

Developing a Descriptive Metadata Standard for Performing Arts Archives

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Abstract: During fall of 2009 the Brooklyn Academy of Music and the Roundabout Theatre Company archives consulted with Whirl-i-gig to further develop metadata application profiles for their CollectiveAccess open source collection management systems. Through the previous research and metadata development conducted by these institutions followed by the collaborative efforts with Whirl-i-gig, it was concluded that current metadata standards were not sufficient. They did not support the complex relationships found in performing arts archival collections that are atypically organized around a chronology of time-based events, and so a new schema needed to be developed. Inspired by FRBR, CDWA, Dublin Core, and institutional schemas - a flexible and sustainable metadata standard was designed and implemented for performing arts archival collections. PACore (Performing Arts Core metadata standard) strives to capture the core information about an asset within a collection as well as the performances related to that asset.

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