

Dance Librarians Discussion Group minutes  
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Saturday, January 25, 2014  
Pennsylvania Convention Center 303AB  
4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Attendees: Kat Bell (Dance Heritage Coalition), Felicity Brown (University of Maryland), Laura Jenemann (George Mason University), Nani Manion (Free Library of Philadelphia), Christina Mayhand (University of North Carolina, Greensboro), Darwin Scott (Princeton University), Yasmin Spiegel, Ngoc-Yen Tran (University of Oregon), and Helice Koffler (University of Washington)

- Introductions
- Helice announced that the guest for the upcoming DLDG virtual meeting on January 30, 2014 at 11:00 AM (EST) / 8:00 AM (PST) would be filmmaker, Nancy Buirski. Nancy would be on hand to field questions about her new documentary, *Afternoon of a Faun: Tanaquil Le Clercq*. Helice noted that she would send out a meeting reminder with a link and instructions on both the listserv and ALAConnect as soon as possible after the meeting.
- Helice also repeated her call for volunteers to become the next DLDG convener after the 2014 Annual Meeting. Interest was expressed by a couple of people; volunteers should fill out the [form](#) by February 15, 2014 for incoming Arts Section chair, Yen Tran, to approve.
- Yen invited everyone to attend the Arts Section's informal lunch gathering to take place on Sunday.
- Initial group discussion centered on those questions of perennial interest: What is a dance librarian and where are they? There was some surprise and dismay expressed that the Dance Librarians Discussion Group, which, because of its organizational placement within ACRL, is mainly directed at academic librarians, remains the only venue within ALA treating the subject of dance. Suggestions for increasing the visibility of dance librarianship included the idea of setting up a Facebook page. It also was pointed out that many academic librarians responsible for dance tend to have split responsibilities at their institutions, most often either as music or theater librarians, with dance frequently taking a lower priority.
- Kat Bell distributed brochures and mentioned some of the programs sponsored by the Dance Heritage Coalition, as well recent grants they have received.
- Special guest, Margery N. Sly, Director of the Special Collections Research Center at Temple University, gave a brief presentation on some of the riches of their Philadelphia Dance Collection. Some of the many highlights include: the Pennsylvania Ballet Records and the Brenda Dixon Gottschild Papers. Margery also spoke of Temple's digitization efforts in dance, which have included making available a full set of the somewhat obscure publication, *Impulse*, on their instance of CONTENTdm. Additional material will be selected for digitization as deeds of gift are sorted out for legacy collections. Temple is also working with [Philadelphia Dance Projects](#) on a grant-funded project to document the 1960s dance scene.

Respectfully submitted,

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