Our Mission

Our mission is to support the curricular needs for research, teaching, and performance of the Vanderbilt student, faculty and Blair Academy communities, provide access to print and electronic resources relating to music in a variety of formats, empower users with the information-seeking skills necessary for the lifelong pursuit of learning, and offer high-quality service in a positive, relevant, and up-to-date learning environment.

* Blair students affectionately refer to the Music Library as the LiBLAIRy. We embrace this nickname as it demonstrates ownership by our users of the space, services, and resources.
**The Year in Numbers**

- **Visitors**: 30,221
- **Items Circulated**: 10,403
- **Questions Asked**: 441
- **Students Reached by Instruction**: 530
- **New Items Added to the Collection**: 3,371
- **Recitals Added to BPA**: 450
- **Outreach Events**: 11
- **Social Media Posts**: 78
- **Webpage Sessions**: 11,403
  **Pageviews**: 21,382

Blair faculty led three workshops on the Music Library’s score collections, highlighting our contemporary and oversize scores collections.

**What is the BPA?**

The BPA (Blair Performance Archive) is a streaming audio/video database created and maintained by Music Library staff that consists of Blair-produced performances and masterclasses and, prior to 1981, for the George Peabody College School of Music. This online digital archive was first developed in 2010 and has over 4,550 performances. Performances currently range from 1970 to the current semester. The BPA had 2,790 sessions and 32,686 pageviews this year.

**Music Library Staff**

- **Holling Smith-Rome, Director**
- **Michael Jones, Coordinator of Public Services**
- **Sara Marks, Music Librarian for Education and Outreach**
- **Robert Ritts, Library Assistant for Music: Reference Services**
- **Jacob Schade, Librarian for Music: Cataloging**

**Calypso Celebration!**

On Sept 9, "Calypso Celebration!" introduced the "Calypso Interviews Collection," a new database created by Music Library staff featuring the work of Hunter Moore. The event, planned by the Music Library, included a lecture by Moore, a performance by Mat Britain, and a reception in Ingram lobby.
Music Library staff hosted 3 “Hospitality Suites” during Blair Admissions weekends providing a light breakfast and answering questions from prospective students and their parent(s).

The Heard Library system (including the Music Library) participated in a comprehensive review conducted by Athenaeum21.

Holling Smith-Borne completed three audio/video interviews with Dean Mark Wait that will be part of the Blair Archives and the VU Institutional Repository.

Music Library staff hosted a Wine & Cheese tasting event for faculty on Nov. 1 featuring Phillip Patti, DipWSET.

The Music Library hosted two student interns (Summer 2019) from the Opportunity NOW program, a youth employment initiative sponsored by the Nashville mayor’s office. Dedar Himeidi and Bella Landrum processed BPA recordings and worked with materials from the Blair School of Music Archives.

Music Library adds Classical Scores Online to its growing list of databases.

The Music Library began subscriptions to:
- Bloomsbury Popular Music
- Ethnomusicology: Global Field Recordings
- Classical Scores Online

Classical Scores Library is a series of four “collections” of the classical canon, as well as a resource for the discovery of lesser-known contemporary works. The collections encompass all major classical musical genres and time periods from the Middle Ages to the 21st century and includes full, study, piano, and vocal online scores.
A "refresh" of the Music Library doors welcomed our users to the space.

Music Library staff enjoyed interacting with Blair Academy students at the annual Halloween Open House on Oct. 29. Over 200 students and their parent(s) attended.

Music Library staff worked with students in Robbie Fry's course MUSL 2100, Music and Global Culture, to archive their field recordings.

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Jacob Schaub
- Co-taught a course on MEI (Music Encoding Initiative) with Joy Calico as part of the Buchanan Library Fellows program
- Completed his term as treasurer of MOUG: OCLC Users Group
- Serving as chair of the Southeast Chapter of Music Library Association (MLA)

Sara Manus
- Taught the e-course “Music Reference Skills for Every Librarian” via ALA Editions on behalf of the MLA
- Presented “Breaking the Stigma: Mental Health Issues in Music Librarianship” at the annual meeting of the MLA
- Chairing MLA’s Public Services Committee

Holling Smith-Borne
- With Sara Manus, co-authored a chapter in Outreach for Music Librarians (A-R Editions)
- Attended the 5-day Association of Research Libraries Digital Scholarship Institute
- Chairing a task force on Strategic Planning for MLA

Robert Rich
- Was honored for his 20 years of service at the University Staff Service Awards
- As the bindery expert, sent over 1,553 items to the bindery

Michael Jones
- Attended the Atlanta Access Services and Association for Recorded Sound Collections conferences
- Led the efforts to update the Music Library’s circulating equipment
- Supervised and mentored our 11 student employees

“AIDS songs of Northern Malawi,” is a new database currently under construction in the Global Music Archive, that features the work of Jonah Eller-Isaacs who in 2004 traveled to Malawi to investigate musical responses to HIV.

Due to COVID-19, the Music Library moved to reduced staffing on March 9th and closed the Music Library to the public on March 23rd. Staff worked remotely during this time. Music Library staff are currently working on preparing the space for reopening as well as offering a pick-up service for requested materials.

Music Library collection development staff are currently analyzing the collections on African American musicians and composers in anticipation of participating in the "Academic Archive Purchasing," a VU partnership with the National Museum of African American Music.