**ALA Core Metadata and Collections Section Subject Analysis Committee**

**Report from the Music Library Association (MLA)**

prepared for the SAC virtual meeting, July 15-17, 2024

The Vocabularies Subcommittee (VS) of the Music Library Association’s Cataloging and Metadata Committee (CMC) conducts its work via task groups for LC vocabularies maintenance, MLA Best Practices for LCMPT and LCGFT updates, deriving faceted data from LCSH, Types of Composition list maintenance, and Thematic Indexes list maintenance. Much of the work is driven by request, and we encourage anyone with such requests or comments to submit them via our suggestion boxes on the [CMC FAQ](http://cmc.blog.musiclibraryassoc.org/frequently-asked-questions/) page. Suggestions, questions, and ideas for collaborative projects are also welcome.

# Meetings

The [Music Library Association](http://conferences.blog.musiclibraryassoc.org/) held an in-person and hybrid meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, February 28 – March 2, 2024. Committee and subcommittee meetings, including that of the Vocabularies Subcommittee, occurred virtually the following week, March 5 - 8. Summaries of cataloging and metadata-related program sessions may be found in the June 2024 (55:6) issue of the [*Music Cataloging Bulletin*](https://mcb.armusicanthology.com/) (subscription). Reports from the four CMC business meetings will be added to the 2024 MLA Reports section on the [CMC Reports page](https://cmc.wp.musiclibraryassoc.org/all-reports/).

The MLA annual meeting marked the end of four members’ terms on the Vocabularies Subcommittee, including three task group coordinators. Following the meeting, three new members were brought on to the subcommittee, and new coordinators were selected to fill the vacant roles.

[MOUG (Music OCLC Users Group)](https://musicoclcusers.org/) met virtually on February 16, 2024, and in-person and hybrid on February 28, 2024, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Presentation slides from past meetings are available on the [MOUG website](https://musicoclcusers.org/meetings/meeting-presentations/).

# Task Group Activities

## LC Vocabularies Maintenance

The LC Vocabularies Maintenance task group monitors LC tentative lists for music-related LCSH, LCGFT, LCMPT and LCDGT entries warranting comment. The group also works with the SACO Music Funnel Coordinator to vet proposals for new or revised terms (including hierarchy adjustments), as well as any necessary revisions to related headings.

### Status of New or Revised Terms Vetted (as of July 8, 2024)

LCGFT (LC Genre/Form)

* Under LC review: Sampler albums (Sound recordings) (revised); Simplified editions (Music) (revised)
* Under SACO review: Blackface minstrel shows (new); Blackface minstrel music (new); Minstrel music (revised); Minstrel shows (revised)
* In progress: Liturgical terms related to chant; Hymns scope notes

LCMPT (LC Medium of Performance)

* Established May 2024: viola organista (new)
* Under LC review: viol ensemble (new); gralla (revised)

LCSH (LC Subject Headings)

* Under LC review: Viola organista (new); Viola organista music (new)

### LC Proposals and SACO Music Funnel

The [SACO Music Funnel](https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/saco/Music_Funnel.html) project promotes and facilitates the creation of medium of performance terms and subject authorities relating to the cataloging of notated music, musical sound or video recordings, and works about music. The scope includes new terms or changes for music-related terms for Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH), Medium of Performance Thesaurus for Music (LCMPT), Genre/Form Terms for Library and Archival Materials (LCGFT), and additions to the Library of Congress Classification (LCC). Catalogers wishing to submit a proposal are encouraged to do so through the SACO Music Funnel. Further details and contact information for Funnel Coordinator Leonard Martin may be found on the [CMC’s SACO page](https://cmc.wp.musiclibraryassoc.org/saco-music-funnel/).

### Tracking Updates to Music Vocabularies

In addition to appearing on LC tentative/approved lists, new and revised music-related terms in LC and other controlled vocabularies appear in the [*Music Cataloging Bulletin*](https://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/page/musiccatbulletin?). These include changes to Types of Compositions for Use with Authorized Access Points, the LCC schedule, LCMPT, and music related LCSH and LCGT. The MCB also features reports from various national meetings.

Updates on approved music-related SACO proposals that did not go through the Music Funnel may be submitted to the *Music Cataloging Bulletin* editor (Kirk-Evan Billet, [billet@jhu.edu](mailto:billet@jhu.edu)). Notice of music-related personal/corporate name changes are also welcome.

## LCMPT/LCGFT Best Practices Maintenance

Revisions to the LCGFT best practices document were completed in early April and subsequently approved by the MLA Cataloging and Metadata Committee. The updated document, [Best Practices for Using LCGFT for Music Resources v.1.3 (April, 2024)](https://cmc.wp.musiclibraryassoc.org/documents/best-practices-for-using-lcgft-for-music-resources/), went live May 1st. Revisions include new or expanded guidance for Experimental music and Avant-garde music, Rap (Music) and Hip-Hop (Music), and Studio recordings and Live sound recordings.

Current MLA best practices as well as superseded versions for historical interest may be found at <https://cmc.wp.musiclibraryassoc.org/mla-best-practices/>. If you have questions, suggestions, or issues you would like us to address, please send them via our [BP suggestion box](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScQtOA5sDU_hL0qffuW8YshOuTFnq85dzoIvQs3frrY6XzuCw/viewform).

## Deriving Faceted Music Terms and the OCLC Music Toolkit

The Music OCLC Toolkit generates faceted data fields (mainly 348, 382 and 655) from existing LCSH and other fields. The public version is available at Gary Strawn’s [Northwestern downloads page](https://files.library.northwestern.edu/public/Music382/), and a feedback/error report form may be found on the [CMC FAQ](http://cmc.blog.musiclibraryassoc.org/frequently-asked-questions/) page. Work of the task group involves two separate but related efforts: 1) Continued optimization of the OCLC Music Toolkit, for use with Connexion Client, and 2) Platform-neutral term mappings, maintenance, and theoretical considerations.

OCLC Music Toolkit installer was updated in May 2024 and is available for download at <http://files.library.northwestern.edu/public/Music382/>. With this update, 650, 655 and 382 mappings are current through 2022, and the task group has begun working on mappings for terms approved in 2023.

## Types of Composition List Maintenance

## The Vocabularies Subcommittee manages the list of Types of Composition for use in Authorized Access Points for Music. The [Types manual](https://cmc.wp.musiclibraryassoc.org/types-of-composition-for-use-in-authorized-access-points-for-music-a-manual-for-use-with-rda/) and [Types list](https://cmc.wp.musiclibraryassoc.org/types-of-composition-for-use-in-authorized-access-points-for-music-complete-list/) are available on the CMC website. The Types list relies on warrant (work described) and cataloger suggestions, and we are always happy to field questions and accept proposals.

There have been no updates to the list since the last report.

## Thematic Indexes List Maintenance Used in Library of Congress NACO Authority Files

The Vocabularies Subcommittee serves as a managing and vetting body for Thematic Indexes Used in Library of Congress NACO Authority Files (MLATI) and the corresponding codes usable in MARC 383 $d with $2 mlati. The [MLATI list](https://cmc.wp.musiclibraryassoc.org/thematic-indexes-used-in-library-of-congress-naco-authority-files/) is on the CMC website. As with the Types of Composition list, the MLATI list relies on warrant (work described) and cataloger suggestions

Since the last report, one new thematic index entry has been added:

* [Platti, Giovanni Benedetto](https://cmc.wp.musiclibraryassoc.org/thematic-index/platti-giovanni-benedetto-1763/) (Iesuè)

One index is pending LC approval:

* Galuppi, Baldassare, 1706-1785 (Illy)

One index was not approved for the list:

* Moór, Emanuel (Pirani)

## LC Controlled Vocabularies for Music Survey (ad hoc task group)

The LC Controlled Vocabularies for Music Survey focused on usage in the music library community of LC Subject Headings, LC Medium of Performance headings, and LC Genre/Form headings in bibliographic records for scores and recordings. The main goal of the research has been to assess stakeholders’ attitudes toward LCMPT and LCGFT and their perceptions regarding an eventual change in practice toward the application of LCSH indicating genre/form or medium of performance. The survey, which was distributed in October 2023, received 184 valid responses, and preliminary results were shared at the Music Library Association’s annual meeting during a joint presentation titled, “A Subject, a Genre, and a Medium Walk into a Search Bar…” The session, co-presented by Casey Mullin, Janelle West, Kelley McGrath, and Jason Thomale, examined the current functionality of LCMPT and LCGFT in library systems and platforms and explored their potential to thrive in the faceted discovery environment. This and other MLA sessions will be made publicly available for viewing later this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Janelle West, MLA representative to SAC

July 5, 2024