

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
**From:** Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative  
**Subject:** Additional element for Medium of Performance of the Expression

ALA thanks the JSC Music Working Group for this discussion paper regarding *Medium of Performance of the Expression*. We agree that RDA should enable adding this important information relating to musical expressions, with the instructions residing in Chapter 6.

### **New element, or included with Medium of Performance of the Work?**

ALA recommends creating a separate element for *Medium of Performance of the Expression*, rather than conflating the instructions with *Medium of Performance of the Work*. This approach is consistent with other elements that are valid at both the work and expression levels, such as *Date of Work* and *Date of Expression*. Making these separate elements will also assist in the application (and development) of instructions in 6.28 regarding the inclusion of medium of performance in authorized access points.

### **Placement of the new instructions**

ALA recommends placing the new instruction after 6.17 (*Key*), so it could be grouped with the other attributes of a musical expression.

We recognize the disruptive nature of this recommendation, since the remainder of Chapter 6 would need to be renumbered. Thus, we recommend invoking the working principle agreed upon at the November 2014 JSC meeting. Making these changes should wait until they can be incorporated along with any other significant changes made to RDA as part of the alignment with FRBR-LRM.

### **Considering key of the musical expression**

ALA agrees that it would be worth investigating whether or not “key” should also be recorded for musical expressions. However, we note that unlike with medium of performance, the FRBR models (both FRBRer and FRBR-LRM) do not consider key as a separate attribute for musical expressions.