To: United States Copyright Office, Library of Congress

Re: Exemption to Prohibition on Circumvention of Copyright Protection Systems for Access Control Technologies
Docket No. RM 2011-07

Date: February 9, 2012

The UFVA supports proposed class of works 7D and 7E because the DMCA will harm thousands of film scholars and practitioners by prohibiting access to digital works these scholars and practitioners need in order to make fair use.

The Board of Directors and Officers of the University Film and Video Association (UFVA) write in support of both the Comment of International Documentary Association, Kartemquin Educational Films, Inc., National Alliance for Media Arts and Culture, and Independent Filmmaker Project for documentary and fictional films (Proposed Class of Works “7D”) and the Comment of Mark Berger, Bobette Buster, Barnet Kellman, and Gene Rosow, for multimedia e-books (Proposed Class of Works “7E”).

UFVA is an international professional organization of film teachers and practitioners that was founded in 1946. UFVA represents 850 members and 120 film schools that constitute the major film programs in U.S. higher education. UFVA has a long history working to strike a fair balance between copyright and fair use. UFVA was an original endorser to the Documentary Filmmakers' Statement of Best Practices in Fair Use and wrote to the Copyright Office in 2009 in support of the ultimately granted exemption for documentary filmmaking.

As active media makers and media scholars UFVA members require fair use access to digital materials and high definition video in order to educate students and study contemporary media culture, create educational media programs and author scholarly books and articles. The inability to access these materials would significant limit our members’ ability to perform their primary function of creating informed, thoughtful and engaged citizens.

As multi-media e-books become an increasingly important audio-visual medium, authors require access to digital material, high-definition video, and standard video in order to make fair use of this material for scholarly and educational purposes.

Respectfully Submitted

Rob Sabal
President, University Film and Video Association

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