BIBFRAME 2.0 Specification
Roles
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This is one of a set of specifications for BIBFRAME 2.0.

A BIBFRAME Agent may be associated with a BIBFRAME resource (e.g. Work) through some role, like author, illustrator, or editor.   For a given role, there may be an RDF property for that role in which case the association can be expressed by a simple triple of the form:

<BIBFRAME resource>   role-property   <BIBFRAME Agent>

If there is no such property, then the role association can be expressed by a BIBFRAME Contribution, which pairs an Agent with a role; the role is expressed as a literal.

Role as a Property

Property bf:contributor
Property bf:contributor expresses the role "contributor" . Its expected value is a bf:Agent.

Example 1: **Role is contributor (unqualified).**

```
<http://bibframe.example.org/resource>     bf:contributor
                               <http://id.loc.gov/rwo/agents/n94064763> .
```

Example 2: Same as 1, with label supplied for the agent.

```
<http://bibframe.example.org/resource>  bf:contributor
                               <http://id.loc.gov/rwo/agents/n94064763> .
  <http://id.loc.gov/rwo/agents/n94064763>
          a             bf:Person;
          rdfs:label      "Rineer, A. Hunter (Amos Hunter), -1985" .
```

Role as an External Property
bf:contributor is the only built-in BIBFRAME role property currently defined.   Any other role may be specified as a property of a BIBFRAME resource if there is an (external) RDF resource defined for that role, and that resource has been declared to be an RDF property.

Example 3: **Role is author, expressed by external property.**

```
<http://bibframe.example.org/resource>     relator:aut
                               <http://id.loc.gov/rwo/agents/n94064763> .
```

The prefix "relator:" is used to mean http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/relators so relator:aut means http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/relators/aut which is an RDF resource for the role "author", and is declared to be an RDF property.

Role Association Expressed as a Contribution

Property bf:contribution and Class bf:Contribution
The property bf:contribution has expected value a bf:Contribution, which pairs an agent with a specific role, specified as a literal.

Example 3: Role is illustrator, and the association is expressed as a Contribution.

```
<http://bibframe.example.org/resource>          bf:contribution [
                    a          bf:Contribution ;
                    bf:role    "illustrator" ;
                    bf:agent   <http://id.loc.gov/rwo/agents/n94064763>  ]  .
```