PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: COLC-2025-0001
Issues Related to Performing Rights Organizations

Comment On: COLC-2025-0001-0001
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Document: COLC-2025-0001-5008
Comment from Liu, Aizhou

Submitter Information

Name: Aizhou Liu

General Comment

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Aizhou Liu, and I am a professional composer, songwriter, and educator based in New York City. I am a member of the Society of Composers & Lyricists (SCL). I write in response to the U.S. Copyright Office's inquiry under Docket No. COLC-2025-0001 to strongly affirm the critical importance of preserving and enforcing royalty structures that protect the livelihoods of music creators.

As someone who composes for film, television, and interactive media—while also teaching the next generation of songwriters at Berklee College of Music—I see firsthand how royalties form the backbone of sustainable careers in music. These earnings are not merely supplementary; they represent essential, and often the only, long-term compensation for the creative labor of composers and songwriters. Without them, independent creators and emerging voices—particularly those from underrepresented communities—face increasing barriers to viability in the industry.

In an era where music is more accessible and widely used than ever, it is vital that creators are fairly compensated for the value they generate. I urge the Copyright Office to uphold and strengthen royalty protections in a way that reflects the economic realities and creative contributions of today's music professionals.

Thank you for your continued attention to the rights of creators.

Sincerely,
Aizhou Liu
Composer | Songwriter | Assistant Professor, Berklee College of Music
New York, NY