

Copyright and Copyright Infringement Part 2: How to legally use music in broadcast videos

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This webquest offers more resources for you and your students on copyright issues. Some of the articles here offer some interesting thoughts that will make for lively class discussions.

First, a review at what I think should be a staff's first stop: Student Press Law Center – PowerPoint presentation. Click on the "Related Documents" links to the right for a handout for students and presentation notes to assist you as you and your students view the PowerPoint.

<http://www.splc.org/article/2014/08/media-law-presentation-copyright-law>

For one veteran broadcast news adviser, the answer lies in not using music in broadcast news at all. Read the following article and consider its arguments in a discussion with your staff. Do you agree? Why or why not? Pros? Cons? What decision has your staff reached?

<http://www.jeadigitalmedia.org/2012/07/02/perspective-why-you-shouldnt-use-music-in-broadcast-stories/>

If you can't use Taylor Swift or other artists' copyrighted music, what then can you use? Royalty free music, of course. But searching through Creative Commons websites or the Internet in general is just too time-consuming. JEA's Aaron Manfull has come to the rescue. This link leads you to a list of 16 royalty free websites, a few with even more links to other websites, that should be the answer to your prayers. Assign staff members to check them out, report back to the staff, and/or create an annotated bibliography to use as a class resource of the usable material on each site.

<http://www.jeadigitalmedia.org/royalty-free-music-and-audio-for-video-production/>

And if the above is not enough, check out this link as well for more royalty free websites. AND there's an extra bonus with this link. The author Dan Goble introduces the list with a brief discussion on choices — right and wrong — that high school journalists need to consider when using or not using music in their videos. Good stuff here!

<http://www.jeadigitalmedia.org/2012/07/06/royalty-free-music-for-video-production/>

And while you're there, if this website is not already on your go-to list of resources, it should be. If you're on Facebook, you can "like" it there, and get updates as they are released. Great, great resource!

<http://www.jeadigitalmedia.org/>

Hmmm. Just discovered something I didn't know before. This link from Student Television Network (an organization similar to JEA, which has been a key resource organization for high school broadcast programs long before JEA extended into that realm) gives you a PDF copy of a handout from the SPLC, "Copyrighted Music in High School News Broadcasts." While much of this is familiar, scroll down to the bottom of page 2 for an option that I never knew existed. This is definitely worth exploring! "Licensing your cable or broadcast station" with a blanket license from performing rights societies ASCAP, BMI and SESAC.

https://www.studenttelevision.com/data/images/pdf/SPLC_Music_Guidelines.pdf