

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CHILDREN'S MUSIC CD'S

1. COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Effective May, 2004, the children's music collection will be available on compact discs only. For over ten years (1993—2004), the Children's Room offered kids' music on cassette tapes as well. However, with declining circulation and budgetary considerations, it was decided to discontinue purchasing music on cassettes beginning July 1, 2003. By the time the new library is open in May, 2004, the juvenile music cassettes will be completely withdrawn from ICPL's collection of materials. The purpose of the music collection is to provide various kinds of music for young patron's listening enjoyment. The juvenile compact discs are arranged in bins alphabetically by the musician's or performing artist's last name. There are also some compact discs of holiday music shelved with the holiday books for children. Christmas carols, Hanukkah music, and Halloween songs are checked out by patrons on a seasonal basis and are also used for some library children's programs.

2. EXCEPTIONS AND SCOPE

The juvenile compact disc collection is primarily a browsing collection and includes a broad range of musical genres and performing artists in both vocal and instrumental music. Lullabies, Mother Goose rhymes in song, original and traditional children's songs, classical music, folk songs, opera selections, jazz, ballads, cowboy songs, rap, reggae, religious music, movie sound tracks and Broadway cast recordings that appeal to kids, multicultural music and music of other countries, and children's songs sung in a foreign language are all represented. Music by rock stars, and the newest recording artists for teenagers are not purchased for the Children's Room. Music whose lyrics are inappropriate for elementary school age children (even if popular by "tweens") is not purchased for the J Music CD collection but may be found in the Adult compact disc collection.

3. AUDIENCE

The audience for the J Compact Disc collection is infants through elementary school-aged children, parents, teachers, and child-care providers. The pre-school and primary grade children are the target audience for most of the collection of children's music. The trend in the last couple of years has been that more and more music has been produced for infants and toddlers. Fifth and sixth grade children are usually looking for contemporary teen artists found in the Adult CD collection. Also, the Children's Room staff frequently use selections from the juvenile music collection in programs. In-house use by children is minimal compared to the in-house use of adult compact discs at the listening stations.

4. SIZE AND DUPLICATION

Based on FY '04 data the library currently owns 712 items in the juvenile compact disc collection which represents 493 individual titles. An additional 60 holiday music CD's are found in the Children's Room. Duplicate copies are purchased of the A.L.A. Notable recordings and very popular children's recording artists such as Raffi, Sharon, Lois and Bram, Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer, Disney, Sesame Street, Tom Chapin, Sweet Honey and the Rock, Charlotte Diamond, John Langstaff, and Hap Palmer. More emphasis is currently being placed on breadth rather than depth for the juvenile music CD collection.

5. MAINTENANCE

Because of limited space, poor physical condition, and/or lack of use, items are routinely withdrawn from the children's music collection. Prior to the move to the temporary facility, and in anticipation of the Checkpoint tagging of library materials, some 150 compact disc were withdrawn because they were 10 years or older. Item purge is done every January and any CD's that have not circulated at least once in the past year are candidates for withdrawal. Compact discs which are damaged or are in poor condition are withdrawn as soon as they are discovered. Occasionally a replacement copy is purchased if it is a popular item and demand warrants it. If the disc's liner notes are missing the item is withdrawn. The library often relies on patrons and library staff to bring A-V problems to the attention of the selector.

6. SELECTION

Children's music is purchased for the library based on patron requests, positive reviews in such journals as School Library Journal and Booklist, and catalogues from publishers like "Music for Little People" and "Rounder Records." Additional sources of reviews, articles, or other information on popular music for children are taken into consideration in selection. Children's Grammy award-winning recordings and A.L.A. Notable Recordings for children are always purchased for the collection. When the remaining 450 or so music cassettes are withdrawn, an effort will be made to add some of those titles to the Program Collection and also double-check that the library has the best titles and artists represented in the circulating CD collection for children.

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