What's a Document?" by David Weinberger, (in *Wired*), for addressing the transition. He wondered aloud about how these re-adjustments will affect the regulatory systems we have created around the book and how these systems will be defined for digital documents. As new technology spreads out across all fields (entertainment, libraries, businesses, for example) Levy questions what type of order or stable ground we are trying to create. He further explained his theory that all documents are both fixed and fluid, fixity being the more limited form of communication and the fluid more flexible. He stressed the alternating rhythms of fixity and fluidity in a digital environment.



Learning to Make a Difference
Charlotte, North Carolina, April 10-13, 2003

Have you had a book, an informational website, or an article published this year? Tell your colleagues about it here in our newsletter. Email details to Shannon Van Kirk: vankirk@lib.muohio.edu

Dance Librarians Discussion Group

Reported by Ann Lindell

During the 2003 ALA Midwinter Meeting, the Dance Librarians Discussion Group (DLDG) will be meeting in the Philadelphia Dance Collection at Temple University on Monday morning, January 27, during the 9:30-12:30 meeting slot. There will be an introduction to the Collection given by Curator, Mary Edsall and Luke Kahlich, Chair of the Dance Department.

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Planning Committee

American Library
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The Planning Committee spent time between Midwinter and Annual revising the ARTS Section Handbook. Suggestions were sent to Lorelei Tanji. The final document was presented during the Executive Committee meeting.

At the request of the ARTS Section Chair, Mary Strow, the Planning Committee began to examine the committee structure of the Section. The following were brought to the Executive Committee at the Annual meeting:

1. Eliminate the Government and Private Sector Committee which duplicates ACRL's Government Relations Committee, which actively disseminates information related to government activities of interest to libraries and librarians in academia.

2. Combine the Dance Librarian's Discussion Group with the Dance Librarian's Committee.

3. Eliminate the Publications Committee and appoint both the Newsletter editor and the Webmaster to the Executive Committee.

4. Eliminate the Leadership Committee.

5. Fold the Public Relations and Outreach Committee into the Membership Committee.

These recommendations will be discussed further at our midwinter meeting.

(See p. 2 for information about ALA Midwinter.)

Dance Librarians Discussion Group, cont. from p. 3

The topic of discussion will be "A Core Collection in Dance." While the meeting is open to anyone attending ALA, the Temple University community and the Philadelphia dance community will be invited as well. Located on Broad Street, just north of City Hall, Temple University is easily accessible from Center City Philadelphia by subway, bus, or car. Specific directions and other information about the DLDG meeting will be available by calling the Philadelphia Dance Collection at 215-204-8235.

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