



MLA's research awards for 2007 were announced at its annual meeting:

**The Carol June Bradley Award** to support studies that involve the history of music libraries or special collections goes to Gary Galván, a doctoral candidate in historical musicology at the University of Florida. The Bradley Award will help fund Mr. Galván's continued research of Henry Cowell materials in the Edwin A. Fleisher Collection of Orchestral Music in the Free Library of Philadelphia. With the approval of the collection's curator, Kile Smith, he has undertaken the digitization of nearly 500 archival correspondences, programs and questionnaires from the Henry Cowell files and compiled an annotated list of their contents. He is also producing a documentary for DVD which will be donated to the Fleisher Collection archives.

**The Dena Epstein Award** for Archival and Library Research in American Music was established through a generous gift from Morton and Dena Epstein in 1995. The 2007 award goes to Sarah Dorsey and R. Allen Lott. Sarah Dorsey, Head Music Librarian at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, will develop a book proposal for a biography of the pioneering American composer, pianist, and educator Louise Talma (1906-1996). Despite Talma's many achievements, an in-depth study of her life and works still does not exist, chiefly because her own materials have not been accessible to researchers. Recently, however, Ms. Dorsey herself completed a six month sabbatical from UNCG at the Library of Congress, where she began processing an extensive collection of Talma's scores, correspondence, photographs, programs, and other materials. Since this collection is the primary source of information needed to complete her book proposal, Ms. Dorsey will use the Epstein Award funds to return to the Library of Congress and conduct research for at least one month.

R. Allen Lott, Professor and Chair of Music History at the School of Church Music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, will conduct research for a critical edition of nineteenth-century American hymnody for the series *Music in the United States (MUSA)*, administered by the American Musicological Society. The purpose of the publication will be "to document America's original contribution during the nineteenth century to the ongoing hymnic tradition," and it will include an extended historical essay, edited versions of one hundred representative hymns from various styles and genres, crucial commentary, and various indices. Dr. Lott's research will require manually searching numerous hymnals for hymn tunes and related information. The Epstein Award will help support his research trip to the Library of Congress.

**The Walter Gerboth Award** supports members who are in the first five years of their professional library careers, to assist research-in-progress in music or music librarianship. The 2007 recipient is Michelle Lynn Oswell, Humanities Librarian for Music and

Literature at Haverford College. She is a graduate of the College of Information Science and Technology at Drexel University (M.L.S.), and is ABD in Musicology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her "English Lute Song Database Project" will create an on-line database of specific information both musical and literary for the English lute song from 1597-1622, using PHP scripts to access a MySQL database. The project will put a body of musical works never before brought under such control into a database searchable by a number of parameters. It will initially cover lute songs in facsimile and printed editions and later index lute songs in manuscript.