

Planning the Next Generation Sheet Music Consortium

User Services Needs Survey

The University of California, Los Angeles and Indiana University, Bloomington, two of the founding members of the [Sheet Music Consortium](#) (SMC) are surveying sheet music users to learn more about your needs and how the SMC can provide services to accommodate these needs.

The SMC is a metadata harvesting service designed to provide searching of sheet music collections hosted by diverse institutions in a single interface. The service operates by harvesting metadata via the Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH). The vision of the Consortium service was, from the start, to be *the* place to go to discover online sheet music, pulling together significant collections in one virtual location.

To move beyond this experimental phase towards a more robust, sustainable, and user-centered service, UCLA and IU, were granted funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for a National Leadership Grant, Planning Grant. Part of the planning process includes the execution of user studies to help the SMC clearly define services needed by researchers, students, performers and the general public to facilitate a growing and robust SMC portal for sheet music discovery.

We invite all users of sheet music to complete the survey, which can be found here:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Z2n5E7vqdOtnf1yQ5Z3m8Q_3d_3d

The user needs survey is only twelve questions and should take no more than 15-20 minutes to complete. Thank you for your feedback.

1. What's your primary motivation for accessing sheet music? Rank in order of importance.
 1. performance
 2. research
 3. instruction
 4. other.
 1. Please provide a brief explanation of your main motivation.
2. When searching for sheet music, are you primarily interested in:
 1. musical content (lyrics, notation, etc.)
 2. non-musical content (cover art, advertisement, etc.)
 3. both musical and non-musical content
 1. Please explain elements of interest.
3. How often do librarians/archivists/curators of sheet music collections help you find what you are looking for?

1. [frequency scale]
4. How often do you find, on your own, what you are looking for?
 1. [frequency scale]
5. Please describe what it was, specifically, that you were looking for the few times you searched for sheet music.
6. When searching for sheet music, which resources do you use? (check all that apply)
 1. Library catalog
 2. Licensed resource
 3. Custom/Specialized database
 4. Inventory
 5. Finding Aid
 6. Google or other search engine
 7. Free online resources
 8. Sheet Music Consortium web portal
 9. other, please explain
7. When you search for sheet music, do you also look for accompanying materials (e.g., audio recordings, articles, etc.)?
 1. Yes
 2. No
 3. If "yes," what kind of additional materials do you typically seek?
8. If you use sheet music in your teaching, what's the nature of the instruction and/or assignments?
9. If you use sheet music for your research, what's the nature of your research?
10. If you use sheet music for performance, what's the nature of your performance?
11. Would you be willing to contribute additional information (tagging, annotations, notes, references) you compile as part of your research to the Sheet Music Consortium portal?
12. How do you define sheet music?