



# American Music Research Center Collection Development Policy

An Addendum to the Collection Policies  
of the University Libraries

## INTRODUCTION

The American Music Research Center (“AMRC”) exists at the University of Colorado to celebrate the role of music in the history, culture, and experience of the United States. Core to the Center’s mission is the collection of rare and archival music materials that document that experience. This document sets forth policies under which the AMRC acquires—through gifts-in-kind, purchase, or any other means—material for inclusion in the Center’s collections. This collection policy supersedes the previous collection policy for the AMRC, last revised 10 July, 1997.

The AMRC is devoted to the celebration and study of music from the United States. As stated in its mission statement, the Center:

*... is a rare music repository dedicated to exploring and celebrating the rich traditions of American music. We are a joint venture between the University Libraries and the College of Music devoted to discovering, sharing, and preserving American music of all kinds: classical, popular, and traditional. As a repository of precious and unique music materials, the AMRC seeks to preserve American music and enhance its cultural and transformational potential for future generations. Our collections are housed and curated in the University Libraries on the CU Boulder campus where students, visiting scholars, and the public are welcome to visit by appointment. We regularly sponsor public events and community outreach activities such as concerts, conferences, publications, and lectures--all based on the AMRC collections.*

The permanent AMRC personnel currently consists of a director (appointed by the College), an archivist (appointed by the Libraries), an assistant to the director, and an advisory board. Along with



## GENERAL POLICIES

Collection is generally restricted to the areas identified within this document. Materials outside the scope of this document may be considered. For the benefit of scholarship, the AMRC generally will avoid collecting significant material where other centers have established predominance.

The Center's chief priority is to serve the research needs of students and faculty at the College of Music. However, archives are, by nature, unique to the repository. Stronger foci increase value, both to the scholarly community and to the collections, and so the Center's existing strengths form the primary focus in our collecting. Because of the unique nature of archives, the greater community of music scholars, many of whom visit Boulder from around the country and even overseas, is also an important stakeholder in our collecting.

## ACTIVE COLLECTION STRENGTHS

The following areas are identified as strengths in which the Center will actively collect:

### Classical music of Colorado and the American West

Any recordings, personal papers, business records, artifacts, or other records documenting composers, performers, scholars, or musical organizations from or associated with the Rocky Mountain region (roughly defined as the area that comprises Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Northwestern Arizona, and New Mexico) and the Western plains (Western portions of Nebraska, South Dakota, Oklahoma, and Kansas), especially those associated with the Denver and Boulder areas, and with the College of Music (faculty, students, alumni, etc.). Also includes music about Colorado.

### American Popular Music 1700–1950

Primarily songs in the form of music sheets printed in the United States or amassed by significant American collectors. Generally excludes instrumental-only music. Especially includes songs







international importance, and the numerous music festivals that dot the Rocky Mountains and