

ABOUT OLAC

Online Audiovisual Catalogers, Inc. is the only organization for catalogers concerned with all types of non-print materials, including a wide range of digital resources as well as more “traditional” formats: video and sound recordings, Internet websites, databases, maps, multimedia, graphic materials, and realia.

Through OLAC’s conferences, workshops, publications, and the OLAC website and electronic discussion list, catalogers exchange information and enjoy expert and practical advice on cataloging audiovisual resources.

An international organization representing a diverse library constituency, OLAC has been in the forefront of advocacy for the integration of standard bibliographic records for all non-print material into library catalogs.

As library collections reflect increasing use of non-print media, especially electronic media of all kinds, OLAC provides a channel of communication with the Library of Congress and with other library organizations about developing international standards and practices for cataloging new and existing formats.

OLAC’s Cataloging Policy Committee (CAPC) publishes authoritative resources and training materials for cataloging AV materials. Recent publications include *LCGFT for Moving Image Materials* and *Video Language Coding: Best Practices*. CAPC publications may be viewed on OLAC’s website, along with *Book Reviews of Interest to AV Catalogers* and *Useful Websites for AV Catalogers*.

Olac

Online Audiovisual Catalogers

...The Internet and AV Media Catalogers Network

FURTHER INFORMATION

OLAC membership applications, conference information, newsletters, book reviews, and publications can be found at the OLAC Web site: www.olacinc.org

For membership inquiries, applications and address changes:

please use the Contact Form at:
www.olacinc.org/drupal/?q=node/420

Membership rates in U.S. dollars:

Personal \$20.00
Institutional \$25.00

Questions about OLAC or AV cataloging can be posted to the **OLAC-L listserv**.

For more information see:
www.olacinc.org/drupal/?q=node/51

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OLAC's PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

To establish and maintain a group that can speak for catalogers of audiovisual materials, including digital

resources of all types, video recordings, sound and music, websites, databases, three-dimensional artifacts and realia, kits, and graphic and cartographic materials.

- To provide a means for exchange of information about the cataloging of audiovisual materials.
- To provide a means of continuing education for catalogers of audiovisual materials.
- To provide a means of communication among catalogers of audiovisual materials.
- To work toward common understanding of international cataloging practices and standards for audiovisual materials, including but not limited to AACR2, RDA, and evolving metadata schemas.
- To provide a means of communication and advocacy with the Library of Congress, bibliographic utilities and other organizations.
- To encourage research and professional development in the field of audiovisual cataloging through research grants and scholarships awarded to members.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

OLAC members enjoy a reduced rate for OLAC conference attendance. A scholarship is awarded each conference year to a member who has not previously attended an OLAC Conference. A research grant is awarded annually.

OLAC conferences, held biennially, feature a mix of practical workshops dealing with a variety of non-print media, along with theoretical and visionary sessions on new and emerging cataloging standards presented by leaders in the field. Recent conferences have taken place in Cleveland, Ohio; Macon, Georgia and Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The quarterly *OLAC Newsletter*, available online at www.olacinc.org/drupal/?q=node/59 keeps members up to date with OLAC's activities. It includes reviews of professional resources as well as the useful OLAC Cataloger's Judgment column with questions and answers about challenging non-print cataloging conundrums.

OLAC membership meetings, held during the ALA midwinter meetings and annual conferences and at OLAC biennial conferences, regularly include speakers and roundtable discussions where members and visitors may address questions to cataloging experts.

Members can recommend and have influence on developing cataloging standards for emerging and existing formats through OLAC's Cataloging Policy Committee (CAPC).

All catalogers can find assistance with cataloging on the OLAC website: www.olacinc.org and through the OLAC electronic discussion list.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Available at the OLAC website
www.olacinc.org/drupal/?q=node/12

- Authority Tools for Audiovisual and Music Catalogers
- DVD and Blu-Ray Discs (AACR2r and MARC)
- Video Language Coding: Best Practices
- LCGFT for Moving Image Materials

KEY EVENTS

1980

- 30 catalogers meet in New York City to form On-Line Audiovisual Catalogers

1984

- First OLAC conference, Dublin, Ohio
- Cataloging Policy Committee formed

1986

- First OLAC Award (later renamed the Nancy B. Olson Award) presented to Verna Urbanski

1991

- OLAC Archive established

1995

- OLAC becomes NACO member via Funnel Project

2005

- OLAC is granted an official liaison to ALA's Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA)

2007

- OLAC becomes an ALA affiliate

2009

- Newsletter goes online-only