

Copyright for sound recordings

The Library of Congress and the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) have jointly issued a new report titled "Copyright Issues Relevant to Digital Preservation and Dissemination of Pre-1972 Commercial Sound Recordings by Libraries and Archives."

Copyright for sound recordings made before 1972 is protected by state rather than federal law, and those state laws can be based in criminal, common, or civil law. Consequently, determining what is allowable preservation action can be very complicated. The report examines relevant laws and precedent in California, Illinois, Michigan, New York, and Virginia and how federal copyright law can affect legal interpretations of state laws.

The report concludes that it is unlikely that activities permitted under federal copyright law would be actionable under state laws, but more research and legislation is needed to clarify the legal position of libraries and archives engaged in preservation and digital dissemination of pre-1972 sound recordings.

The report is available as a free PDF at www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub135abst.html. Printed copies cost \$20 and may be ordered from the same URL.

ARSC grant program

The Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) has created the Program for the Preservation of Classical Music Historical Recordings to encourage and support preservation of historically significant Western art music. Funds are available through this program for a variety of activities, including organizing, inventorying, rehousing, copying, reformatting, improving climate

control, and promoting access to important sound collections. Grants can last up to two years and range from \$2,000 to \$10,000. This program was founded in 2004 and will offer its first grants in 2006.

The application deadline is April 30, 2006. For more information, contact Richard Warren Jr., ARSC Grants Program, Historical Sound Recordings, Yale Music Library, P.O. Box 208240, New Haven, CT 06520-8240; e-mail: richard.warren@yale.edu; URL: arsc-audio.org/preservationgrants.html.

California Rare Book School

The Graduate School of Education and Information Studies at the University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA) announced the addition of the California Rare Book School to its Department of Information Studies. This new school will offer continuing education courses to both professionals who work with rare books and manuscripts and students who aspire to do so. It will be the first to offer such training in the western part of the United States and is the product of an alliance among academic and research libraries and antiquarian booksellers in southern California and the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia.

The school is scheduled to open in summer 2006 with five courses: "Rare Book Cataloging," taught by Deborah J. Leslie of the Folger Shakespeare Library; "Introduction to Special Collections Librarianship," taught by Susan Allen of the Getty Research Institute and Lynda Claassen of UC-San Diego; "The Book in the West," taught by Gary F. Kurutz of California State Library; "Descriptive Bibliography," taught by Bruce Whiteman of UCLA; and "Book Illustration Processes to 1900," taught by Terry Belanger.

For more information, contact Claire Raffel, phone: (310) 794-4138, e-mail: craffel@ucla.edu, URL: is.gseis.ucla.edu/news/rare_book_school.htm. *zz*

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