

| June 22, 2010
IAML-US Report

Board of Directors: Judy Tsou (president, 2008-2011), Mary Wallace Davidson (past-president), Michael Colby (treasurer), Manuel Erviti (secretary), John Shepard (2008-2011) and Bonna Boettcher (2010-2011) (members-at-large), James Cassaro (IAML Board).

This year, IAML-US has been primarily preoccupied with the issue of merging with the Music Library Association, the primary music library organization in the US. The two organizations have been in discussion on this issue since February 2009, based on the "Principles of Engagement" drawn up by a small working group (Judy Tsou, Ruthann McTyre, Barbara Dobbs Mackenzie, and Philip Vandermeer). In March 2010, the two presidents (Judy Tsou for IAML-US and Ruthann McTyre for MLA) held a Town Hall meeting during the MLA conference in San Diego to present the idea to the membership of both organizations and provide a forum for discussion. CAML's (Canadian Association of Music Libraries) two-tiered organization was used as a model, whereby members can join both IAML and MLA or just MLA alone. The merged organization would simply be known as MLA and IAML-US would cease to exist as a discrete organization. There would be one Board of Directors, and the President of MLA would be the representative to IAML on behalf of IAML members in the US. A lively discussion ensued: many questions regarding the details of the structure, finances, and identity of the new organization were brought up, and other comments illustrated the advantages of such a union. Many members expressed the interest of "going all the way," proposing a full merger of the two organizations. At the end of the meeting, the straw vote overwhelmingly favored going forward with the proposal. After the Town Hall meeting, the notes and presentation slides were mounted on the web sites of both organizations, and members, especially those who could not be at the meeting, were encouraged to send in feedback on the web site. Again, only positive comments have been received so far.

A transition task force has been formed, with three representatives from each association: the two presidents, the two treasurers (Michael Colby and Michael Rogan), and a member from each Board (Linda Fairtile from MLA and Bonna Boettcher from IAML-US). The Task Force will explore and work out

the details of the merger, including consulting with attorneys regarding the legality of such a union. The IAML-US Board spent a substantial amount of time during its June Board Meeting fleshing out some of these issues. The Task Force will meet virtually and have a face-to-face meeting in Iowa City in September. A final report will be ready in the Autumn for the two Boards the memberships. IAML-US members will officially vote on the merger in December and MLA members will vote for the affiliation with IAML in February, 2011. If both votes pass, the merger will be finalized by the end of 2011 and may even have a new organization by the Dublin meeting.

The Branch worked on two more projects in addition to the merger this past year. On the Donated Music Program front, several music librarians in the US organized to send a collection of orchestral parts to the Holy Trinity Music School in Haiti. IAML has generously supported the shipping cost within the US for a combined shipment to Haiti; the overseas shipping cost has been funded by a church in Maryland.

Another important project is fund raising for the Lenore Coral Travel Endowment Fund, a fund to support travel for music librarians, especially those in the early stages of their careers, to the annual IAML meeting. The Fundraising Committee consists of Gerry Ostrove and Linda Blotner, co-chairs, Jim Cassaro, Don Roberts, and Dan Zager. The goal is to raise \$25,000 to fully endow the Fund.