



Greater New York Music Library Association

Minutes

Fall Meeting

Friday, November 4, 2022, 9:30 A.M.

Amsterdam Room, New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Officers present:

Alica Stephens, Vice-Chair, Acting Chair

Ethan D'Ver, Secretary-Treasurer

Number present: 15

Pre-meeting

- Breakfast and social time

Business Meeting

- Chair election results
 - 27 votes for Sara White; 1 write-in vote (test)
 - Sara White elected GNYMLA Chair, effective at the conclusion of this meeting, at which time Alica Stephens will step down from her role as Acting Chair.
- Treasurer's report
 - Income this fiscal year: dues, including a few membership payments directly to me, and one large \$570 remission check from MLA.
 - Expenses: food for this meeting, \$290.30
 - Balance: \$3,641.86
 - Membership count so far is comparable to last fiscal year, which is average, but given that a few more members usually join in the spring, we are on track to exceed last year's membership numbers
- Upcoming elections
 - Ethan D'Ver will end his term as Secretary-Treasurer at the conclusion of our spring 2023 meeting
 - Alica Stephens is moving, thus will be stepping down as Vice-Chair at the end of the calendar year
 - Given the unusual circumstance of having two vacant positions at roughly the same time, we discussed how best to fill both of these roles.
 - Past Chair Greg Sigman briefly described the duties of the roles

- Motion put forward to hold a single election with both positions on the ballot, to be held in the spring prior to the spring meeting.
- Motion passed
- Increase membership and engagement
 - Library students and mentorship
 - Could reach out to area library science schools and offer mentors to students interested in music librarianship
 - Bob Kosovsky's class at LIU – possibly tie-in with spring meeting?
 - Make students aware of travel grant opportunities for MLA national
 - Workshop-style meeting
 - Possibly of more interest to students
 - A SEMLA chapter workshop provides model for what this could look like
 - Such a program could fill a currently unfulfilled need: LIS schools in the area not providing in-depth coverage on music topics
 - Idea for workshop geared towards students – the library side of what music library patrons typically encounter
 - Holding a joint meeting with a neighboring organization
- Travel scholarship for MLA 2023
 - Any specific target audience for recipients?
 - Students and early career professionals
 - Individuals who haven't had opportunity to go to MLA national in many years
 - Benefit of offering a travel scholarship now: given the lack of in-person meetings for the last couple years, a travel grant would encourage people to attend who may not yet know the value of an in-person conference
 - Amount
 - Maximum of \$1,000 is prudent
 - Could offer one grant, or multiple smaller grants
 - Motion put forward to offer two \$500 travel grants to be used for travel expenses to attend the MLA annual meeting in 2023
 - Motion passed
- Update official website
 - At a bare minimum, website should have our meeting schedule and information on upcoming meetings
 - Could be a helpful place to point students interested in music libraries
 - Perhaps a student/emerging professionals tab would be helpful
 - Blog
 - Is it helpful? Should we even keep?
 - Yes, because it is the main public-facing page of our organization
 - The blog should be available to the general public, without requiring sign-in

- The Chair should be responsible for regularly making blog posts, but all members should be able to make posts as well
- Make a blog post about the upcoming travel grants
- Homepage
 - Should have a greeting message
 - The current homepage, news, could be moved to a news tab
- Any other content?
 - Photos from meetings
- Meeting adjourned

Presentations

George Avakian and Anahid Ajemian Audio Description Project

Matthew Snyder, Archivist/Specialist II, The New York Public Library

After providing a biography of Avakian and Ajemian, the presenter played a whole assortment of newly digitized, never released audio clips from the collection.

Updates on the Hatch-Billops Digitization Project

Michael Crowley, Music Librarian, The City College of New York

Presenter discussed a recent Grammy-funded digital preservation and curation project, digitizing 242 tapes containing 329 hours of audio of oral histories and music of prominent black artists across all disciplines.

Special Presentation: Selection of Archival Materials

Gabryel Smith, Director, Archives and Exhibitions, The New York Philharmonic

Display and discussion of archival materials from the time of Gustav Mahler's tenure as Music Director of the Philharmonic, including scores with his markings and his letters to orchestra members.