

Collection Development Policy Statement for Special Collections in Performing Arts

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I. Purpose

Special Collections in Performing Arts (SCPA) at the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library of the University of Maryland Libraries acquires, preserves, and provides access to research materials that document performance, instruction, and scholarship, consistent with the university's performing arts educational objectives. Our community for the collections consist of students, faculty, and external researchers in their pursuit of (1) new original research, (2) programming any level of performance, (3) hands-on experience working with primary sources, or (4) resources for genealogical inquiry or individual memory. Our collections are meant to directly support the education mission of the School of Music, the School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, as well as the management of The Clarice; however, SCPA's collections are known to also support the College of Education, the Department of English, and the Department of Classics. We house, preserve, and describe our collections in adherence to the latest archival standards, while striving to offer convenient routes to access through an approachable reading room experience, numerous points of online access, and innovative public programming.

Documentation strategies and further explanation of subject strengths are available from the Curator for SCPA.

Coordination and Cooperative Information: SCPA collects in conjunction with the larger collecting activities of the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library's General and Reference Collections, and in partnership with the International Piano Archives at Maryland. SCPA also partners with Special Collections & University Archives on collections pertaining to the history of State of Maryland, as well as performing arts faculty papers, university performance recordings, and collections pertaining to ensembles or companies in residence. SCPA is open to opportunities for more collaborative and complementary collection building with the Big Ten Academic Alliance or other strategic consortia (especially in support of American band history and popular music collecting).

Diversity: Recognizing that SCPA's collections encompass individuals of all ages who represent a multiplicity of racial and ethnic backgrounds, economic and educational levels, and physical and mental abilities, the curator build collections that mirror and support this diversity. SCPA's collections include materials and resources that reflect a variety of political, economic, religious, social, minority, and sexual issues and support intellectual freedom by providing free access to all expressions of ideas through which any and all sides of a question, cause or movement may be explored.

II. Summary of Collection Scope at Current Collecting Levels

- SCPA collects on the following subject areas: music education history; American band history; theatre and dance local to the DC metro area; American theatre history; popular music; punk rock in the DC metro area; solo, chamber, or method repertoire for flute, clarinet, oboe, trombone, or percussion; and UMD faculty papers (especially emeritae/i faculty), university

performance recordings and programs, and collections pertaining to ensembles or companies in residence.

- SCPA was established in 1968 as Special Collections in Music, with an initial emphasis on music education, American band history, and clarinet performance. In 1996, dance and theatre was added to the unit's purview and the name was subsequently changed. During the ensuing years, other topics were gradually introduced in support of the educational mission of the university (local dance and theatre, popular music, etc.).
- SCPA seeks to collect primary sources and secondary sources of enduring value containing substantial informational content that pertain to select subject areas within a defined scope.
- All materials are acquired with the intention that they will encourage new original research, support any level of performance programming, and provide resources for genealogical research or individual memory, all while furthering UMD's educational mission.
- SCPA reserves the right to refuse any donation due to size, scope, redundancy to existing collections, or terms accompanying the potential gift.
- SCPA must possess physical ownership of all new acquisitions or accretions to existing collections, and will not accept materials or collections on deposit.
- SCPA does not require transfer of copyright for new acquisitions or accretions to existing collections.
- SCPA will restrict acquisitions of three-dimensional objects of limited informational value that are relevant only due to intrinsic qualities.
- SCPA does not seek to recreate on site personal libraries of scholars or performers.

III. Developing Special Collections in Performing Arts

1. Language(s): SCPA's materials are predominantly in English, but there is also extensive correspondence holdings written in French, German, and Italian. SCPA's print collection features many international music education titles, which run the gamut of European and Asian languages. In popular music holdings, there are many works in Dutch.
2. Geographical areas: The major focus of items in the collection is on the United States, but select topics (winds and percussion, popular music, and music education) require a more international approach to collecting.
3. Chronological periods/Imprint dates: SCPA is particularly strong in holdings from 1850 through the present. SCPA is very interested in expanding into earlier holdings of American performing arts materials.
4. Materials selected
 1. Included materials: SCPA is format agnostic pertaining to the following subject strengths: music education history; American band history; theatre and dance local to the DC metro area; American theatre history; popular music; solo, chamber, or method repertoire for clarinet, oboe, trombone, or percussion; and UMD faculty papers, university performance recordings, and collections pertaining to ensembles or companies in residence
 2. Excluded materials: triplicates of existing holdings; SCPA no longer collects on mechanical music history or player piano. SCPA is very selective about building the rare books holdings outside of a few authors connected to the early history of American music education.
 3. Levels of Collection Intensity: SCPA seeks to be Comprehensive in music education history; solo, chamber, or method repertoire for clarinet; and the papers of American Bandmaster

Association members. SCPA will otherwise provide Research Level collections for theatre and dance local to the DC metro area; American theatre history; popular music; solo, chamber, or method repertoire for flute, oboe, trombone, or percussion; papers of American composers; and UMD faculty papers, university performance recordings, and collections pertaining to ensembles or companies in residence.

IV. Additional Collection Information

1. **Duplication:** SCPA will accept select duplicates of print items, and will only accept a third copy in the event it can replace a less stable or less complete copy.
2. **Gifts:** Gift items added to the SCPA are done so in conjunction with the *University of Maryland Libraries Gifts-In-Kind Policy*, particularly so that they “supplement existing collections in support of the University's teaching and research programs as well as to provide the University Libraries with special materials in which there is a scholarly interest” (<http://www.lib.umd.edu/collections/gifts/for-donors>). The subject specialist for SCPA is ultimately responsible for deciding whether or not a gift is added to the collection.
3. **Deselection/Withdrawal:** The relevance of materials in SCPA can and will change over time. Periodic reappraisal of the collection is undertaken to identify items which no longer fit the criteria for inclusion in the collection, or those of inferior evidential value. SCPA will frequently identify a better home for collections that are out of scope for the unit.
4. **Preservation:** The subject specialist will work with the Preservation unit at the University of Maryland Libraries when individual titles are brought to their attention that need rebinding, repair or replacement.

Implementation and Revision Schedule: This policy has been reviewed by the Collection Development Council (lib-cdc@umd.edu) and is considered effective on the date indicated below. It will be reexamined regularly by the subject specialist and will be revised as needed to reflect new collection needs and identify new areas of study, as well as those areas that may be excluded.

Date: 20 February 2015 vn, Rev. 5/20/15, Rev. 8/10/16, Rev. 9/4/18 vn

CDC 9/25/18