History Notes to be Implemented in Authority Records for LCSH, LCGFT, LCDGT, LCMPT, and CYAC

March 4, 2022

The Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division (PTCP) of the Library of Congress is pleased to announce that history notes will be implemented in MARC 21 field 688 in authority records for the following vocabularies:

- Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH)
- Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms for Library and Archival Materials (LCGFT)
- Library of Congress Demographic Group Terms (LCDGT)
- Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus for Music (LCMPT)
- Library of Congress Children’s Subject Headings (CYAC)

The field will begin to appear in distributed records no earlier than April 4, 2022.

The history notes will be generated automatically by the ClassWeb system when proposals for new headings/terms are approved. When an existing heading/term is revised and a “former heading” reference is provided, PTCP policy specialists will add a note indicating the way in which the heading was changed and the month and year in which the change occurred.

Examples:

688 ## $a Established [month] [year].

688 ## $a Heading changed from [former heading] to [current heading] in [month] [year].

Further guidance and examples will be available in the instruction sheets for the application manuals for the vocabularies, which will be published on the Library of Congress website.

Please send any questions to the Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division at policy@loc.gov.