

Dance Librarians Discussion Group minutes
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Dallas, Texas
Saturday, January 21, 2012
Sheraton Dallas, Trinity 2
1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Attendees: Helen Baer (Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin), Claudia Covert, (Rhode Island School of Design), Kat Bell (Texas Woman's University), Sharon Perry-Martin (Dallas Public Library), Sarah McHone-Chase (Northern Illinois University), Helice Koffler (University of Washington)

- Introductions
- Arts Section Chair, Claudia Covert, gave updates about Section activities, including the plan to experiment with an all-committees style discussion group meeting at Annual in Anaheim.
- Helice briefly discussed the DLDG virtual meeting held the prior week. Author Stephen Manes fielded questions about his recent book, [*Where Snowflakes Dance and Swear: Inside the Ballet*](#) (Cadwallader & Stern, 2011) via ALA Connect chat module. The raw transcript is archived in the chat section of the group's community page on <http://connect.ala.org/node/66094> and a lightly edited transcript (for greater clarity and readability) also was circulated on the group's discussion list and posted on ALA Connect: <http://connect.ala.org/node/165775>.
- Kat Bell, a recent graduate of the Texas Woman's University's M.A. in Dance and M.L.S. programs, shared her experiences as a Dance Heritage Coalition 2011 Summer Fellow placed with the Dance Theatre of Harlem. Kat also discussed the DHC Fellows program and the work of the 2011 cohort, who helped companies in New York and San Francisco create basic inventories of their collections.
- Guest speaker, Sharon Perry-Martin, of the Dallas Public Library, gave a thoughtful and lively presentation focusing on the rich performing arts holdings in both the Texas/Dallas History & Archives and Fine Arts Division. Archival collections of note in dance and theater include: the [Mary Bywaters Dance Collection](#), Dallas Theater Center Collection, [Juana de Laban Dance Collection](#), [Margo Jones papers](#), and Shirley Richards Collection. Sharon, who has been with DPL for many years in different capacities, brought a unique perspective and shared her in-depth knowledge of these and other collections. She also mentioned several displays and exhibits of interest throughout the central library building, including one with batons from the conductors of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

Respectfully submitted,
Helice Koffler, hkoffler@u.washington.edu