Welcome

We are so excited to welcome you to the Music and Performing Arts Library (also known as MPAL)! We hope that you will come explore our collections (including media, loanable technology items, and games), ask for help at the desk, or come use our study spaces, computers, printers, or scanners.

Services

Media Loan Policy Changes

MPAL’s CDs, DVDs, and LPs now circulate for 16 weeks for faculty and graduate students and 4 weeks for undergraduate students. There are also no more overdue fines for media items (unless the item is on reserve for a class).

Don’t forget that we also loan external CD/DVD drives and have group rooms with listening and viewing technology.

We have also begun loaning our CDs and DVDs via the iShare lending network.

DocExpress

Did you know that you can request scans of materials held in other library locations on campus, including the Oak Street Library Facility? You can request articles, book chapters, microfilms, or portions of music scores. This is free to U of I students and faculty and most materials are available in two business days. To make a request for a scan (or to have a physical item sent), find the item in the library catalog, log in, and then select the option you want.

Collection Notes

Fun and Games at MPAL

You might have noticed that MPAL is now the proud holder of the University Library’s board games collection. You can see the games on the shelves to the left as you enter MPAL or find them in the library catalog: go.library.illinois.edu/MPALGames. Games circulate for 1 week.
New Journal

MPAL now subscribes to the electronic version of the *Journal of Sound and Music in Games*. Find it through the library catalog.

See more new titles by going to our website under **Collections > New Titles** or by checking out our New Items display.

Journal Collection

Please note that our journal collection has been shifted significantly after we transferred back issues of several titles to the Oak Street Library Facility as part of the BTAA Shared Print Repository Program.

All titles that were sent have full text online in one or more platforms (for example through JSTOR or the publisher). The physical volumes can be requested from Oak Street through the catalog.

Information about the location of each journal title’s physical and online holdings is available in the library catalog.

New & Updated Online Resources

The Library recently subscribed to **New Play Exchange** (NPX), a digital collection of scripts by living writers. NPX allows you to identify works by specific author demographics, including gender identity, race/ethnic identity, and sexual orientation.

The **Drama Online** platform has also been updated and now includes titles like *Hymn* by Lolita Chakrabarti, *Amongst the Reeds* by Chinonyerem Odimba, and all of the plays from *The Methuen Drama Book of Trans Plays*.

All online resources can be accessed from our website under the appropriate subject’s Research Resources page and many individual titles can be found through the library catalog.

Loanable Tech

MPAL has loanable tech items including portable disc drives, charging cords, microphones, and more. You can find a list via the “Borrow Technology” link on our website.

go.library.illinois.edu/MPALTech.

We are looking for suggestions for items to add to our loanable technology pool. Please let us know what you’d like to see by sending an email to mpal@library.illinois.edu

Suggest a Purchase!

MPAL would love your suggestions for items to add to our collection—scores, books, recordings, plays, if you need it, we want to hear about it! We are especially interested in hearing about composers, playwrights, and authors from underrepresented backgrounds.

If you have an item to suggest, please fill out the online form on our website under **Services > Recommend a Purchase**.

Ukrainian Arts

In March and April MPAL will have an exhibit on Ukrainian arts curated by Donna Buchanan. Materials are currently in the upstairs cases and more will be added to the downstairs cases when the student exhibit Messages for Peace ends.

Faculty or students interested in mounting an exhibit in MPAL’s display cases should contact us via email. We encourage faculty to contact us about student research projects that result in a Library display using Library materials. For more information, please see library.illinois.edu/MPAL/about/exhibits.

Help Available

**Help Using the Library**

Need help finding a playscript? Wondering how to get articles for your research projects? We can help!

Email

Email mpal@library.illinois.edu to get help from one of the librarians Monday-Friday during business hours.

**Set up an online appointment**

Want to get more in-depth help in person or via Zoom? Set up an appointment with Kate or Kirstin here: library.illinois.edu/mpal/services/askus/

**Help guides**

Help and research guides can be found under the dance, music, and theatre research resources pages on our website.