

From the Copyright Office

Issue 2 | May 7, 2020



Dear Readers,

A lot has happened since last month's newsletter. COVID-19 has been at the front of everyone's mind, and the impact of the virus can be felt throughout the music community. Our thoughts are with those who have been affected most personally.

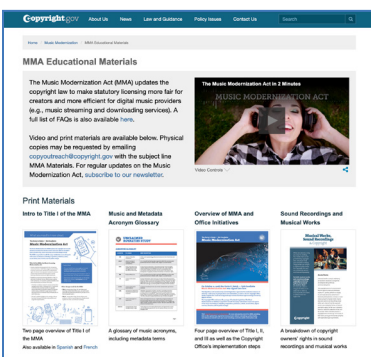
At the Copyright Office, we've been adapting our workflow as a result of coronavirus to ensure we continue to serve the engine of free expression. [Under the CARES Act](#), the Register of Copyrights has temporarily extended certain deadlines. And, although we have been working remotely, the Office has published four MMA-related notices in the *Federal Register*, and our outreach efforts surrounding the Music Modernization Act (MMA) continue through digital outlets. Over the past few weeks, we've released a number of videos and handouts to make sure YOU, the music community, continue to be well informed of changes coming under the MMA, many of which are highlighted below.

Sincerely,
Regan Smith
General Counsel and Associate Register of Copyrights
U.S. Copyright Office

Featured Updates



Educational Resources Page



Do you know how the MMA will affect you after the license availability date (January 1, 2021)? Check out our educational resources page for videos, printed material, a music acronym glossary, and more. We've even translated our handout on Title I of the MMA into [Spanish](#) and [French](#). Check out the page [here](#).

Copyright Office Requests Comments on Rulemakings



The MMA directs the Copyright Office to adopt several regulations related to the new blanket mechanical licensing system for musical works. This past week the Office published four notices in the Federal Register soliciting public comments on important regulations. Learn more about these notices, as well as other upcoming developments in our [recent blog](#).

Blog: What You Need to Know about the MMA



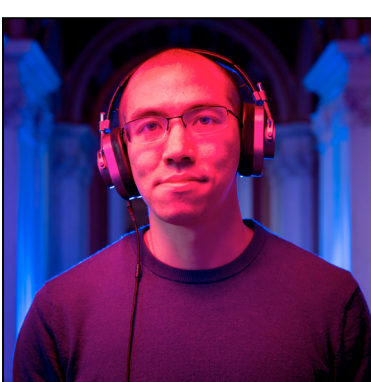
Only have 2 minutes? We can break down the MMA for you with another recent blog, "The Breakdown: What Songwriters Need to Know about the Music Modernization Act and Royalty Payments," and accompanying video. Read more [here](#).

The Creation of the MMA



The MMA represents years of dedicated work by members of Congress, as well as negotiation and cooperation between a wide range of creators and business interests. The Copyright Office worked closely with Congress during these discussions. Check out our [new page](#) on the passage of this historic legislation, including video interviews with members of Congress.

From Our Colleagues: Library of Congress Needs a Few Citizen DJs



In celebration of its 220th birthday, the Library of Congress [announced user testing](#) for Citizen DJ, an open-source web-browser application created by Library of Congress 2020 Innovator in Residence Brian Foo in partnership with LC Labs. Using free-to-use audio and moving image collections, users can select short samples to create their own beats and sound mixes. User testing is open until May 15.