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The Music Library Association (MLA) respectfully submits the following comment in response to the call for comments, "Section 1201 Exemptions to Prohibition Against Circumvention of Technological Measures Protecting Copyrighted Works," (<http://copyright.gov/1201/>). The MLA is the professional association for music libraries and librarianship in the United States. Founded in 1931, MLA has an international membership of over 800 librarians, musicians, scholars, educators, and members of the book and music trades. Complementing the Association's national and international activities are eleven regional chapters that carry out its programs on the local level. The Music Library Association provides a professional forum for librarians, archivists, and others who support and preserve the world's musical heritage.

This comment addresses the fourth proposed class of exemptions out of 27 created by the Copyright Office in December 2014:

4. Audiovisual works – educational uses – educational programs operated by museums, libraries, or nonprofits

This proposed class would allow educators and learners in libraries, museums, and nonprofit organizations to circumvent access controls on lawfully made and acquired motion pictures and other audiovisual works for educational purposes. This exemption has been requested for audiovisual material made available in all formats, including DVDs protected by CSS, Blu-ray discs protected by AACS, and TPM-protected online distribution services.

Music librarians frequently need to excerpt motion pictures and other audiovisual works for purposes of library and faculty classroom instruction. The subjects of music theory, music history, and performance practice are virtually impossible to teach without the ability to provide sound and/or video examples in classrooms. Many works are only available on DVD, Blu-ray, or other digital formats that cannot be excerpted without circumvention of technological protection measures. These works frequently provide the best available audio and video quality, and include features such as closed captioning that are not available on other formats.