

# Dance Collection Development Policy

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN  
MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS LIBRARY

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## 1. Introduction

This policy describes the dance collection development program of the Music & Performing Arts Library (MPAL) and the goals for collecting in specific media as well as in specific subject areas. The policy offers a straightforward description that can serve as a guide for new selectors, as well as being a statement of collecting practice for interested faculty, staff, students, and existing and potential donors. The Library has separate collection development policies for theatre and music. Each policy is reviewed and, if necessary, updated every two years.

The Music & Performing Arts Library has two central missions: (1) to support the curricula of the School of Music, Department of Dance, and Department of Theatre and (2) to support and encourage faculty and student research, performance, and creativity. In addition, MPAL strives to support dance, music, and theatre making in the Champaign-Urbana community and to support music and performing arts research within the US and globally.

All three of the main constituencies served by MPAL offer degrees at both undergraduate and graduate levels. The Department of Dance offers BFA, BA, and MFA degrees. The School of Music offers BA and BMUS options in composition-theory, performance, jazz, and musicology, a Bachelor of Musical Arts in Lyric Theatre, a Bachelor of Music Education, and a BS in computer science and music. Graduate degrees offered by the School of Music include MMs and DMAs in composition, performance, jazz, musicology, conducting, and pedagogy, a Master of Music Education, Artist Diplomas, and PhDs in musicology and music education. The Department of Theatre offers a BFA in design, technology, and management; acting; and theatre studies; an MFA in acting; or design, technology and management; and an MA/PhD in theatre history and practice.

Other identifiable categories of MPAL users include University of Illinois non-dance degree seeking students who may be taking dance classes or participating in ensembles; faculty and students in other departments outside of music, dance, and theatre who are conducting interdisciplinary study and research; residents of the Champaign-Urbana area not affiliated with the university; and out-of-town researchers who use resources on-site, make written requests for reference or reproduction assistance, or submit Interlibrary Loan requests. While MPAL is happy to provide services to these users, the Library does not collect materials specifically in support of any needs beyond those of our three main constituencies.

## **2. Collection overview and collection development mechanisms**

### **2.1 A brief overview of the collection**

The history of dance at the University of Illinois dates back to around 1898 and an autonomous Department of Dance was eventually created in 1968. A detailed history can be found on the [Dance Department's website](#). In 2004, the then Music Library received dance materials from the University Library's "Applied Life" Collection. Today's Music & Performing Arts Library houses approximately 500,000 materials in its local physical collections, including several thousand materials pertaining to dance.

### **2.2 Mechanisms for collection development**

#### *2.2.1 Selectors*

Acquisition of material in held formats is split between the two MPAL librarians. Suggestions from library patrons for additions to our collections are always welcome and can be made in person, via [email](#), or by using [MPAL's Request a Purchase form](#).

#### *2.2.2 Standing orders and approval plans*

MPAL has approval plans with Amalivre (for books in French), Casalini (books in Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese), YBP (English-language books), and ArkivMusic (CDs and DVDs). It has standing orders for a large number of book series and subscribes to several hundred journals.

Materials are acquired through a combination of approval plans, blanket orders, standing orders, and firm orders.

## **3. Collection management programs for preservation, storage, replacement, deselection, and access**

Damaged items may be repaired or digital preservation copies made by the Library's digital content creation unit. Decisions on replacing lost or damaged items are made by individual selectors.

Items that are fragile, rare, or in special formats may be housed in MPAL's Special Collections. Particularly rare and or valuable items are stored in the Rare Books and Manuscript Library.

Circulating materials that are duplicated, have been superseded in edition, or have low use based on specific metrics are regularly considered for relocation to the Library's remote storage facility at Oak Street or removal from the collection. In general, the Library does not collect multiple copies.

The Library has large collections of microfilms, microfiches, CDs, LPs, and DVDs. Equipment is available to enable listening/viewing of these formats.

### **3.1 Consortial access agreements**

Patrons can request items from other libraries within the state of Illinois using I-Share. Materials not available via I-Share can be requested on Interlibrary Loan via WorldCat and Illiad. MPAL also lends materials to other libraries under the same agreements.

## **4. Cooperative collecting agreements and consortial agreements**

At the moment, the Library has no cooperative collecting agreements with other libraries concerning dance materials. In addition to being a member of I-Share, the University Library is a member of BTAA and receives access to some dance related electronic resources such as e-books and e-journals via consortial agreements.

## **5. Summary of scope of coverage and formats collected**

### **5.1 General**

The library's collections in dance consist of approximately several thousand books on dance, dancers, dance history, and dance from different traditions. In addition, we have a large collections of audio and video recordings concerning dance performance and dance practitioners, including master classes, documentaries, and "how to" material. Our periodical collections include research and current awareness journals such as *Contact Quarterly*, *Dance Research Journal*, and *Tanz*.

### **5.2 Local or regional artists' or writers' works collected systematically**

The Department of Dance has its own collection of dance performances, many of which record performances by students and faculty of the department. MPAL does not currently collect in this area.

### **5.3 Pedagogical materials**

MPAL has a number of books and videos concerning the teaching of dance and actively collects in this area.

### **5.4 Geographical areas covered or excluded, in terms of both intellectual content and publication sources**

The Department of Dance offers courses including "World Dance Forms," "Hip Hop," "Cultural Dance Forms" and others that cover various dance styles from across the world. MPAL supports these courses with appropriate materials.

## **5.5 Chronological periods and movements or schools covered or excluded**

The Department of Dance offers several courses in dance history dating back to the Renaissance and through the contemporary period. MPAL has a strong collection of materials to support these courses.

## **5.6 Publication dates covered or excluded**

MPAL's dance collections date from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The Library does not have special or archival collections of dance materials. However, we do have historic collections of materials such as operas and other stage materials that may include dance-related content.

## **5.7 Formats**

MPAL actively collects published books on dance and recorded materials on DVD and potentially BluRay format. While MPAL has some items on VHS format, these are not actively added to the collection.

### *5.7.1 Electronic formats*

Several of the Library's dance journals are available electronically. We also subscribe to the International Bibliography of Theater and Dance in full text, the Performing Arts Periodicals database, and streaming resources such as Dance in Video.

### *5.7.2 Microforms*

MPAL does not actively collect in this area. However, the Library does have the IDC Music and Dance in Surinam and the Dance collection from the Music Library of the Haags Gemeentemuseum on microfiche.

### *5.7.3 Manuscripts and early editions*

MPAL does not collect this type of material. Such holdings may be found in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

## **5.8 Related subjects and collections**

Kinesiology, gymnastics, and sports science materials are located in the [Social Sciences, Health, and Education Library](#). Music for dance is housed at MPAL.

## **6. Gifts policy**

MPAL does not accept gifts without prior discussion and review. MPAL will consider gifts consisting of dance books and videos that are in good condition for addition to our collections. Please be aware that the Library does not collect obsolete formats such as LPs and audio/video cassettes, except in rare instances such as when materials are related to the history of the University. All decisions on retention or disposal of gift materials are made by librarians of the Music & Performing Arts Library.

Materials not accepted for whatever reason (typically duplication of already held materials) are generally given away free to patrons or recycled (typically due to poor condition). Due to limitations of space and resources to process gifts, the Library must be very selective in accepting large donations. To that end, inclusion of funds to assist with processing is encouraged.

Monetary gifts to the Library for collections and other needs are always welcome. You can easily make a gift through the [University Library Office of Advancement](#). If you chose to make a gift by check or money order, please include a memo stating the designation of your gift is the Music & Performing Arts Library.

The Library is forbidden from making appraisals of materials for any purposes including tax. Please see the [library-wide Gifts Policy](#) for additional information.

## **7. Access policies**

Although the Music & Performing Arts Library primarily caters to those pursuing the academic study of dance, our collections are also available more broadly for study or recreational use. The University Library access policy may be found at <https://www.library.illinois.edu/geninfo/policies/access/>.