

Collection Development Policy Statement for Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies

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Purpose:

The Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies collection, housed in the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library, is maintained to support the curriculum, research, and productions of the School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies (TDPS), as well as the work of The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

[TDPS's mission](#) is to advance and transform the research and practice of theatre, dance and performance studies through its commitment to excellence and innovative education in the performing arts. In 2013, the previously distinct collections for Theatre and Dance were consolidated to provide flexibility for an ever increasing interdisciplinary performing arts collection and to better support TDPS's vision of being "a School that serves as a national model for collaboration, innovation and entrepreneurship in the performing arts." The Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies collection supports the following degree programs within TDPS: BA Theatre, BA Dance, MA Theatre and Performance Studies, MFA Dance, MFA Design, PhD Theatre and Performance Studies.

Coordination and Cooperative Information:

- The Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library houses two special collections units—Special Collections in Performing Arts (SCPA) and the International Piano Archives at Maryland (IPAM). The Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies collection is developed in coordination with SCPA. There may be occasional duplication between SCPA and MSPAL's general collections.
- Musical Theatre & Opera materials (scores, CDs, DVDs) are collected in collaboration with the Music subject specialist.
- There is some overlap of drama materials between the Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies collection in The Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library and the Literature Collection held in McKeldin Library.
- Costuming materials are collected primarily by The Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library, although many costuming books are held by McKeldin Library.
- Occasionally, interdisciplinary materials relevant to Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies (For example: design, culture, anthropology, neurobiology, etc.) will be collected, but only upon request to support a particular curricular or research need of the School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies. In these cases, the appropriate subject librarian will be contacted to determine the best area in the University of Maryland Libraries collection to house the item.
- Items in low demand are borrowed from other USMAI and BTAA institutions, and through Interlibrary Loan whenever possible to promote cost-savings. Items found to be frequently requested through these services are periodically evaluated for potential purchase.

Diversity: Recognizing that Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies incorporate individuals of all ages who represent a multiplicity of racial and ethnic backgrounds, economic and educational levels and

physical and mental abilities, the subject specialist/s build collections that mirror and support this diversity. The Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies 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.

I. Summary of Collection Scope at Current Collecting Levels

The collections for Theatre and Dance were first unified as part of the performing arts collection housed within Hornbake Library. Previously, dance materials had been housed in the Fine Arts Library within McKeldin, which also collected music and visual arts materials. Theatre materials were collected separately as part of the literature collection. The University of Maryland approved plans to build a new Performing Arts Center, which would include a new performing arts library, in 1992. That center, eventually named the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, opened in 2000 and contained the new Performing Arts Library, which now included theatre materials in addition to music and dance, as well as the International Piano Archives at Maryland (IPAM) and Special Collection in Performing Arts (SCPA), which was renamed to reflect an expanded collecting interest in theatre. The Performing Arts Library was named the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library in 2001. Since the opening of The Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library, the collection has been expanded to also include the emerging field of Performance Studies.

Since the early 2000s, the Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies collection has evolved to place a greater emphasis on modern, contemporary, and global performing arts, while still maintaining a classical foundation for theatre and dance. The collection has also adapted to reflect the Clarice Smith Center's emphasis on new, innovative, collaborative, and cross-disciplinary work. The Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies collection maintains a strong emphasis on academic and scholarly materials, as well as on new works and editions of standard repertoire.

More than 10,000 physical items (including books, journals, dvds, cds, and other formats) relating to Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies items are housed in MSPAL, but due to the interdisciplinary nature of some of the materials, many additional items are located in Library Media Services located in Hornbake Library, and in the general McKeldin Library.

II. Developing the Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies Collection

1. Language(s): The majority of materials collected for Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies are in English, but exceptions are made for plays studied in translation and performing arts materials from other cultures.
2. Geographical areas: Materials collected are not limited by geographic region, as Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies are a global field of study.
3. Chronological periods/Imprint dates: Materials collected are not limited by chronological period or imprint date; however, there is an emphasis on collecting new works.
4. Materials selected

1. Included materials: Books, play scripts, musical theatre scores/libretti, DVDs, CDs, periodicals, and databases.
2. Excluded materials: General anthologies of plays, textbooks, VHS, reprints, and dissertations are generally not purchased.
3. Levels of Collection Intensity: The scope of the collection for Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies targets the Research Level of the RLG Conspectus scale.

III. **Additional Collection Information**

In general, the Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies collection adheres to the University of Maryland Libraries' policies for duplication, gifts, deselection and preservation available at <http://www.lib.umd.edu/collections/collection-development-policy>. An exception is made regarding duplication of some acting editions of playscripts, due to the nature of their use in scene work and for auditions. Select classics and critical editions are held by both the McKeldin Library and The Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library, due to their interdisciplinary study.

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: August 7, 2018 DB

CDC 9/25/18