

RDA: An Overview of Descriptive Elements – Introduction

RDA Preconference

Music Library Association Annual Meeting

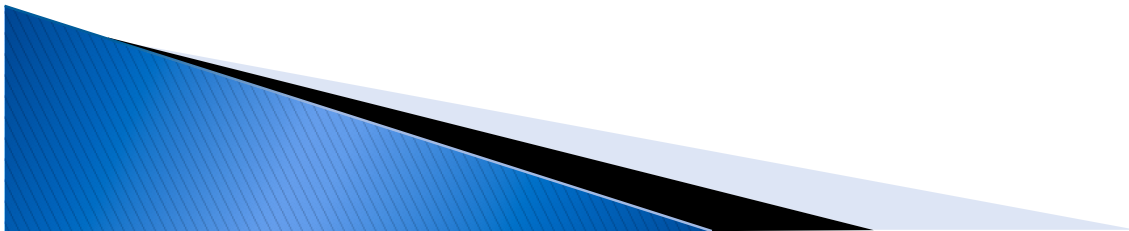
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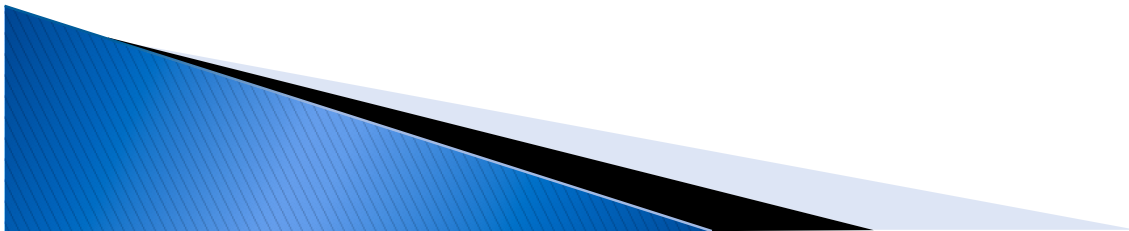
RDA Records in MARC

- ▶ Based on three different standards
 - Content: RDA
 - Encoding: MARC21
 - Display: ISBD
 - Not required, but generally used during RDA test for MARC record creation



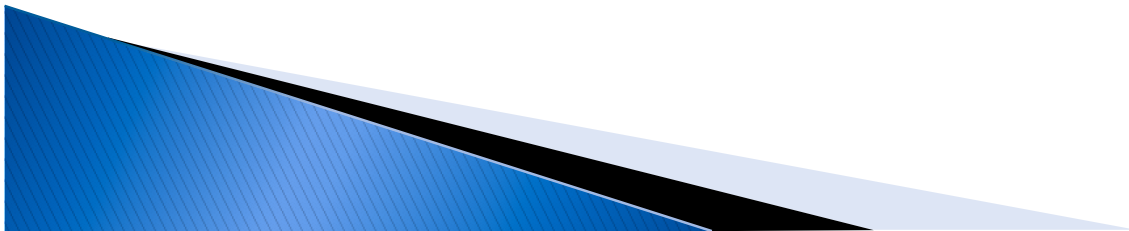
Issues related to using 3 standards

- ▶ Less guidance about order and display in RDA than in AACR2
- ▶ ISBD helps, but does not address anything outside of bibliographic description
- ▶ Lack of correspondence between standards
 - ISBD Area 0 vs. 33X MARC21
 - “1 score” instead of “p. of music” used in RDA, but MARC21 still retains 008/20 “z” for music not in score format



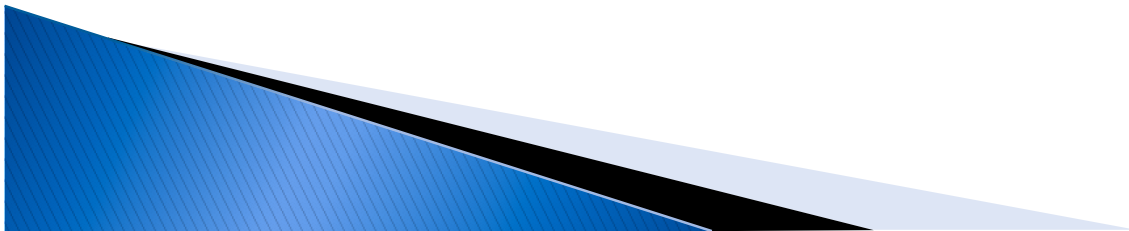
Approaching RDA

- ▶ Understand FRBR & FRAD concepts, which underpin RDA
- ▶ Review ISBD, which is more than just “areas” and punctuation standards
- ▶ Remember that American use of AACR2 incorporated LCRIs – and not all of this content migrated to RDA
- ▶ Do not read or use linearly!



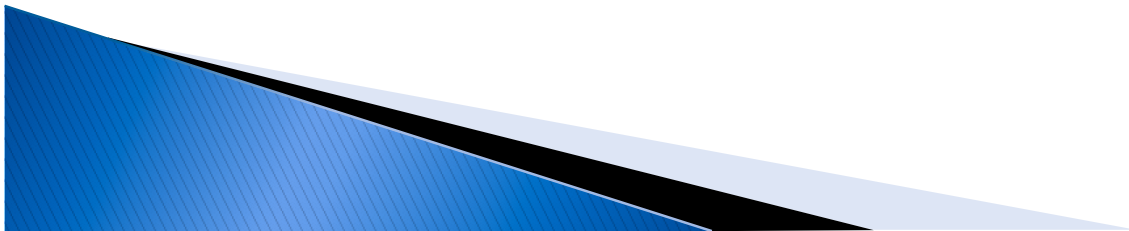
Description Basics

- ▶ Basis for identifying the resource
 - Type of description ([RDA 1.5](#))
 - Comprehensive (*describes the resource as a whole*)
 - Analytical (*describes a part of a larger resource*)
 - Hierarchical (*combination of the two above*)
 - Mode of issuance ([RDA 1.1.3](#))
 - Single unit
 - Multipart monograph
 - Serial
 - Integrating resource
 - Number of parts ([RDA 2.1.2](#))
 - More than one part – if so, simultaneous, or not?



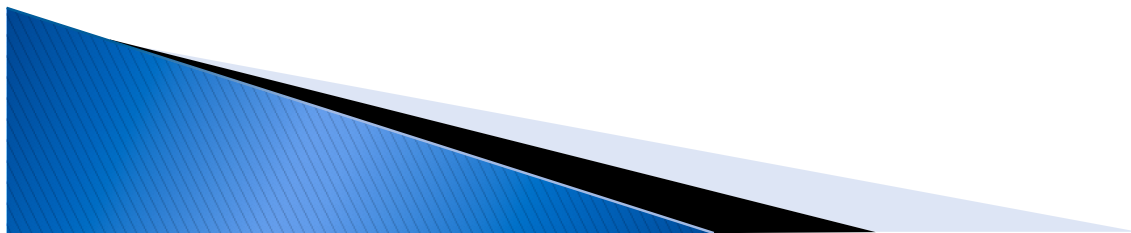
Description Basics

- ▶ Preferred source: 3 categories
 - Pages, leaves, etc., or images of pages, leaves, etc.
(*scores*)
RDA 2.2.2.2
 - Moving images
RDA 2.2.2.3
 - Everything else (*sound recordings*)
RDA 2.2.2.4



Description Basics

- ▶ Transcribed data
 - Capitalization from [RDA Appendix A](#)
(alternatives possible)
 - Abbreviations from [RDA Appendix B](#) (very limited)
(alternatives possible)
 - Take what you see
 - Accept what you get
 - Transcribe language/script from resource
(option for transliteration)



Description Basics:

Differences from AACR2

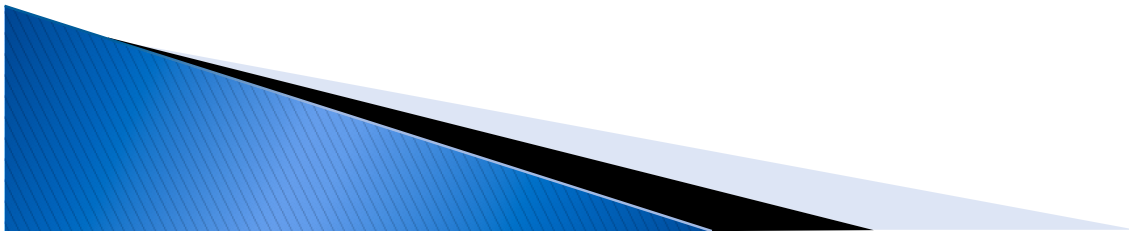
- ▶ No list of preferred sources based on material type
- ▶ For all resources with pages, the preferred source is selected in this order:
 - Title page/title sheet/title card
 - Cover
 - Caption
 - Masthead
 - Colophon



Description Basics:

Differences from AACR2

- ▶ For sound recordings, the preferred source is:
 - The label
 - *or* –
 - Embedded metadata in textual form
 - If neither of these apply
 - Use another source that is part of the resource itself

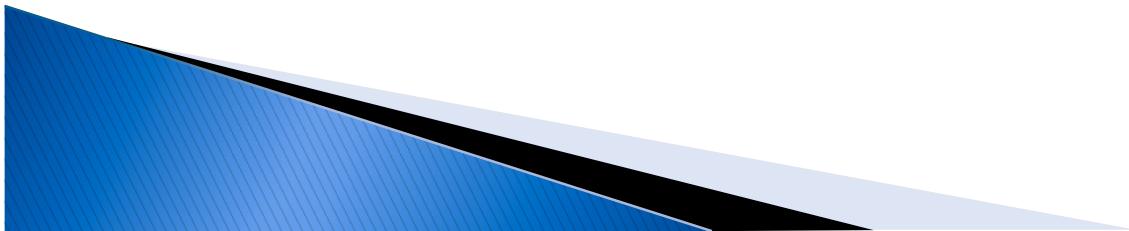


Description Basics:

Differences from AACR2: General

► Transcription

- Punctuation as on source
 - Add punctuation as needed for clarity
 - No ISBD substitutions
- No interpolation of [sic] or [i.e.]
 - Important differences explained elsewhere in the record
 - Errors will continue to be corrected in titles proper of serials and integrating resources
- Only bracket information not taken from the resource itself



Description Basics:

Differences from AACR2: General

- ▶ MARC identification for RDA records
 - Leader/18 value “i” for ISBD
 - not “a” for AACR2
 - 040 \$e rda

<u>Desc</u>	i	<u>FMus</u>	a	<u>LTxt</u>	n
010			2010564517		
040			DLC \$e rda \$b eng \$c DLC		

Description Basics:

Differences from AACR2: General

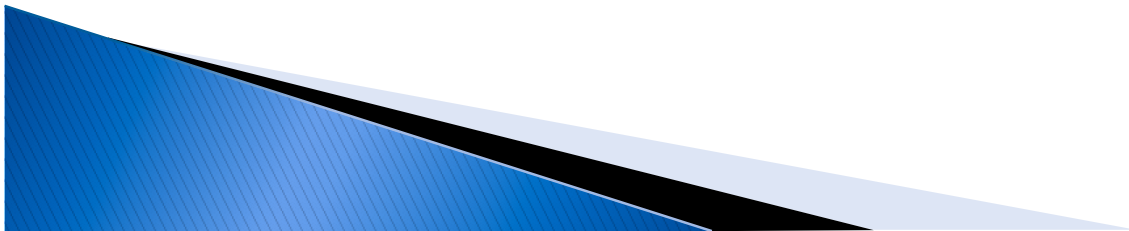
- ▶ Designations of “core” elements instead of levels of description
 - Included as applicable and when readily ascertainable ([RDA 0.6.2](#))
 - Some always core

Title

CORE ELEMENT

- Some core in certain situations

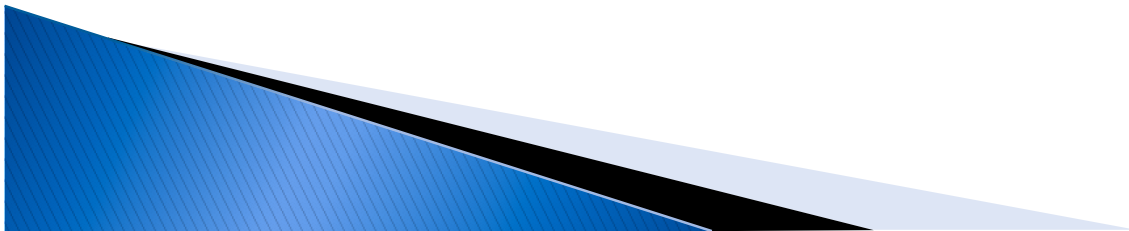
Date of distribution is a core element for a resource in a published form if the date of publication is not identified.



Description Basics:


Differences from AACR2: General

- ▶ Cataloger's judgment about adding elements beyond core
 - Informed by
 - LC Policy Statements (LCPS)
 - Understanding of FRBR User Tasks
 - Find, Identify, Select, Obtain
 - Local policies
 - Best practices guides
 - Etc.



Description Basics:

Differences due to ISBD changes

- ▶ Each adjacent data element that requires square brackets has its own set
 - Was: 260 [New York : \$b Norton], \$c 1989.
 - Now: 260 [New York] : \$b [Norton], \$c 1989.
- ▶ When an element or area ends with a full stop, the full stop for prescribed punctuation is also added
 - Was: 2nd ed.
 - Now: 2nd ed.. 
- ▶ Field 300 will end with a full stop – *only if* –
 - It ends in an abbreviation, *or*
 - A series statement follows

