

ARTS

NEWSLETTER

Association of College and Research Libraries Arts Section v.6 no.2 Spring 1991

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Arts Section Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect 1991-1992

WILLIAM F. COSCARELLI
Department Head, Fine Arts/Media
University of Georgia Libraries

As a member of the ACRL Arts Section for the past four years, it has been exciting for me to see the growth in membership and attendance at conference programs. The Section has made significant efforts to broaden its appeal to librarians interested in the visual and performing arts. I believe it is this broader scope and considerable effort put forth by the past chairs that has helped the Section to grow over these past few years.

The Arts Section is a coalition of librarians who may be visual and performing arts subject specialists at their institutions or who have collection/reference responsibilities in several areas including the arts. As a music librarian with departmental responsibilities covering the visual arts and media, it is especially beneficial to me to attend the Arts Section functions and exchange ideas and information with colleagues from other areas of the arts. I am very interested in continuing to promote this interaction of librarians in the various arts disciplines. I want to promote the exchange of information of Section activities with other subject specific organizations such as ARLIS, MLA, etc., and to encourage librarians without a subject organization, such as dance librarians, to join with us as their umbrella organization.

We have the potential of strong continued growth in membership as we incorporate the traditional aspects of arts librarianship with timely topics such as preservation and technology, and we can strengthen

our relationships with other sections of ALA and ACRL such as GODORT and RBMS who are co-sponsoring the Arts Section program in Atlanta in 1991. My goal is to encourage our growth by impressing upon the general ALA membership, through the medium of interesting and interdisciplinary programs which focus on the arts, the fact that the Arts Section has interests and concerns which incorporate other aspects of librarianship.

MICHELINE NILSEN
Slide Librarian
University of Pennsylvania

A few days ago I received a phone call from a colleague at my own institution: he was initiating contacts for combining efforts on a program for the 1992 Annual Meeting. "The ACRL Arts Section has been coming out with very good stuff" was his opening comment. I have been affiliated with the Section since 1985, and find it rewarding to hear that we are indeed gaining wider recognition and that our work is valued by colleagues in many disciplines. We are no longer the only organized professional group which brings together librarians from all areas of the arts, we have become a Section known to others as a source of valuable information.

The Arts Section is now in a position to influence our discipline by its publications, its programs and its judicious choice of topics at discussion fora. The Arts Section is in the fortunate position of expanding the vision of librarianship because its members work in disciplines where one can and needs to be resourceful in order to transcend the limitations of formats, traditional research methods and cumbersome access to information. Encouraging and initiating vital activity which spreads into the core of our profession

while working within the administrative framework of ACRL are key elements of the Section's leadership.

Arts Section Secretary 1991-1992

JOAN F. CHEVERIE
Head, Government Documents
Georgetown University

The ACRL Arts Section is a dynamic group that provides a genuine forum for idea sharing for those interested in all aspects of the visual and performing arts. The Section is gaining recognition as a place where arts professionals can turn for information on the current and developing trends in information services relating to the arts. We must foster this momentum by continuing to sponsor quality programs and projects that highlight this unique, interdisciplinary relationship. Our growing membership has a wealth of expertise to share. This is an exciting time to be involved in ARTS--a time filled with new ideas and activities. I would welcome the chance to work with all of you and to have the opportunity to serve the Arts Section.

CAROLYN A. SHEEHY
Director, Oesterle Library
North Central College

I find the Arts Section to be wonderfully unique among professional organizations in that it actively welcomes both librarians working in the field and librarians working in other areas who are vitally interested in the arts. The warmth displayed towards

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new members, the encouragement and appreciation given to members who become involved in the Section, the quality of the programs presented, and the meaningful exchange of ideas and information offered are aspects of the Section that I would like to see perpetuated and fostered. There is a rich sense of camaraderie in the Arts Section that is to be treasured and encouraged.

Working from this strong sense of community, I would like to see the Section develop a greater role in arts advocacy. Our resolution in support of the NEA was one way in which we can contribute to the field. As we grow, I think that we can extend ourselves even more not only in support of arts librarianship but also of the arts in general.

IS THIS COPY LEGAL? OR WHAT'S AN ARTS LIBRARIAN TO DO?

- * A faculty member wants you to take a photo of every image in Gardner's *Art Through the Ages* and incorporate them into your slide collection.
- * A student wants your permission to check out a reference book specifically to scan an image to use for her freelance computer design work.
- * Your purchasing department bought the wrong kind of cassette players, and you know your students are making dubs from your recordings collection.

Have you ever wondered how these scenarios might be covered by U.S. copyright laws? Have you run across other possible copyright problems peculiar to arts librarianship?

If so, please send us your questions or give us other situations--real or hypothetical. If you've figured out how to resolve a copyright problem, tell us about that too (anonymously, if you wish).

With your responses, the Arts Section Government and Private Sector Activities Committee will put together a plan for helping librarians deal with copyright issues specific to the visual and performing arts.

Send your arts-related copyright questions or scenarios before ALA Annual to:

Janice Woo
Arts G&PSAC
c/o Gimbel Library
2 West 13th Street
New York, NY 10011

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR...

Greetings to all ACRL Arts Section members! I hope that your year is progressing productively and well. It was a pleasure seeing ARTS members at the Midwinter Meeting in Chicago, and I look forward to seeing whoever can attend the Atlanta ALA Conference, June 29 to July 4, 1991. The meeting times for the ACRL Arts Section are listed below. Please see the program for locations.

ARTS ALL COMMITTEES MEETING

Saturday, June 29, 1991, 9:30am - 12:30pm

Members of every ARTS committee attend this meeting where committee concerns are shared and individual committee meetings are convened. Visitors are cordially welcomed.

ARTS CONFERENCE PROGRAM *Becoming Literate with Our Heritage: The WPA and the Arts*

Saturday, June 29, 1991, 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Program Chair, William F. Coscarelli

See article later in this issue for more information.

ARTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sunday, June 30, 1991, 9:30am - 12:30pm

This is the first time we are holding the Executive Committee and Membership Meetings consecutively. We hope this will provide a better sharing of information and opportunity for involvement by all ARTS members. Visitors are cordially welcomed.

TECHNOLOGY IN THE ARTS DISCUSSION FORUM

Monday, July 1, 1991, 9:30am - 12:30pm

Howard Besser, Chair

DANCE LIBRARIAN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Mary Bopp, Chair

See article later in this issue. Contact Mary Bopp for the meeting time and location.

In this issue of the *ARTS Newsletter* you see a fascinating variety of projects ARTS members are undertaking. In addition, four members of the Arts Section will be working with the Subject Analysis Committee of ALA's Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) to plan a program session on the *Art and Architecture Thesaurus* at the 1993 ALA Annual Conference. Planning this program with Toni Petersen of the AAT staff are ARTS members Howard Besser, Paula Epstein, Alice Loranth, and Janice Woo.

Please send any revisions in your address, telephone number, FAX, or electronic mail address to our Secretary, Micheline Nilsen at 625 Fairview Road,

Swarthmore, Pennsylvania 19081-2319. Telephone: (215) 898-7086.

I look forward to seeing you all in Atlanta!

*JoAn Kunselman, Chair
ACRL, Arts Section*

ATLANTA PROGRAM

The Arts Section Program for the 1991 Annual Conference in Atlanta will focus on the WPA and the arts during the Depression. *Becoming Literate with Our Heritage: the WPA and the Arts* will be co-sponsored by the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section and by GODORT. The program will be presented on Saturday, June 29 at 2:00 p.m.

Becoming Literate with Our Heritage is a retrospective examination of the Work Projects Administration (WPA) and the support given to the arts during the Depression. Literacy, in this context, means not only being able to read, but having the skills necessary to perform research, and having general awareness of the subject. The presentations will focus on music, theatre, dance, and the visual arts, and will highlight the necessity of consulting additional library and information agencies such as manuscript collections/historical societies and government document collections. The intent of the program is to encourage research in the WPA arts programs and to bring to the forefront a Depression-era program that had a great impact on American cultural life. Included in our program are:

**WPA/New Deal Art in Georgia*--Stephen Goldfarb, Information Line (telephone reference), Atlanta-Fulton Public Library

**Music for the People: The Federal Music Project*--Dena Epstein, Assistant Music Librarian (Retired), University of Chicago

**Federal Theatre Archives: A Resource for the Performing Arts*--Lorraine Brown, Director, Institute on the Federal Theatre Project, George Mason University

**Dancing Through the Depression: Dance and the WPA*--Madeleine M. Nichols, Curator, Dance Collection, The New York Public Library-Lincoln Center

Funding for the program resulted from a proposal submitted to the ALA Special Allocations funding program and to ACRL. The Arts Section program was one of six selected to receive funds from Special Allocations. The Special Allocation funds and the program funds from ACRL were merged and all section chairs were asked to rank the proposals. The

ARTS Program Committee is pleased to announce that our program ranked second for Special Allocations funds, and ranked fourth out of the ten programs considered for ACRL funds.

The ARTS Program Committee looks forward to seeing many of our colleagues at the program this summer. The topic should prove interesting to anyone interested in Federal programs for the arts.

William Coscarelli

MLA AND ACRL PROJECT

At the mid-winter conference, ACRL held the first meeting of the MLA (Modern Language Association) Bibliography Scope and Overlap Committee. This committee's mission is to evaluate coverage of subject areas under the current scope of the *MLA Bibliography*. Persons assisting with this project are to identify 1) the extent of the coverage MLA has on a given subject, 2) resources that duplicate MLA coverage, and 3) subject areas which are not adequately covered in the *MLA Bibliography* or in other resources. Those who are interested in assisting in the evaluation of the subject Performance Arts as described in the *Bibliography* should contact:

Allison G. Kaplan
Education Resource Center
College of Education
University of Delaware
Newark, DE 19716
(302) 451-1584
Bitnet: HPS09034@UDELVM

AIDS AND THE ARTS

I once had a roommate who was a painter. Well, in reality a waiter, but mentally and emotionally an artist. James died in September 1985 of AIDS. None of our circle of friends knew he was sick. He moved back to Detroit in August and on September 15th he was gone. I found out by accident when I called his parents to find out what was going on. He died the morning of the day I called. I just missed him by a few hours. Since then, everyone has been touched by the tragedy of AIDS, in one way or another. The Arts have been strongly affected by the many losses in the areas of design, fashion, painting and sculpture, the theatre arts, music, and literature.

In the Winter of 1989 I began noticing how many articles were appearing in relation to AIDS in the art periodical literature. I decided to begin documenting these articles and the books that began to appear,

anticipating requests from present and future library patrons. I now have an eleven page bibliography of AIDS and the Arts related materials that I have personally "found." I also used the *Art Index* back to 1984. There are no separate entries for AIDS or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome in the *Art Index*. I finally discovered the information to be found under **Artists-Diseases and Hygiene**. Many journals giving lots of coverage are not indexed in the mainstream indices. The *Village Voice* is the perfect example.

Other factors helped increase awareness of the magnitude of the AIDS crisis, within the art community and the general public as well. The emergence of ACT-UP (The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) alerted the media to the medical, social, and political threads of the AIDS crisis. Consequently, even more articles appeared. In October 1988, the first display of the Names Project giant memorial quilt took place in Washington, DC. The quilt has since been displayed three times in its entirety, and segments have been displayed numerous times throughout the nation. These displays have caught the attention of the media resulting in extensive coverage. At the same time, the controversies at the National Endowment for the Arts, and the flag-burning issue erupted. Many articles overlapped in two or three areas. I realized I could never include everything.

Some of the entries are for artists' projects that appeared in journals. They don't have titles as articles. I made some notations for these "non-traditional" entries. Along with topical articles I included reviews of exhibitions, whether about AIDS or by an artist with AIDS. I decided to include obituaries only when there seemed to be no other information about that person. I included an interview with Keith Haring that appeared in *Rolling Stone* because of the impact of Haring, and because of the insight of the interview. It is one of the articles I highly recommend everyone should read.

The publication of articles and books, the production of video tapes and films about AIDS will undoubtedly continue. I plan on continuing my documentation, and I would like to publish a first edition sometime in the near future. I am interested in knowing if anyone else is working on a similar project, or if anyone knows of something that already exists. I would also be interested in any information you might have. Please write to: Roland C. Hansen, Reader Services Librarian, Flaxman Library, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 37 S. Wabash, Chicago, IL 60603. A sampling of items from the bibliography follows.

- "AIDS: Cultural analysis, cultural activism." [14 article anthology] Edited by Douglas Crimp. *October* No. 43, Winter 1987, pp. 3-271.
- Azzolina, David S. "Waging war with words: AIDS and the alternative press." *Small Press* v.8, No. 4, August 1990, pp. 22-25.
- Chris, Cynthia. "Women and AIDS." [Review of two exhibits at the New Museum] *Afterimage* v.17, No. 1, Summer 1989, pp. 17-18.
- Crimp, Douglas. *AIDS demo graphics*. With Adam Rolston. Seattle, Washington: Bay Press, 1990.
- Danzig, Alexis. "Acting up: independent video and the AIDS crisis." *Afterimage* v.16, No. 10, May 1989, pp. 5-7.
- Greyson, John. "Video on AIDS at AFI." In *AIVF Guide to International Film and Video Festivals* by Kathryn Bowser. New York: Foundation for Independent Video and Film, Inc. 1988.
- Hall, Dennis R. "Purity and danger in American popular culture: C. Everett Koop's *Understanding AIDS*." *Journal of American Culture* v.12, No. 4, Winter 1989, pp. 99-103.
- Hess, John, Chuck Kleinhans and Julia LeSage. "Representing AIDS." *Jumpcut* No. 33, 1988, pp. 116-17.
- Munk, Erika. "The arts Act up: can we save the National Endowment?" *Village Voice* v.35, No. 14, April 3, 1990, pp. 57-59.
- Natale, Richard. "And the cameras rolled on: why you are not seeing movies about AIDS." *Village Voice* v.35, No. 8, February 2, 1990, pp. 67-70.
- "Notes and comment: talk of the town." [The San Francisco Names patchwork quilt memorializes AIDS victims] *New Yorker* v.63, No. 34, October 5, 1987, pp. 31+.
- Reid, Calvin. "Beyond mourning." *Art in America* v.78, No. 4, April 1990, pp. 50-57.
- Salahub, Jennifer E. "Quilts: the fabric of society." *Fiberarts* v.17, No. 1, Summer 1990, pp. 22-23. The Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt is featured.
- Sheff, David. "Just say know." [interview with Keith Haring] *Rolling Stone* August 10, 1989, pp. 58+.
- Sontag, Susan. *AIDS and its metaphors*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1989.
- Video against AIDS*. Kate Horsfield, Producer. John Greyson and Bill Harrington, Curators. Chicago: Video Data Bank, 1989. Three video cassettes comprise this series of twenty-two individual pieces relating to the AIDS crisis. Total running time is six hours.
- Watney, Simon. *Policing desire: Pornography, AIDS and the media*. Second edition. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1989.
- Weinstein, Jeff. "Names carried into the future: an AIDS quilt unfolds." *Village Voice* v.33 No. 25, June 21, 1988, pp. 19-23.

Roland Hansen

MLA REPRESENTATIVE

Brenda Chasen Goldman is the Music Library Association representative to ALA. Contact her if your Arts Section committee or group is working on a project where input from the Music Library Association would be beneficial. She will try to bring you together with the appropriate person(s) from MLA. Her address is:

Tufts University
 Music Library
 Cohen Auditorium
 Medford, MA 02155
 (617) 381-3594

INTERNET:BGOLDMAN@PEARL.TUFTS.EDU

AWARDS AVAILABLE

Each year, the ACRL Professional Association Liaison Committee (PALC) makes ten awards of up to \$300 each. Membership in ALA is required; ACRL members have an edge. The criteria for funding are broad enough to support a range of liaison activities. Preference will be given to efforts which contribute to the understanding or use of academic library resources or services. PALC encourages efforts which enhance the perception of academic librarians as part of the "education team."

Past awards have typically supported the presentation of conference papers, but many other possibilities exist. Organizing workshops, mounting poster sessions, preparing publications, and creating new "special interest groups" within the disciplines are just a few ways that librarians might have an impact on academic associations.

Applications for funding should be submitted to the Chair of PALC one month prior to the Annual Conference or Midwinter Meeting. The actual awards will be made after the event, but you may seek prior approval. Travel, accommodations, and registration (but not membership fees) are reimbursable expenses. For more information, contact:

Melvin George
Chair, ACRL PALC
Director of Libraries
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331
(503) 737-3411

TECHNOLOGY IN THE ARTS DISCUSSION

The Arts and Technology Discussion Group met January 12, 1991 to discuss datafiles for reference services. The Chair of the Technology in the Arts Committee, Howard Besser, solicited information and opinions from the group concerning commercial electronic databases as well as in-house products.

Among the new developments in electronic information storage mentioned were two new CDs in music: *Music Library: Musical Sound Recordings*, produced by OCLC, which lists bibliographic records representing sound recordings with many points of access: names, titles, subjects, instrumentation, musical forms, physical format, and label/publisher, among others; and *Music Index*, produced by Chadwick Healy, with annual updates and anticipated retrospective coverage through 1949. *Art and Civilization*, a new art videodisc produced by Kathleen Cohen of San Jose State University, offers 15,000 still frame images organized into topical "chapters," while Voyager is producing a hypercard stack for access to the National Gallery collections. In architecture, *Archpics* is an online index to reproductions in major texts in modern architecture being developed at Carnegie Mellon University. In dance, the New York Public Library is working with G. K. Hall for publication of its complete dance collection catalog on CD-ROM.

Participants also offered opinions concerning the value of those electronic databases which have been available for some time. *Arts and Humanities Search* was mentioned as useful for interdisciplinary searches; *ERIC*, although known as an education database, also offers good coverage in some areas of art and music; *RILA* and *Art Bibliographies Modern* only cover Western art and are not good for information about Eastern or ancient art. The *MLA Bibliography* is good for theater and some interdisciplinary searches, but some dissatisfaction was expressed because the Wilson software is not completely compatible with that of MLA. General indices such as *Magazine Index* and *Book Review Index* were also mentioned as good for some arts topics.

A limitation of all current electronic databases for arts information is their lack of full retrospective coverage. For example, *Art Index* on Wilsondisc does not include 1929-1983 citations. Since arts and humanities research does not limit itself to current or recent sources, there is a need to encourage vendors to extend retrospective coverage. Another deficiency noted was the desperate need for databases covering audio-visual works.

Since there was inadequate time to discuss in-house databases, the chair requested written information concerning activity in this area on the part of the participants' libraries. He explained that in-house projects on the part of one institution could be added to by other libraries to produce more comprehensive databases. Any activity in this area on the part of Arts Section members should be sent to the chair at the University of Pittsburgh School of Library and Information Science.

The chair informed participants of topics for discussion at forthcoming conferences:

1. At the Atlanta conference this summer, Technology in the Arts will sponsor a formal presentation of new technology projects based in other arts associations (such as ARLIS, MLA, RLG, and the Getty). This session will be held on Monday, July 1, 9:30am - 12:30pm.

2. At Midwinter in San Antonio, the discussion will focus on collection analysis in the arts.

Lynn Williams

DANCE LIBRARIANS REPORT

After about a year and a half of informal discussions and correspondence, ten people attended our Midwinter meeting on January 12, 1991. Our first item of discussion regarded the exact status of our group within the Arts Section. It was agreed that a discussion group would best suit our purposes at this time, and if there is a future need to become a committee we will do so.

We then discussed the membership of our group. Many of the people interested in our activities are not necessarily librarians, but rather archivists, teaching faculty, students, writers, and choreographers. It was agreed that we want to encourage and include as many interested persons as possible, and to be international in scope.

Our most crucial need right now is to be able to communicate with one another. We discussed what would be involved in the publication of our own newsletter, and ultimately decided that a summary of our minutes should appear in the *ARTS Newsletter*.

Much discussion centered around the kinds of projects and activities which our group wants to support. What form should our support take, and how can we help each other, as well as outside individuals/groups, through sharing professional advice, information, and problem solving? The time seems to be right for amalgamating information on dance and dance collections, yet project and publication funding is a problem. We hope to lend assistance in all of these areas. Some project ideas were: a consultant's list, lists of give-away journals, identification of duplicate items, a forum for exchange possibilities, an index of items not in dance journals, and a compilation of bibliographic standards.

Two projects received specific attention. First, the Dance Database Project at UCLA, directed by dance ethnologist Elsie Dunin. This project involves the creation of an index to dance articles from approximately 150 English-language journals. The DDBP needs input on their dance classifications (contact Dunin at UCLA Dance Dept. or Allison Kaplan, address on page 4) and volunteers to abstract articles. Second, Madeleine Nichols from the NYPL Dance Collection requested our help in finding funding sources for the separate publication of their subject headings.

A list is being kept of persons interested in the Dance Librarian's Discussion Group. If you would like your name added, contact Mary Bopp.

Mary Bopp (from minutes taken by Allison Kaplan)

NEWS FROM OTHER ARTS ORGANIZATIONS...

AMERICAN FILM AND VIDEO ASSOCIATION reports that the Program for Art on Film, the joint venture of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Getty Trust can now make their database of 17,000 international film and video titles on the visual arts available to researchers. For more information, contact the Program, Research Service, 980 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10021.

SLA MUSEUM, ARTS AND HUMANITIES DIVISION (MAHD) reports that its 1991 conference would be in San Antonio, Texas from June 8 to 13. Programs planned included *Re-shaping the Canon* with Dr. Thomas F. Staley of the Ransom Humanities Research Center and *Library vs. Museum...* with Neil Fulghum of the North Carolina Collection.

THE REGIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY GROUP is a new, informal network of archivists, historians, curators, and collectors interested in compiling, documenting, and sharing the history of photography in its various aspects and geographic regions. For further information about membership, write Dr. Ron Polito, Department of Art, University of Massachusetts at Boston, Boston, MA 02125.

*Paula Murphy, Past Chair
ACRL Arts Section*

HIDDEN TREASURES PROGRAM

The ACRL Arts Section and the Government Documents Task Force will co-sponsor *Hidden Treasures: Government Publications in the Arts and Humanities -- International, Federal, State and Local* on Monday, July 1, 1991 from 9:30am - 12:30pm in Atlanta. The speakers include: Elizabeth Baur, Memphis State University, *From J.S. Bach to John Dillinger: Government Publications in Music*; Marie Clark, Duke University, *Theater to Documents: Art to Propaganda*; Judith Johnson, University of Illinois at Chicago, *From Literature to Literacy: Government Publications in the Humanities*; and Stephen Allan Patrick, East Tennessee State University, *Visual Treats to Eclectic Wonders: Government Publications in the Visual Arts*.

CALL FOR NEW EDITOR

Would you like to have your registration fees for the Annual and Midwinter Conferences paid for? They will be, if you are the new assistant editor/editor of the *ARTS Newsletter*!

The *ARTS Newsletter* needs an assistant editor, who would serve in that capacity for one year, beginning with the Fall 1991 issue, and who would then serve as editor for the following two years. Requirements include good writing and editing skills, a feel for layout and design, the ability to meet deadlines, a willingness to keep in contact with potential news sources, and access to a word processing system and to either a letter quality or laser printer. The *Newsletter* is issued twice a year, and each issue contains eight pages.

If you are interested in this position, send writing samples and a description of pertinent experience before June 1, 1991, to:

Trudi Jacobson
ARTS Newsletter Editor
SUNY Albany
University Libraries
Albany, NY 12222

The new assistant editor/editor will be selected during the Annual Conference in Atlanta.

FOR YOUR READING PLEASURE...

Two recent publications that might interest you are:

Toni Petersen and Pat Molholt (eds.), *Beyond the Book: Extending MARC for Subject Access*, Boston: G. K. Hall, 1990.

Library Trends 38(4), Spring, 1990 [special issue on handling graphic materials].

Thanks to Howard Besser for bringing these to our attention.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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