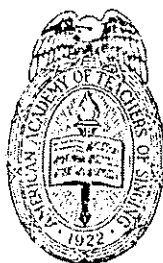


AMERICAN ACADEMY
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TEACHERS OF SINGING

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(Member, National Music Council)

A RECOMMENDATION

for

The Creation of Music Sections in Public Libraries, Making Available Vocal Scores, Anthologies and Song Collections for the Benefit and Use of Those Engaged in Music and Research.

PREAMBLE

The American Academy of Teachers of Singing, recognized at all times as maintaining a direct interest in nation-wide music and cultural activities as they occur within or touch upon the field of vocal art, believes (1) That there is an ever-increasing desire and necessity on the part of students, musicians, writers and lecturers on musical subjects, together with music lovers, for obtaining research and reference material pertaining to the field of serious vocal music.

(2) That the source of this material, outside of university, college and music school libraries, should be centered in the music sections of the public libraries throughout the nation.

(3) That every encouragement should be given to public library trustees and librarians, through the medium of sufficient civic appropriations, to make possible the creating of adequate, graded budget allocations for the purchase and maintenance of vocal scores and other similar volumes, to be used for the hereinbefore mentioned purposes. It is also the belief that serious consideration should be given to the matter of investigating opportunities for endowments and other financial gifts from music-minded and public-spirited individuals and organizations.

Upon the completion of the American Academy survey covering the status of music sections in public libraries in approximately 350 large and small cities of the United States, it was found in the majority of instances that no planned programs existed for the providing and maintaining of music sections which included much needed volumes of serious vocal music serving as research material.

The American Academy of Teachers of Singing accordingly recommends that every consistent effort be made by civic authorities, trustees, and librarians, to include in public library budgets amounts to cover the purchase of *bound* vocal scores of (I) standard operas and oratorios, and anthologies of operatic and sacred arias for all voices; (II) volumes of the songs of famous composers such as Schubert, Brahms, Schumann, Strauss and others, together with volumes of representative French, Italian, English and American art songs of the classic, romantic and contemporary periods; (III) collections of folksongs. This recommendation is made with the realization that in many instances budget allocations may have to be limited in scope at the inception of any well regulated program, and that the addition of new volumes may necessarily occur at intermittent periods.

As a possible aid in the selection of *bound* vocal material for additional music or for the establishment of a music section, the American Academy of Teachers of Singing submits herewith the following schedules which it recommends as being suitable for inclusion on the shelves of the library's music division, at the discretion of the librarians and subject to the financial resources available.