TO: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
FROM: Judith A. Kuhagen, JSC Secretary  
SUBJECT: Revision of RDA instructions relating to librettos and lyrics for musical works  
(RDA 6.2.2.10.2, 6.27.4.2, Appendix I.2.1, and Glossary)

The text below reflects the decisions made by the Joint Steering Committee during its November 2012 meeting. This text will be merged with the reworded chapters before they appear in the 2013 RDA Update of the RDA Toolkit.

6.2.2.10.2 Complete Works in Single Form  
[1st paragraph unchanged]

Correspondence  
Essays  
Librettos  
Lyrics  
Novels  
Plays  
Poems  
Prose works  
Short stories  
Speeches

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

6.27.4.1 General Guidelines on Constructing Variant Access Points Representing Works  
[1st-4th paragraphs & examples unchanged]

Apply the additional instructions given under 6.27.4.2 (librettos, lyrics, or other texts for musical works), 6.27.4.3 (part or parts of a work), 6.27.4.4 (compilations of works), and 6.27.4.5 (expressions), as applicable.

[last paragraph & examples unchanged]

6.27.4.2 Variant Access Point Representing One or More Librettos, Lyrics, or Other Texts of Musical Works  

Construct a variant access point representing one or more librettos, lyrics, or other texts that have been used in specific musical works by combining in this order:
c) the term *Libretto*, *Librettos*, *Lyrics*, *Text*, or *Texts*, as appropriate

**EXAMPLE**

[1st-4th examples unchanged]

John, Elton. Songs. Lyrics. Selections  
**Authorized access point for the compilation:** Taupin, Bernie. Lyrics. Selections

Do not apply this instruction in cases where the composer of the musical work or musical works is the same person, family, or corporate body as the author of the text.

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6.28.1.1 General Guidelines on Constructing Authorized Access Points Representing Musical Works

[1st-3rd paragraphs unchanged]

For librettos, lyrics, or other texts for musical works, construct the authorized access point applying the instructions given under 6.27.1.

[5th-6th paragraphs unchanged]

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Appendix I.2.1

**entry for author unchanged**

*librettist* An author of the words of an opera or other musical stage work, or an oratorio. For an author of the words of just the songs from a musical, see *lyricist*.

*lyricist* An author of the words of a popular song, including a song or songs from a musical. For an author of just the dialogue from a musical, see *librettist*.

**entry for screenwriter unchanged**

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Glossary
**Libretto**
The words of an opera or other musical stage work, or an oratorio. For the words of just the songs from a musical, *Lyrics▼*

**Lyrics**
The words of a popular song, including a song or songs from a musical. For just the dialogue from a musical, *Libretto▼*

**Text**
1) Content expressed through a form of notation for language intended to be perceived visually. Includes all forms of language notation other than those intended to be perceived through touch. *Tactile Text▼*
2) The words of a musical work other than an opera or other musical stage work, oratorio, or popular song. For just the dialogue from a musical, *Libretto▼*
For the words of just the songs from a musical, *Lyrics▼*