

*Corporate Names:
an overview*

RDA: A Hands-on Interaction

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- ❑ New elements in authority records for corporate bodies:
 - Place associated with the body [370]
 - Date associated with the body [046]
 - Associated institution [373?]
 - Other designation associated with the corporate body [???
 - Language of the body [377]
 - Address [371]
 - Field of activity [372]

Corporate bodies are covered in RDA Chapter 11. As with persons, there are few significant changes in the instructions for constructing authorized access points for corporate bodies between AACR2 and RDA. The main change is that elements describing corporate may be recorded whether or not they are included in authorized or variant access points.

Here is a partial list of the new elements in authority records for corporate bodies, with their MARC 21 equivalents.

Some of these are familiar as qualifiers used to break conflicts: Place, Date

Some of them apply particularly to conferences: Associated institution

Some of them are not candidates for inclusion in the access point, but could be very useful in finding or identifying the body: Language, Address, Field of activity

670 ## \$a Wikipedia, February 6, 2011 \$b (based in New York, N.Y., at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center; [includes list of conductors, 1842-present])

670 ## \$a New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra, founded 1842 as Philharmonic Society of New York; \$a absorbed several orchestras, National Symphony in 1921, City Symphony in 1923, American Orchestral Society and New York Symphony Society, with which it merged in 1982; \$a Philharmonic Society incorporated 1853

Let's look at an example: the New York Philharmonic.

The first 670 gives some basic information about the orchestra; the second 670 summarizes its history.

110 2# \$a New York Philharmonic
 046 ## \$s ????????

670 ## \$a Wikipedia, February 6, 2011 \$b (New York Philharmonic; based in New York, N.Y., at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center; [includes list of conductors, 1842-present])

670 ## \$a New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra, founded 1842 as Philharmonic Society of New York; \$a absorbed several orchestras, National Symphony in 1921, City Symphony in 1923, American Orchestral Society and New York Symphony Society, with which it merged in 1982; \$a Philharmonic Society incorporated 1853

The authorized access point is established based on the current information; all the historical variants will be established as earlier names and linked with 510 see also references – which I won't bother to illustrate.

I would like to record the date the orchestra was established. However, the historical information does not say when the name was changed to "New York Philharmonic," which is the relevant date for this record. Further research would be needed to correctly fill in the 046 field.

- 110 2# \$a New York Philharmonic
- 370 ## \$e New York (N.Y.)
- ???
- ???
- 670 ## \$a Wikipedia, February 6, 2011 \$b (New York Philharmonic; based in New York, N.Y., at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center; [includes list of conductors, 1842-present])
- 670 ## \$a New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra, founded 1842 as Philharmonic Society of New York; \$a absorbed several orchestras, National Symphony in 1921, City Symphony in 1923, American Orchestral Society and New York Symphony Society, with which it merged in 1982; \$a Philharmonic Society incorporated 1853

The 370 field may be used to record the location of the body – in this case, the location of its headquarters (\$e).

I would like to record that the body is an orchestra. In the NACO record for this body, one of the RDA testers added “orchestra” in field 372 (Field of Activity). However, I don’t think this is a valid Field of Activity – which surely would have to do with their performance of music. I think a better fit in RDA is instruction 11.7.1.4 (Names not conveying the idea of a corporate body) which says to record “a suitable designation” — presumably identifying the Type of Body, e.g., “Firm”, “Organization”, “Musical group”, “Church”. At this point, there is no specific MARC tag available to record this element; furthermore, when included as a parenthetical qualifier in an access point, the information is not separately subfielded. There was a discussion paper at MARBI at Midwinter 2011 calling for a field for Type of Jurisdiction (RDA 11.7.1.5); I intend to recommend that this be broadened to include all the categories included in RDA 11.7.

As noted before, the historical information in the second 670 field is used as the basis for separate authority records for the earlier names of the orchestra, linked by 510 see also references; there is no difference between AACR2 and RDA practices.

670 ## \$a New Grove, 2nd ed. WWW site, July 30, 2008 \$b (Trio Sonnerie; founded 1982; Monica Huggett (director & violin), Sarah Cunningham (bass viol), Mitzi Meyerson (harpsichord); as a larger ensemble, Sonnerie, performs orchestral music, sometimes with voices)

<http://www.sonnerie.org.uk/>

110 2# \$a Trio Sonnerie
 046 ## \$s 1982
 ??? \$a Musical group **OR** Trio **OR** ???
 670 ## \$a New Grove, 2nd ed. WWW site, July 30, 2008 \$b (Trio Sonnerie; founded 1982; Monica Huggett (director & violin), Sarah Cunningham (bass viol), Mitzi Meyerson (harpsichord); as a larger ensemble, Sonnerie, performs orchestral music, sometimes with voices)
<http://www.sonnerie.org.uk/>

The date of founding may be recorded in field 046 \$s.

Again, I would like to record the Type of Corporate Body — either in these very general terms or perhaps a more precise identification of the Trio.

I'm not sure exactly how to characterize the relationship between the Trio and the Sonnerie ensemble, but they are clearly related and should be linked by 510 see also references.

In the session on personal names, I indicated that the affiliation information of group members could be used to establish links between the persons and the group. Monica Huggett was the example. Here is the other half of the relationship:

100 \$a Huggett, Monica, \$d 1953-
 510 \$i founder \$i member \$a Trio Sonnerie

110 \$a Trio Sonnerie
 500 \$i director \$i violin \$a Huggett, Monica, \$d 1953-
 500 \$i bass viol \$a Cunningham, Sarah
 500 \$i harpsichord \$a Meyerson, Mitzi

In this case, I used very specific relationship designators to indicate the instruments each person plays in the group, rather than the very general "member"; this is an application decision that will need to be made, along with the development of lists or guidelines for the terms to be used.

670 ## \$a New Grove dictionary of American music, 1986 \$b (Juilliard String Quartet; founded 1946; Robert Mann, Robert Koff, violins, Raphael Hillyer, viola; Arthur Winograd, violoncello; Koff replaced by Isidore Cohen (1958-1966) and Earl Carlyss (1966-1986); Hillyer replaced by Samuel Rhodes (1969); Winograd replaced by Claus Adam (1955) and Joel Krosnick (1974))

<http://www.juilliardstringquartet.org/>

110 ## \$a Juilliard String Quartet
 046 ## \$s 1946
 ??? \$a string quartet
 500 1# \$i violin \$a Koff, Robert \$s 1946 \$t 1958
 670 ## \$a New Grove dictionary of American music, 1986
 \$b (Juilliard String Quartet; founded 1946; Robert
 Mann, Robert Koff, violins, Raphael Hillyer, viola;
 Arthur Winograd, violoncello; Koff replaced by
 Isidore Cohen (1958-1966) and Earl Carlyss
 (1966-1986); Hillyer replaced by Samuel Rhodes
 (1969); Winograd replaced by Claus Adam (1955)
 and Joel Krosnick (1974))

<http://www.juilliardstringquartet.org/>

This example is very similar to the last. The date of founding may be given in 046, and I hope there will eventually be a place to record the Type of Corporate Body.

In this case, the membership is a bit more complicated. I've given one 500 field illustrating the use of subfields \$s and \$t to identify the range of dates during which the person was a member of the group. You can play with the rest of the membership relationships on your own; if you are really ambitious, update the 670 (it is not completely current).

All of these examples merit thought and experimentation. I have given URLs for most of them; in these sources, you will find much more information that you could possibly want to include in an authority record, even given the expanded scope and uses of these records that I have suggested. Catalogers always have more information than they are able to record, and must make choices. In the case of the new RDA elements, we need to think carefully about what information, what relationships are worth recording, how they should be recorded, and what we want our systems to do with this information. I have suggested some possibilities, but have only skimmed the surface. As a community — or as a specialized community of music catalogers — we need to come to some conclusions and recommend application guidelines based on our collective judgment of what we want to accomplish and what we are able to accomplish.



. . . Questions?