

Not Just a PDF on a Website

Copyright and Self-Publishing for Composers

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Recommended Resources

ALLi: The Alliance of Independent Authors. <https://www.allianceindependentauthors.org/>
("A non-profit, our mission is ethics and excellence in self-publishing.")

Gould, Elaine. *Behind Bars : The Definitive Guide to Music Notation*. Faber Music, 2011.
Music Library Stacks; MT35 .G735 2011

"Composers: Music Preparation Guide." Resources. Major Orchestra Librarians' Association, Inc. <https://mola-inc.org/resources/20044> ("How-To Guide for specifications of music engraving")

DeLaurenti, Kathleen, and Andrea I. Copland. *Unlocking the Digital Age: The Musician's Guide to Research, Copyright, and Publishing*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, Peabody Institute, 2024. <https://pressbooks.pub/musicresearch/>

"Digital Downloads." Theodore Front Music Literature.
<https://www.tfront.com/topic/DigitalDownloads>. (Recommended for suggestions on rights to make explicit).

Issuu.com (Converts PDFs into flipbooks and more)

"A Model for Purchase and Licensing of Digital Scores." Copyright for Music Librarians. Music Library Association.
<https://copyright.wp.musiclibraryassoc.org/digital-score-purchase-license/>

Registering Your Work

U.S. Copyright Office: "Register Your Work: Registration Portal."
www.copyright.gov/registration/

Upcoming webinar: "Find Your Voice: Copyright Essentials for Musicians." [Registration link](#).

Performing Rights Societies:
ASCAP: <https://www.ascap.com/>

BMI: <https://www.bmi.com/>
SESAC: <https://www.sesac.com/>

SoundExchange: <https://www.soundexchange.com/>

Mechanical Licensing Collective: <https://www.themlc.com/>

Publicizing Your Work to Libraries

Notes, the journal of the Music Library Association

Submit for review consideration:

Matthew Ertz, Music Reviews Editor
Dwight Anderson Memorial Music Library, School of Music, Room 160
University of Louisville
2301 S. 3rd St.
Louisville, KY 40292
matthew.ertz@louisville.edu

Submit for “Music Received” column (currently thematic rather than exhaustively):

To send a print score:

Kathleen Abromeit
Head, Oberlin Conservatory Library
77 W. College St.
Oberlin, OH 44074

For eScores, email kabromei@oberlin.edu with:

- The score itself OR
- a link to their purchasing page

She needs to create a full citation including the publisher. Either include that with your email or ensure that it is clear from the PDF.