

CENTER FOR POPULAR MUSIC

2017–2018
Annual Report



MTSU College of Media and Entertainment



The mission of the Center for Popular Music is to promote research and scholarship on American vernacular music, and to foster an understanding of the nation's diverse musical culture and its global reach.

Established in 1985 by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission as one of sixteen state Centers of Excellence, the Center for Popular Music at Middle Tennessee State University is a research and programming center devoted to studying the full breadth of American vernacular music (both folk and commercial). The Center maintains a world-class research archive of rare, primary source materials related to nearly every aspect of music-making in the United States from colonial times to the present. As part of MTSU's College of Media and Entertainment, the CPM serves campus students and faculty, scholars and musicians worldwide, as well as the general public.

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CPM Year in Review

During fiscal year 2017–2018 the Center for Popular Music continued to thrive, acquiring new and exciting collections, making materials available to interested students and scholars through cataloging, processing, and research assistance, and reaching out to the campus and local communities through a lively and diverse programming agenda. Instructional activities both for MTSU students and campus visitors introduce our resources and expertise to a wide array of patrons, and our in-house student workers gain real-world skills and experience in numerous areas. Researchers continue to make excellent use of our collections and resources for books and articles, dissertations, documentaries, and other projects, with invaluable help from the Center's staff of highly trained professionals. The CPM's electronic outreach via social media, live streamed events, and numerous grant-funded web projects also continued to increase this year. Our in-house record label, Spring Fed Records, added to its list of releases documenting diverse folk music of the South with both brand new recordings and historical reissues.

The Center's robust growth in recent years, accompanied by increased visibility and an aggressive program to build the collection and reach more patrons, culminated this year in a renovation of the CPM Reading Room, the area seen and used by our visitors. The makeover included new flooring, new paint, and a new front desk, along with ceiling and electrical improvements. The room's sleek, contemporary update reflects the Center's status as a leading research center, at the forefront of popular music studies.

Reading Room Renovation

Much of our attention this year was focused on an extensive update of the Center's Reading Room, which had not undergone a major renovation since the Bragg Building opened in 1991. The Reading Room, of course, makes the initial impression on all of our visitors, many of whom do not see the archive itself (although we do offer tours to many visitors, especially for class instruction).



A comfortable sitting area for reading and study in the Center's Reading Room. Also pictured is part of the Center's reference collection.

But the Reading Room is more than just a greeting area. It is the primary patron work space, where students and other researchers sit to look at or listen to rare materials from the archive at one of the tables, computers, or listening/viewing stations. Close at hand is the Center's reference collection of some 14,000 volumes of scholarly literature (general histories, biographies, discographies, score anthologies, and other works).

The Reading Room is also our gathering place for presentations by visiting scholars and musicians, for MTSU classes and other visiting groups who come for an introduction to the Center and its resources, for the Center's monthly brown bag lunch series, for recording demonstrations, and for receptions hosted by the CPM. Some members of the MTSU community find the CPM Reading Room offers a quiet and comfortable study area, a calm and welcoming refuge from the buzzing activity of the MTSU campus. The Reading Room also houses three display cases featuring rotating exhibits curated by Center staff or graduate assistants. These showcase materials from the archive, highlighting collections, accentuating upcoming public programs, and giving visitors a sense of the breadth and depth of the Center's collections.



One of the Reading Room's display cases, with an exhibit entitled "Communities throughout Time and Place Tellin' their Stories," curated by graduate assistant Katie Rainge-Briggs.



Renovation of the Center for Popular Music's Reading Room occupied most of the 2017 summer break, with some of the finishing touches added early in the fall semester. Center staff contributed design ideas, taking into account both visual aesthetics and functionality. Lisa Wells from MTSU Campus Planning office coordinated the project, which involved MTSU facilities and construction staff along with outside contractors.

The first stage was preparing the room for renovation. Center staff and student workers all pitched in to box up the entire reference collection for temporary storage in the archive, carefully labeling each box and shelf under the direction of CPM Librarian Lindsay Million to ensure accurate replacement of the items after the work was complete.



Library Assistant Stephanie Bandel-Koroll peeks through the reference collection's empty shelves. A rare sight, indeed!

Once the computers and other equipment were disconnected and stored safely, staff stored the tables, chairs, and exhibit cases in a nearby classroom not in use during the summer, and workers lifted the reference collection's empty shelves off the ground for mobility. Some of the Reading Room's filing cabinets, which house the Center's vertical files, were moved out from behind the front desk. Demolition involved removal of the old carpet and the front desk, followed by various repairs to the ceiling and walls.



Demolition of the old CPM front desk, which was showing signs of more than twenty-five years of use.

With books and furniture safely stored and the demolition and repair work complete, workers installed new wood flooring in the reception area, new carpet tiles in the rest of the room, painted the walls an inviting soft blue, installed a brand new modular front desk unit, and affixed the CPM logo to the wall, making it one of the first things a visitor sees when entering the Center. Pictures on the following pages show various stages of this process, and some dramatic before and after pictures of the CPM's 2017 facelift!



Wall repairs, new carpet tiles, and new paint.



CPM Librarian Lindsay Million reshelving reference collection books.



Reconnecting computer stations in the Reading Room.



New flooring and a new ADA-compliant front desk.



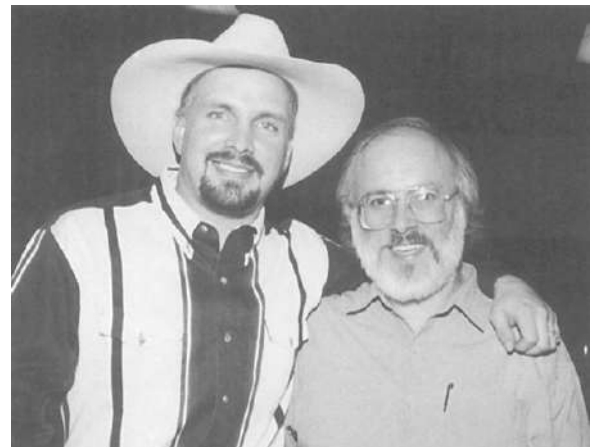
The Center for Popular Music Reading Room Before and After!

Acquisitions

The Center for Popular Music continued to add to its unmatched holdings of popular music research materials this year with numerous exciting acquisitions. Here are a few of the year's most noteworthy additions.

The Alan Mayor Collection

One the largest and most thrilling acquisitions this year was the donation of the Alan Mayor Collection by his sister and heir, Theresa Mayor Smith. Alan Mayor, who passed away in 2015, was a freelance photographer and journalist who spent some four decades documenting the musical life of Nashville and its music industry. Alan seemed to be everywhere music was being made in Nashville starting in the mid-1970s, befriending artists and leading industry figures along the way.



Photographer Alan Mayor with one of his favorite subjects, country superstar Garth Brooks.

Mayor was a regular at Nashville venues like the Exit Inn (where many of his photos still grace the walls), at industry events like BMI and CMA dinners and award shows, at Nashville's annual

Country Music Fan Fest, and on tour with major artists such as Garth Brooks. Mayor's work appeared regularly in the Nashville Banner and Tennessean, as well as industry publications, artist promotional materials, and a wide variety of other publications.



CPM Archivist Rachel Morris assessing Alan Mayor's photographs in a Kentucky storage unit.

The Alan Mayor Collection is one of the most extensive and important documentary collections for the Nashville music scene in the late 20th century. Upon arrival at the CPM, the staff measured 160 linear feet of material, comprising chiefly prints, negatives, and slides. While a full count is not yet available, we estimate the number of individual images at 100,000.

Processing the Alan Mayor Collection will be a long and expensive process (see the report about our Alan Mayor fundraiser below), but the collection is already garnering serious interest from those in the music industry and from researchers of various types. Assistant Archivist Olivia Beaudry, a country music superfan and serious scholar of Nashville's music scene during this era, has taken the lead on processing the collection, and has already

responded to numerous research requests for its materials.



Just some of the immense Alan Mayor Collection after Assistant Archivist Olivia Beaudry's initial reboxing and organization.

The Bill Reichert Collection of 45s

In August 2017 collector Bill Reichert of Billings, Montana donated his world-class collection of 45-rpm singles to the Center for Popular Music. Numbering around 19,000 and all in outstanding condition, Bill's collection of 7-inch vinyl discs began in 1958 and never ceased. The collection includes major and independent label releases, many of them extremely rare, in such mainstream genres as pop, rock, country, soul, and surf music.

We were impressed not only by the size and quality of Mr. Reichert's collection, but his organizational skill. Thousands of 45s were all arranged in clearly marked boxes according to

artist and record label. Not only that, Mr. Reichert also provided us with a 350-page inventory of his collection, which lists every record by title, artist, record company, and highest *Billboard* chart position!



Donor and collector Bill Reichert poses with Greg Reish as Bill's collection of 19,000 45-rpm discs is loaded for the long trip from Montana to Tennessee. Mr. Reichert holds a rare set of 45s of Elvis Presley.



The Bill Reichert collection in its new home at the CPM.

Susie Monick & Argyle Bell Collections

Local musician and artist Susie Monick donated two fascinating manuscript collections. The first documents Monick's own career as a folk musician, banjo pioneer, and co-founder of Buffalo Gals, the first all-female bluegrass band.

The second manuscript collection from Suzie consists of manuscript and audio-visual materials from Argyle Bell, the late pedal-steel player, Irish music promoter, and Nashville impresario.

The Danny Crew Kentucky Collection

Author and collector Danny Crew, a renowned expert on early American sheet music and musical memorabilia, donated an amazing collection of nearly 1,400 pieces of Kentucky-related sheet music, along with several hundred sound recordings and various other items. Some of the items in the collection are quite old and quite rare, and Dr. Crew's thoughtful assembly highlights a wide range of musical activity in or about the bluegrass state going back to the pre-Civil War era.



"Will the New Year Come To Night, Mamma," by James Perry, published in Louisville in 1864. From the Danny Crew Kentucky Collection.

The George Hamilton, IV Collection

George Hamilton, IV (1937–2014) was a highly successful country, gospel, and Americana musician whose career began as a teen idol in the 1950s. A prolific artist, Hamilton was known for his wide-ranging collaborations and many world tours, bringing American music to audiences across Europe, Asia, and elsewhere. This collection was donated by his son, George Hamilton V, himself a musical artist and letterpress printer of considerable achievement. The collection includes numerous manuscripts, photographs, books, performance documents, serials, and sound recordings stemming from Hamilton IV's long and influential career.



Volume 1, Number 1 issue of the *George Hamilton IV Fan Club Newsletter*, February 1957.

Rick Clark Publicity Photos

Rick Clark is a Columbia, Tennessee based music producer and music supervisor for film and television. In July 2017 Mr. Clark donated

3,726 musicians' publicity photos, along with an assortment of press releases and other materials. The collection focuses on artists of the 1980s and 90s, and covers such genres as rock, punk, new wave, country, and hip hop.

Southern Hymnals

Felix "Sam" Cox donated 268 rare Southern hymnals, gospel songbooks, and sacred oblong books, dating from the mid-19th to the early 20th century. These rare gems will join the CPM's other rare sacred music books, one of the largest collections of its kind numbering many thousands.

Tejano and Norteño 45s

CPM friend and Spring Fed Records collaborator Dr. Dan Margolies donated more than 500 45-rpm records of Tejano and Norteño music from the Texas-Mexico borderlands region. Most of these were issued by small regional independent companies like Ideal and Joey, and represent a significant step forward in the CPM's efforts to increase its holdings in Spanish-language popular music.

Radio Café Hour

Nashville resident Steven Gladstone donated 299 analog and digital cassette tapes from the *Radio Café Hour*. These original tapes consist of live shows and on-air interviews with some of the biggest country music stars of the 1990s, recorded during a weekly radio show that broadcast live from the Radio Café in Branson, Missouri. Mr. Gladstone, a regular CPM donor and supporter, was one of the show's producers.



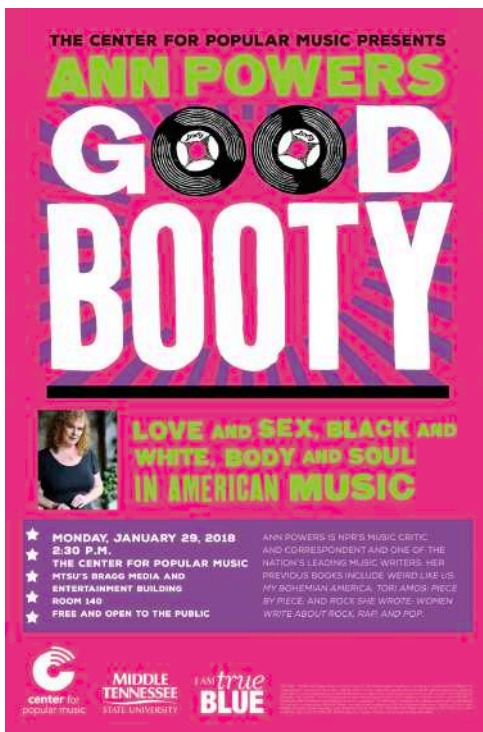
CPM Donors 2017–2018

Tom and Carol Burns, Rockvale, TN
Sandra Campbell, Murfreesboro, TN
Carson-Newman University, Music Department,
Jefferson City, TN
Paul Charosh, Rockaway, NY
Rick Clark, Columbia, TN
Dale and Lucinda Cockrell, Lincoln, VT
Felix O. ("Sam") Cox, III, Huntsville, AL
Danny O. Crew, Ft. Mill, SC
Mike Doubler, Murfreesboro, TN
Blaine Dunlap, Sanger, TX
John Fabke, Nashville, TN
Martin Fisher, Nashville, TN
Jimmy "Jazz" Flanigan, Stone Ridge, NY
Steven Gladstone, Nashville, TN
Pat Glenn, Blanco, TX
George Hamilton, V, Franklin, TN
Mei Han, Murfreesboro, TN
Linda L. Henry, Boston, MA
Frank P. Hoppe, La Crescenta, CA
Whit Hubner, Franklin, TN
James E. Walker Library, Middle Tennessee
State University, Murfreesboro, TN
John Hartford Office, Nashville, TN
Birgitta Johnson, Columbia, SC
Gene Jones, New York, NY
Beverly Keel, Nashville, TN
Susan Loudermilk, Christiana, TN
Dan Margolies, Norfolk, VA
Theresa Mayor Smith, Cadiz, KY
Andy and Lindsay Million, Murfreesboro, TN
Robert E. McClain, Jr., Nashville, TN
Bruce and Karlene McLaren, San Angelo, TX
Susie Monick, Nashville, TN
Tom Morgan, Dayton, TN
Rachel Morris, Murfreesboro, TN

Northwestern University Special Collections
Library, Evanston, IL
Ozma Records, Mill Valley, CA
Ken Paulson, Murfreesboro, TN
Wallace G. Pfeifer - Dwight, IL
Eben Powell, Murfreesboro, TN
Justin Reed, Woodbury, TN
Bill Reichert, Billings, MT
Greg Reish, Murfreesboro, TN
Rita Benton Music Library, University of Iowa,
Iowa City, IA
Diane Runnells, Fairview, TN
School of Music, Middle Tennessee State
University, Murfreesboro, TN
Doug Seroff, Greenbrier, TN
Shelby Bottom Duo (Michael August and Nell
Levin), Nashville, TN
Bill Smotherman, Murfreesboro, TN
Jean Foy Sylvester, Hilton Head Island, SC
John Vile, Murfreesboro, TN
Bill Wall, Murfreesboro, TN
Rosemary Wampler, Murfreesboro, TN
Gayle Dean Wardlow, Milton, FL
Roland White, Nashville, TN
WMOT Roots Radio, Middle Tennessee State
University, Murfreesboro, TN
Bob Wood, Argyle, TX

Programs and Events

The Center for Popular Music continued its vibrant and robust programming calendar this year, with visiting authors, scholars, musicians, and filmmakers giving presentations on an enormous range of American vernacular music topics.



Ann Powers

NPR Music critic Ann Powers visited the Center for Popular Music in January 2018 for a presentation on her book, *Good Booty: Love and Sex, Black and White, Body and Soul in American Music*. Attendance was standing room only, and the event received coverage on WMOT Roots Radio from music reporter Craig Havighurst.



NPR Music critic Ann Powers talking about her latest book, *Good Booty*, to a packed house in the CPM Reading Room. The event's poster design, by MTSU's Creative and Visual Services team, won a Bronze Award from the Tennessee College Public Relations Association.

Scott Barretta, Bill Steber, and The Blues According to Fred McDowell

In November 2017 we welcomed University of Mississippi blues scholar Scott Barretta for a screening of *Shake 'Em On Down: The Blues According to Fred McDowell*. The film, which Barretta co-produced, offers an extensive look at the life, career, and influence of Fred McDowell, the most famous bluesman of the Mississippi hill country. Following the screening, the audience enjoyed a Q&A session with Barretta, along with live music by local blues musician and noted photographer, Bill Steber.



Bill Steber (left) and Scott Barretta (right) discuss the legacy of Mississippi Fred McDowell after a screening of Barretta's new documentary.

Birgitta Johnson

Ethnomusicologist Dr. Birgitta Johnson, from the University of South Carolina School of Music, presented two lectures at MTSU on March 29, 2018: "Mountain Highs, Valley Lows: Institutional Archiving of Gospel Music in the 21st Century" and "Meeting Jesus at Beyoncé's Partition: Gospel Covers and Convergence Culture in the Social Media Age."



Dr. Birgitta Johnson lectures on archiving gospel music, one of two guest lectures presented by the Center for Popular Music.



Camilo Nu Film: Son Jarocho

In April 2018 the Center for Popular Music presented a film screening of *La Tercera Raíz (The Third Root): In Search of the Origins of Son Jarocho*. The film follows Mexican flamenco guitarist Camilo Nu on a journey into the Andalusian and African roots of son jarocho, a rich and distinctive traditional music from Veracruz. Camilo was in attendance for a discussion about the movie, and for a mini-concert on guitar, *jarana*, and *requinto jarocho*.

Shelby Bottom Duo

Folk Musicians Nell Levin and Michael August, performing as the Shelby Bottom Duo, brought their multimedia live show about songwriter and activist Joe Hill and the early American labor movement to MTSU in October 2017. The Center for Popular Music hosted the show with support from the Tennessee Arts Commission. Audio engineering students from the MTSU's Department of Recording Industry, under the supervision of Professor Frank Baird, provided audio-visual technical services.



Mitsutoshi Inaba

Dr. Mitsutoshi Inaba, a professor at Austin Peay State University and noted blues scholar, gave a lecture on his book, *John Lee "Sonny Boy"*

Williamson: The Blues Harmonica of Chicago's Bronzeville, in the Center for Popular Music Reading Room.



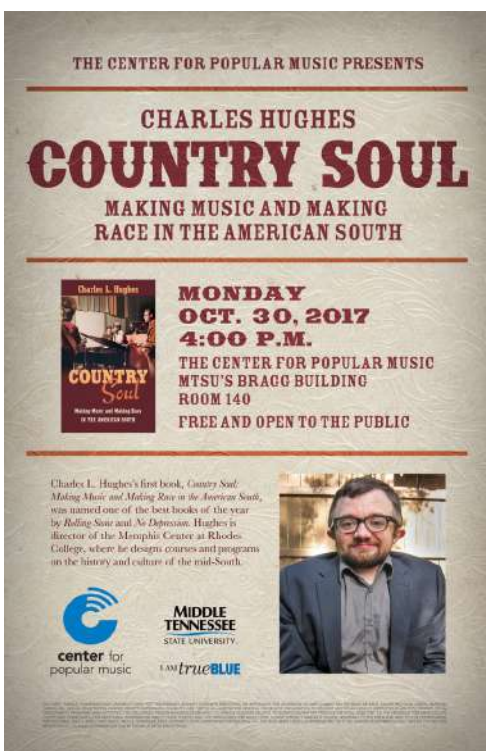
Dr. Mitsutoshi Inaba demonstrates the blues harmonica style of Sonny Boy Williamson.

Opera and Musical Theater in the United States Conference

The Center for Popular Music, along with the MTSU School of Music, co-sponsored a scholarly conference entitled, *Opera and Musical Theater in the United States*. Organized by MTSU faculty member Dr. Joseph Morgan, the conference covered topics from popular and high art theater over a broad span of American history. While on campus, attendees visited the CPM, where they were treated to a special exhibit of musical theater items from the Center's Gene Jones Collection, curated by archivist Rachel Morris.

Charles Hughes

Historian Dr. Charles Hughes, director of the Memphis Center at Rhodes College, delivered a lecture on his acclaimed book, *Country Soul: Making Music and Making Race in the American South*. Dr. Cheryl Torsney, MTSU's Vice Provost for faculty Affairs, called it "the best academic presentation I've seen in years."



Mariachi, traditional Polish music, old-time country, Mexican son huasteco, jazz, Tejano, and more.

The festival began with a panel symposium of scholars and collectors discussing the cultural significance of Texas fiddling traditions and efforts to document and preserve Texas dance halls. CPM director Greg Reish joined the panel of distinguished experts.

One of the featured performers at this year's festival was San Antonio native and Spring Fed records artist, Belen Escobedo. After her inspiring set, festival organizers presented Belen with the 2017 Master Fiddler award. Find out more about Belen's latest release in the Spring Fed Records section, below.



Spring Fed recording artist Belen Escobedo at the festival of Texas Fiddling, shortly after receiving her award as Master Texas Fiddler.

Festival of Texas Fiddling

The Center for Popular Music lent its support and expertise to the 3d annual Festival of Texas Fiddling in December 2017. A one-day event that takes place in a restored 1870s dance hall in Blanco, Texas, the Festival of Texas Fiddling showcases the astonishing diversity of fiddling traditions in the Lone Star state. The lineup included Western swing, contest fiddling,

Dan Margolies

The Center for Popular Music welcomed CPM donor, Spring Fed Records collaborator, and Virginia Wesleyan University history professor Dr. Dan Margolies. Margolies took time out of his research in the CPM on the political dimensions of the old-time music revival to

deliver a lecture on “Reimagined Old Time Music Cultures in the Trainhopping Punk Rock South.” He capped his talk with live performance of old-time music, joined by CPM director Greg Reish and MTSU student George Lilly.



Dr. Dan Margolies introduces audience members to a fascinating and little-known musical subculture.

Alan Mayor Fundraiser

With the help of the MTSU Development office and College of Media and Entertainment Development Director Abby White, the Center for Popular Music held an event at the Music Row office of the Country Music Association to raise awareness and funds for the preservation of the Alan Mayor photography collection. Spearheaded by CPM Assistant Archivist Olivia Beaudry, who is processing the collection, the event raised funds for the purchase of supplies needed to preserve this enormous and important collection. The entire full-time staff of the CPM attended the event and helped keep things running smoothly, along with CME Dean Ken Paulson, members of Mayor’s family, and other distinguished guests. The event included a silent auction of some of Mayor’s best-known and most striking photos.

Brown Bag Series

The CPM monthly Brown Bag Series continued into its second year, with a varied and delightful lineup of talks by members of the MTSU community on their work in the field of popular music studies. Presenters included Dr. Eric Detweiler (English), Dr. Arthur Banton (history), Dr. Kris McCusker (History), Dr. Joseph Morgan (Music), Dr. Shawn Cullen (English), and Ms. Donna Baker (Gore Center). Topics ranged from Prince to Elliott Smith to Bobbie Gentry to politics and musical protest.



Dr. Arthur Banton discussing the music of Prince during a CPM monthly brown bag event.

Researchers & Visiting Groups

This year the CPM once again welcomed a variety of researchers and other visitors, including scholars, musicians, PhD students, documentarians, collectors, government officials, and educational groups. One of the most exciting visits was from Susan Shumaker and her team, conducting research and gathering materials for the upcoming Ken Burns documentary miniseries on the history of country music. Look for it, and especially some of the CPM’s archival photos, in 2019.

Exhibits

Gospel Music Hall of Fame

The Center for Popular Music partnered with MTSU's Walker Library and School of Music to bring a special exhibit from the Gospel Music Hall of Fame to campus. To enhance the multi-panel traveling exhibit on loan to Walker Library, the CPM created its own accompanying exhibit cases of gospel items from the archive, curated by Olivia Beaudry.



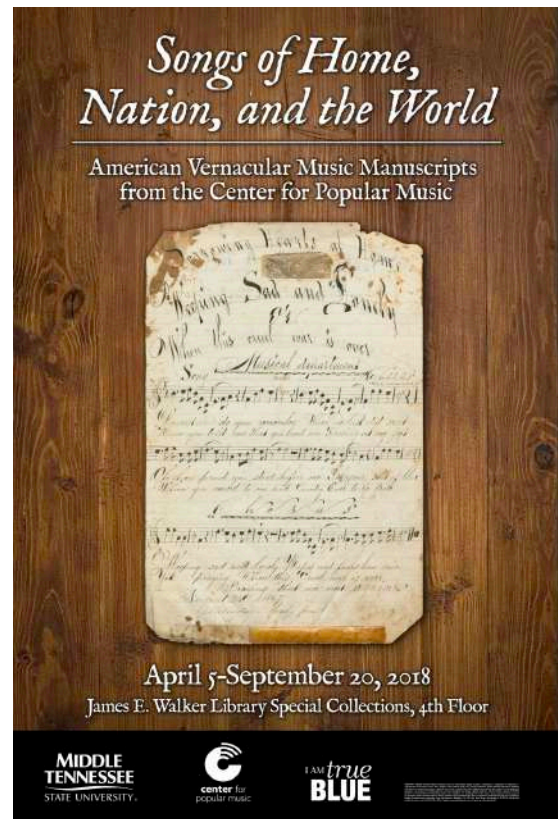
Portions of the Gospel Music hall of Fame's traveling exhibit, installed in Walker Library in the fall of 2017.



Detail from CPM gospel exhibit in Walker Library, curated by Assistant Archivist Olivia Beaudry.

Songs of Home, Nation, and the World

Selected items from the Center for Popular Music's American vernacular music manuscripts were put on display in Walker Library's Special Collection area in an exhibit entitled, *Songs of Home, Nation, and the World*. Curated by CPM graduate assistant Sam Schaefer—with assistance and supervision by CPM Director Greg Reish, CPM Archivist Rachel Morris, and Walker Special Collections Librarian Alan Boehm—the exhibit presents handwritten music for a variety of media from ordinary 19th century Americans.



Reading Room Exhibits

- “Communities Throughout Time and Place Tellin’ Their Stories” (Katie Rainge-Briggs)
- ““They Paved Paradise and Put Up a Parking Lot’: Environmentalism and Popular Music” (Sam Schaefer)
- “High Water Everywhere: Floods and Hurricanes in Popular Song” (Sam Schaefer)
- “Opera and Musical Theatre: Selections from the Gene Jones Collection” (Rachel Morris)
- “Wild Women Don’t Get the Blues” (Katie Rainge-Briggs)
- “90s Music” (Stephanie Bandel-Koroll and Lindsay Million)



A fun assortment of 90s music materials on display in the CPM Reading Room window for MTSU’s Homecoming Week.



Part of the Gene Jones Collection exhibit, curated by Archivist Rachel Morris in conjunction with MTSU’s Opera and Music Theater in the United States conference.

CPM Newsletter

Assistant Archivist Olivia Beaudry keeps our followers informed, not just through her dynamic and creative use of social media, but with the CPM’s monthly electronic newsletter. To sign up, follow this link:

<http://bit.ly/2bteBRF>



Class Instruction

The CPM staff maintains its devotion to MTSU class instruction, offering tours, demonstrations, and research guidance tailored to individual faculty members' needs. Led by CPM Librarian Lindsay Million, instruction was offered to a wide array of MTSU departments and colleges.



Librarian Lindsay Million introduces MTSU History students to the various media found in the CPM archive.

CPM Audio Manager Martin Fisher maintained his busy schedule of Edison style cylinder recording demonstrations for MTSU students and visiting groups, and at other institutions.



Martin Fisher recording MTSU students onto an Edison style "wax" cylinder. 100-year-old recording technology!

YouTube Series

CPM Library Assistant Stephanie Bandel-Koroll initiated two new and exciting series for the Center for Popular Music's YouTube channel. *October Treats* is a series of eight videos in which different members of the Center staff showcase particularly interesting and unusual items from the collection, describing formats and media that are little known to the general public.



Stephanie Bandel-Koroll shows and explains music engraving plates from the CPM archive in one of the *October Treats* YouTube video series she produced.

In the Groove is a series of five videos featuring MTSU faculty and staff members talking about their own research experience in music archives, and the importance of the Center for Popular Music as an archival resource.



Dr. Mike Alleyne (Department of Recording Industry) is one of five MTSU faculty/staff featured in our *In the Groove* series.

SPRING FED Records

springfedrecords.com

Spring Fed Records continued its series of South Texas conjunto and Tejano music with two new releases of freshly recorded music by old-school masters. Recorded on location in September 2017 and released in May 2018, these two albums showcase the richness, virtuosity, and creativity of traditional Tejano musicians from San Antonio, and form vital contributions to our ongoing efforts to increase the Center for Popular Music's engagement with Spanish-language popular music of the United States.



Felipe Pérez is a master of the Corpus Christi style of conjunto accordion playing, and remains a powerful performer well into his seventies. Now a resident of San Antonio, Pérez maintains the distinctive Corpus Christi style that he learned from Juan Lopez, one of the greatest conjunto musicians of the genre's golden era. Pérez was recently inducted into the Conjunto Music Hall of Fame.



Accompanied by Ramon Gutierrez on *tololoche* bass and Virginio Castillo on *bajo sexto*, Pérez's album *Texas en Polka* is a lively, danceable blend of original compositions and some old favorites. This instrumental album includes polkas, redovas, huapangos, and a few other dance forms.

The album was recorded live in a San Antonio studio with no overdubs and many of the tracks in just one take—23 cuts recorded in one day! Greg Reish did the engineering, mixing, and mastering, with liner notes by conjunto researcher Dan Margolies, and production assistance and layout by John Fabke. As a bonus, Mr. Pérez consented to an extensive interview about his long career and the environment in which he grew up, the audio recording of which is now part of the CPM's oral history collection.

Spring Fed's other Tejano release is *Panfilo's Güera*, a truly unique album by Texas fiddle master Belen Escobedo. A dynamic and versatile musician, Escobedo is perhaps the last fiddler still playing the old songs in the old style, the kind of fiddle music heard along the Texas-Mexico border a century ago, before the accordion took over in cantinas and dance halls.

Panfilo's Güera also features Gutierrez and Castillo, with a number of powerful vocal duets between Escobedo and Gutierrez. Also recorded in one day with the same production crew as *Texas en Polka*, Belen's album gives us a taste of a very different kind of Tejano music and an unforgettable artist who is already garnering attention and praise in the fiddle and folk music worlds.



The Spring Fed team continues to make steady progress on its Ed Haley project, a projected six-CD boxed set with freshly remastered versions of the complete extant works by the legendary old-time fiddler and his family members. These home recordings from the 1940s are being painstakingly restored by the CPM's Martin Fisher, as a team of scholars and

artists work on the liner notes and design in collaboration with the Haley family.

To maintain interest and enthusiasm in the project, Spring Fed Records hosted a tribute to Ed Haley at Nashville's famous Station Inn in March 2018. Greg Reish, John Fabke, and Dan Margolies played in the house band, along with acclaimed mandolinist Mike Compton. An impressive array of fiddlers took the stage for their own renditions of Haley tunes. Featured performers included Tim O'Brien, Brittany Haas, Rayna Gellert, Matt Brown, Clelia Stefanini, Austin Derryberry, and Casy Meikle.



Grammy-winner Tim O'Brien fiddles alongside MTSU Recording Industry student Austin Derryberry during Spring Fed's Ed Haley Tribute at the world famous Station Inn.



Three new Spring Fed reissues from the Davis Unlimited catalog.

CPM Staff

The Center for Popular Music staff includes seven full-time professionals, all highly qualified experts in their respective fields, along with a number of essential part-time staff, graduate assistants from MTSU's Public History program, undergraduate student interns, and student workers. Every one of us is dedicated to serving MTSU students and faculty in their pursuit of knowledge, and helping our many outside visitors make the most of their CPM experience.

The Center's staff also remains active in their individual disciplines, conducting research, performing, publishing, presenting, leading workshops and demonstrations, participating in professional organizations, and contributing to the life of our community.

Staff Listing, 2017–2018

Gregory Reish, Director
Lindsay Million, Librarian
Rachel Morris, Archivist
Martin Fisher, Manager of Recorded Sound Collections
Olivia Beaudry, Assistant Archivist
Stephanie Bandel-Koroll, Library Assistant
Yvonne Elliott, Executive Aide
John Fabke, Manager of Spring Fed Records
Mary Frances Hansard, Part-Time Cataloger
Katie Ränge-Briggs, Public History Graduate Assistant
Sam Schaefer, Public History Graduate Assistant
Alison Centobene, Music Industry Intern and Part-Time Cataloger
Chase Hartsook, Student Worker, Cataloging Assistant



CPM Staff

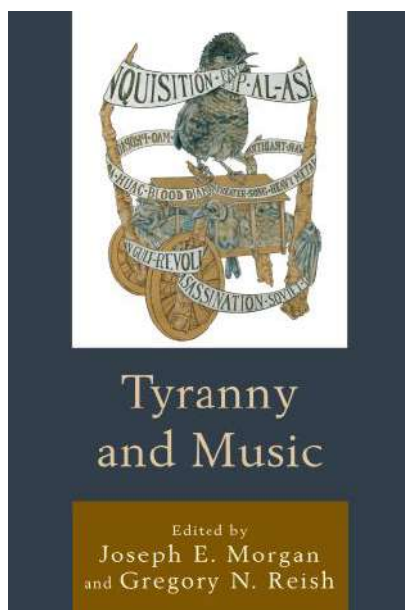
Back row (L-R): Fabke, Fisher
Middle row (L-R): Elliott, Bandel-Koroll,
Front row (L-R): Million, Beaudry, Reish, Morris

Staff Activities

Staff members continue to be vital participants in their respective disciplines, pursuing professional development opportunities and bringing notoriety to the Center for Popular Music, the College of Media and Entertainment, and Middle Tennessee State University in their wide-ranging endeavors both on and off campus. During 2017–2018, CPM staff published and presented original research, participated in panels and workshops, offered lectures and demonstrations, and performed music in local, regional, national, and international settings.

Gregory Reish

- Published *Tyranny and Music* (Lexington, 2018), a compendium of essays co-edited with Dr. Joseph Morgan of the MTSU School of Music.



- Published “The N.R.A. Blues: Commercial Country Music and the New Deal,” chapter in *The Honky Tonk*

on the Left: *Progressive Thought in Country Music* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2018), edited by Dr. Mark Alan Jackson, MTSU English Department.

- Published *John Hartford’s Mammoth Collection of Fiddle Tunes* (Stuffworks Press, 2018). Compiled by Reish along with Matt Combs and Katie Harford Hogue, this book is an anthology of the famous songwriter’s original compositions for the fiddle, with pictures, illustrations, and a running narrative. Reish wrote the book’s text, including an extensive introduction about Hartford’s lifelong interest in the fiddle. Research was conducted in the John Hartford archives and through extensive interviews with musicians and others who were close to Hartford. In the book Hartford’s tunes are reproduced in his own manuscript, using scans of Hartford’s music notebooks digitized by CPM staff and student workers.
- Featured solo performance and ongoing field research in Tlacotalpan, Veracruz, Mexico, April 2018
- Five-day invited residency at the University of Veracruz, including lectures in English and Spanish, masterclass, and a solo performance, Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico, April 2018
- Society for American Music, Program Committee for annual meeting (member 2018, chair 2019)
- Panelist at Symposium on Texas Fiddling, Blanco, Texas, December 2017
- Performance with Matt Brown at SPACE, Evanston, IL, December 2017
- Attended Summer NAMM convention, Nashville, TN, July 2017
- “Documenting Bean Blossom: Preserving the Marvin Hedrick Audio Collection,” Bluegrass Symposium, International

Bluegrass Music Association Business Meeting, Raleigh, NC, September 2017

- Program Committee for Bluegrass Symposium, International Bluegrass Music Association Business Meeting, Raleigh, NC, September 2017
- “The Voice with a Heart: Mac Wiseman in Conversation with Thomm Jutz and Peter Cooper,” panel organizer and host, International Country Music Conference, Nashville, TN, May 2018
- Board Member, Boro International Festival
- Lecture on Country Music History for visiting students and faculty from the Communication University of China, July 2017
- Panelist, “Archiving Americana,” AmericanaFest, Nashville, TN, September 2017
- Performer in *Freedom Sings!* shows at at Folk Alliance International in Kansas City, MO
- “Bluegrass Scenes: Geography, Performance, and Mobility in ‘Country’ Spaces,” panel organizer and moderator, International Association for the Study of Popular Music Conference, Nashville, TN, March 2018
- “Reish Sings Neil Young,” solo recital in Hinton Hall, MTSU School of Music, Murfreesboro, TN, April 2018
- Field research and private study on the bajo sexto with master musician Ramon “Rabbit” Sanchez, San Antonio, TX, January 2018
- Published Foreword to *Bluegrass Generation: A Memoir* (University of Illinois Press, 2018) by Neil Rosenberg



- Host of *Lost Sounds* on WMOT Roots Radio, a weekly show highlighting rarities from the CPM sound recording archive
- *Lost Sounds* featured in *No Depression* magazine and on the NonComm Music Alliance website
- “Music and the American Flag,” chapter in *An Encyclopedia of the Stars and Stripes* (forthcoming from ABC-CLIO)
- Search Committee Chair, Assistant Professor of Musicology, MTSU School of Music
- Search Committee Member, Instructor of Music Industry and Oboe, MTSU School of Music
- “Instrument Interview: Maybelle Carter’s Guitar,” guest post, Birthplace of Country Music Museum blog
- Professional Memberships: Recording Academy (voting), Society for American Music, International Association for the Study of Popular Music, American Musicological Society, Society for Ethnomusicology, International Bluegrass Music Association, Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music of

America, Association for Recorded Sound Collections, Americana Music Association

- Outside reviewer for articles and book submissions (various)



Stage with banner for Greg Reish's solo performance in central plaza, Tlacotalpan, Veracruz, Mexico, April 2018.

Lindsay Million

- Southeast Music Library Association meeting, New Orleans, LA, October 2017
- Southeast Music Library Association program committee, 2017
- CPM representative to MTSU Walker Library's Digital Partners
- MTSU Walker Library Digital Seed Grant committee member 2018
- Free Code Camp front end certification (ongoing)
- Instruction for 32 classes visiting the CPM

- Northeast Document Conservation Center webinar: Digitizing Photographic Collections, November 2017
- Northeast Document Conservation Center webinar: Caring for Rare Books, November 2017
- CONTENTdm webinar, August 2017



Librarian Lindsay Million teaches undergraduate intern Alison Centobene how to sleeve books.

- Coordinator of Center for Popular Music LP cataloging project
- Society of American Archivists Membership
- Southeast Music Library Association Membership

Rachel Morris

- "Taming the Wild Wolfe: Processing the Charles K. Wolfe Manuscript Collection," article published in *Manuscript Repositories Newsletter*, Spring 2018 (Society of American Archivists)
- Society of American Archivists Conference, Portland, OR, July, 2017
- Led the "Disaster Preparedness Planning Workshop," for the MTSU Society of

American Archivists Student Chapter,
November, 2017

- Led the “2018 Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Preparedness Workshops,” at the Center for Popular Music
- “An Archivist Walks into a Backlog: Strategies for Efficient Processing,” webinar by Society of California Archivists
- “Becoming an Archives Consultant: Practical Info. & Tips,” webcast, Society of American Archivists, June, 2018



Archivist Rachel Morris processing the Charles K. Wolfe manuscript collection. Dr. Wolfe, who passed in 2006, was an MTSU English professor and a seminal scholar of country, gospel, and other roots music.

- Search committee member for Rutherford County Archives Assistant Archivist
- Memberships: Academy of Certified Archivists (ACA), Society of American Archivists (SAA), and Society of Tennessee Archivists (STA)
- Society of American Archivists Committee on Education member
- Appointed Society of American Archivists Committee on Education Vice

Chair/Chair-Elect (Vice Chair term begins August 2018)

- Society of American Archivists Section Memberships: Acquisitions and Appraisal; Archival Educators; Archives Management; Audio and Moving Image; Collection Management Tools; Description; EAS - Encoded Archival Standards; Electronic Records; Lone Arrangers; Manuscript Repositories; Preservation; Privacy and Confidentiality; Reference, Access, and Outreach; Security; Visual Materials; Web Archiving; Women Archivists

Olivia Beaudry

- Received certification, Academy of Certified Archivists
- Member, Inter-Museum Council of Nashville
- Inter-Museum Council of Nashville symposia at Bottom Mansion, Fort Negley, The Hermitage
- Member, National Council of Public History
- “Social Media Tends” webinar hosted by VP of Marketing at Hootsuite
- “Becoming an Archives Consultant: Practical Info & Tips” Society of American Archivists webinar
- International Country Music Conference, Nashville, TN, May 2018
- International Country Music Conference webmaster
- Second reader for *International Country Music Conference Journal*
- Society of American Archivists Section memberships: Lone Arrangers; Recorded Sound; Reference, Access, and Outreach; Research Libraries; Students and New Archives Professionals

- Organizer of fundraising campaign and fundraising event for the CPM's Alan Mayor Collection
- MTSU Safe Zone Training, Office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs at MTSU

Martin Fisher

- Cylinder recording demonstrations with visiting artists, for classes led by MTSU faculty members, for visiting groups, and on site in Milwaukee, WI and Johnson City, TN, and at local institutions and events
- MTSU audiovisual documentation of CPM programs, including Ann Powers, Charles Hughes, Mitsutoshi Inaba, Scott Barretta, Birgitta Johnson, and Camilo Nu
- Panelist, Summer NAMM Audio Archiving panel
- Association for Recorded Sound Collections meeting, Baltimore, MD, May 2018
- Board member, Association for Recorded Sound Collections
- Board member, Tennessee Folklore Society

Yvonne Elliott

- MTSU 2017 Service Award Luncheon, Ten years of service
- MTSU Association of Secretarial and Clerical Employees (ASCE); Member, Scholarship Committee; Attended Fall Reception, Appreciation Luncheon, Winter Wonderland Brunch, Soup & Salad Luncheon, Professional Development Day

- MTSU Commencement Herald – Summer 2017, Fall 2017, and Spring 2018
- Training: Records Retention Coordinator, Hiring Verification Workflow and EPAF
- College of Media and Entertainment: Fall Faculty-Staff Meeting, Student Appreciation Holiday Luncheons, Secretaries Holiday Breakfast
- MTSU 2017 Charitable Giving Campaign
- Open Arms Faculty and Staff Fellowship
- MTSU Department Fair
- State of Tennessee Notary Public



CPM Executive Aide Yvonne Elliott with MTSU President Sidney McPhee, receiving recognition of ten years of service to the university.

- Attended: MT Engage Panel Discussion, "The Free Exercise Thereof: An Interfaith Dialogue"; Charlie Daniels book signing at Phillips Bookstore; MTSU National Wear Red Day; MTSU Eclipse Party; MTSU Administrative Professionals Day Lunch; MTSU Employee of the Year Award Reception
- Community Service: Alzheimer's Association, Mid-South and Southeast Tennessee chapters; Rutherford County

Walk to End Alzheimer's, walk committee and team retention chairperson, Champion's Club; Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours Alzheimer's Walk Kickoff; NHC-Murfreesboro block party; Rutherford County Employee Wellness Fair, walk celebration; Chattanooga Walk to End Alzheimer's, Grand Champion's Club, Kickoff Luncheon; MFRD Toys for Tots

Stephanie Bandel-Koroll

- Tennessee Promise Student Mentor
- North American Serials Interest Group Continuing Education Committee
- American Library Association Membership Committee
- *The Battle of Peach Tree Creek* book review
- *The Papers of Andrew Jackson, Volume X* book review
- American Library Association Music Cataloging webinar; Resource Description & Access webinar
- Social Media Marketing webinar
- "Running and Music," post on the CPM Blog, December 2017
- MTSU Safe Zone Training, Office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs at MTSU
- Design for *A Fiddler's Guide to Moveable Shapes*, by John Mailander
- Posters designed and screen printed for International Bluegrass Music Association, Station Inn, and various local events
- Book and CD reviews for the *Old Time Herald*
- Performs bi-monthly with distinguished bluegrass musicians, including Roland White, Mike Compton, Russ Barenberg, Alan O'Bryant, Brittany Haas, and others
- Member of Tennessee State Arts Commission award committee for Folklife Apprentice grants and Rural Arts Project grants
- Research assistance and design work for the Mount Zion Memorial Foundation (preserving grave sites of pre-World War II blues musicians).
- Interviewed scholar and collector Gayle Dean Wardlow about his activity in the Mississippi Delta in the 1960s
- Interviewed Harley Bray in Illinois about the Bray Brothers' role as bluegrass pioneers in the 1960s
- Design, layout, printing, and production work for various Spring Fed Records projects

John Fabke

- Online design and software classes on Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, HOW Design University
- Design, logo branding projects for Ross Holmes fiddle workshops (musician with Bruce Hornsby, Mumford and Sons, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band).



Front and back sleeve design by John Fabke for Spring Fed Records Ed Haley promotional sampler. Front cover illustration by Megan Lightell.



The CPM in Print

Center materials expressly used in books, articles, reviews, dissertations, and published lectures (selected list)

Books

- Stimeling, Travis D., ed. 2017. *The Oxford Handbook of Country Music*. Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press.
- Powers, Ann. 2017. *Good Booty: Love and Sex, Black and White, Body and Soul in American Music*. New York: Dey Street Books.
- Stephens, Randall J. 2018. *The Devil's Music: How Christians Inspired, Condemned, and Embraced Rock 'N' Roll*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- MacMahon, Bernard, Allison McGourty, and Elijah Wald. 2017. *American Epic: The First Time America Heard Itself*. New York: Touchstone.
- Graham, Sandra Jean. 2018. *Spirituals and the Birth of a Black Entertainment Industry*. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press.

Articles and Reviews

- McDaniel, Byrd. Forthcoming. "Air Apparent: Amplifying the History of Air Guitar, Air Bands, and Air Playing in the 20th Century." *American Quarterly* Vol. 78, no. 4. (December 2018)
- Thompson, Richard. 2018. "Uncle Dave Macon – Dixie Dewdrop revealed." *Bluegrass Today*, May 21. Accessed May 29, 2018. <https://bluegrasstoday.com/uncle-dave-macon-dixie-dewdrop-revealed/>.
- Wise, Mary. Internet Review of *American Vernacular Music Manuscripts*. *College & Research Libraries News* Vol. 78, no. 8 (September 2017). Association of College & Research Libraries. Access: <http://popmusic.mtsu.edu/ManuscriptMusic/default.aspx>.

Theses and Dissertations

- Hayslett, Corbin F., "The Doyen of Dixie: A Survey of the Banjo Stylings of Uncle Dave Macon" (2018). *Electronic Theses and Dissertations*. Paper 3438. <https://dc.etsu.edu/etd/3438>

Lectures and Presentations

- Lis, Dr. Anthony. 2018. "Kalina Boogie: Jay Harlin of Indianapolis and the Birth of Pedal Steel Guitar." Presentation, International Country Music Conference, Nashville, TN., June 1.



Bouquets

- “I thoroughly enjoyed my first opportunity to work in the Center for Popular Music’s collections, and I deeply appreciate the extra effort you took to make copies of interviews and to bring related materials that I would have overlooked to my attention. Having conducted research in more than two dozen archives and special collections over the years, I can say that [the] Center for Popular Music is now one of my absolute favorite places in which [to] work. In large part that’s because of the helpful and courteous assistance I received...”
 - Dr. Patrick Huber, Professor of History at Missouri University of Science and Technology
- “I am deeply indebted to Martin Fisher, Greg Reish, and the staff at The Center for Popular Music—both past and present—for their encouragement and technical assistance...”
 - Dr. Shawn Pitts, former president of the Tennessee Folklore Society and board member of Humanities Tennessee and the Tennessee Arts Commission
- “The CPM’s resources are unparalleled, but the compressed timeline of the project on which I am working would not have been easily navigable without the patience, knowledge, and assistance of your staff... Thank you for the opportunities the CPM provides researchers like me.”
 - Christopher Pfeifer, former M.A. student at MTSU, current Ph.D. student at the University of Georgia in musicology
- “Just a note of thanks for your help during my visit to the CPM...My days there were very productive.”
 - Dr. Andrew Mall, Assistant Professor of Music at Northeastern University
- “Great staff and archive!”
 - Karson Pruemer, Senior in Recording Industry Management at Middle Tennessee State University
- “Thank you for letting us visit your archive and for sharing your wonderful collection with us.”
 - Anonymous student, Fall 2017 “Archiving the Medium Photography” class at Middle Tennessee State University
- “Thank you for allowing us to experience such a cool part of recording history!”
 - Adam Redfearn, Student at The Blackbird Academy, Professional School of Audio, Nashville, TN

Collections Statistics

	Total held	Added	Total held
	1-Jul-17	2017-2018	30-Jun-18
Books	23,917	454	24,371
Reading room	13,028	138	13,166
Special collections	10,889	316	11,205
Serial Titles			
Current subscriptions	177	0	177
Secondary & Special	1,622	31	1,653
General/Non-Current (i.e. disc)	584	29	613
Sound Recordings	248,391	21,506	269,897
78s	59,762	418	60,180
45s	39,795	20,095	59,890
33-1/3s	106,735	361	107,096
CDs	29,277	422	29,699
Audio tapes	12,822	210	13,032
Videos	2,004	47	2,051
CD-ROMs	6	1	7
DVDs	244	13	257
Sheet music & Broad­sides			
Individual pieces	110,791	1,626	112,417
Volumes	265	7	272
Manuscripts			
Documents (linear feet)	356	173	529
Manuscript music volumes	128	1	129
Audio recordings	11,452	833	12,285
Video recordings	2,078	241	2,319



Films	87	0	87
Performance documents	3,571	135	3,706
Trade catalog titles	787	7	794
Vertical files (linear feet)	70	7	77
Iconographic items	19,624	4,012	23,636
Microforms items	2,869	0	2,869
Artifacts	226	20	246
Digital Manuscript Files	3,104	80	3,184
Gifts (value in dollars)	\$3,302,330	\$323,309	\$3,625,639

Collections Usage

Materials	Usage
Reading Room Books	561
Rare Books	116
Sound Recordings	244
Microforms	0
Serials	101
Bound Serials	183
Vertical Files	102
Sheet Music/Broadsides	319
Video Tapes/DVDs	8
Photographs	41
Performance Documents	11
Trade Catalogs	0
Manuscripts (boxes)	34
Online - Manuscripts (music)	3,913
Total Materials Used	5,633



Patronage

In Person

	2016–2017	2017–2018
MTSU Students	1,415	1,056
MTSU Faculty	111	146
Off-campus	468	255
Total On-Site	2,504	1,895

Remote

	2016–2017	2017–2018
Telephone	37	37
Internet (Email/website)	99	99
ILL Requests	0	0
Letter/Fax	2	1
Reproduction Requests	N/A	52
Total Remote	138	386

Total Patrons	2,642	2,281
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Patrons from 17 U.S. States visited the CPM in 2017–2018

Alabama	Mississippi
California	Missouri
Georgia	New Jersey
Illinois	North Carolina
Iowa	South Dakota
Kentucky	Tennessee
Louisiana	Texas
Massachusetts	Virginia
Michigan	

Patrons from 5 foreign countries visited the CPM in 2017–2018

Australia
China
England (United Kingdom)
Ireland
Mexico



**Faculty/Staff/Students from 51 MTSU Departments and Centers
visited the CPM in 2017–2018**

Accounting	Admissions Office
Aerospace	Agribusiness
Albert Gore Research Center	Animal Science
Art	Athletics
Biology	Center for Innovation in Media
Chemistry	College of Graduate Studies
College of Media and Entertainment	Communication Studies &
Dean's Office	Organizational Communication
Computer Science	Criminal Justice Administration
Economics and Finance	Elementary & Special Education
Engineering Technology	English
Facilities Services	Foreign Languages & Literatures
Global Studies & Human Geography	Health and Human Performance
History	Horse Science
Human Sciences	Information Technology Division
James E. Walker Library	Journalism
Management (College of Business)	Marketing
Mathematics	Media Arts
MTSU Charlie & Hazel Daniels	Music
Veterans & Military Family Center	
Office of Research Services	Office of the University Provost
Oral History Association	Philosophy and Religious Studies
Physics and Astronomy	Political Science and International
	Relations
Psychology	Public History
Recording Industry Management	School of Nursing
Social Work	Sociology and Anthropology
Theatre & Dance	University Studies
WMOT Radio	

Social Media

Instagram followers: 376
Facebook followers: 1,554
Twitter followers: 2,584
Newsletter Subscribers: 159

YouTube
Videos: 31
Views: 5,280
Likes: 79
#AskAnArchivistDay



The 2017–2018 Budget

The CPM remains in good fiscal shape at the end of the 2017–2018 fiscal year. The combined budget from state appropriations and MTSU matching funds totaled \$862,585 for the fiscal year, and the CPM looks to carry over close to \$200,000 of that amount to FY2018–2019. The carryover is largely attributable to an increased number of material donations this year, with fewer purchases of materials for the archive.

A large portion of the carryover will be used as matching funds for a \$205,000 award from the National Endowment for the Humanities “Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections” grant program. In August 2018 we received notification of this award from the NEH, for a much-needed renovation project in the CPM archival storage room. The 12-month project is set to begin in October, and will be described in next year’s report.

Development continues to strengthen, particularly in the assessed value of material donations. The total value of gifts to the CPM reported in FY2017–18 exceeded \$526,000. Financial giving has grown, too, with the CPM taking in more than \$5,000 this year, largely thanks to the Alan Mayor fundraising campaign.

Follow the CPM on Social Media and on Our Website!



mtsu.edu/popmusic



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