

# A HELPFUL GUIDE TO USING MOVIES IN LIBRARIES

Everything you need to know about Public Performance Site Licensing



Authorized agent licensing the public performance of movies from major studios for over 70 years

Securing this Public Performance Site License has been a demonstration of good citizenship. You and your library are to be commended for your professional and ethical compliance with the Federal Copyright Act (The Copyright Act of 1976, Public Law No. 94-553, 90 stat 2541: Title 17; section 110(i)). The license is also excellent insurance against unintentional illegal movie exhibitions.

Now that you have obtained a Public Performance Site License, you and organizations using your facility can enjoy unlimited public exhibitions of movies produced by the studios covered by your license. This gives you an opportunity to integrate the finest new and classic films into your programs legally, without concern of copyright violation. Movies are ideal to enhance programs such as:

- Summer Reading Programs
- Books-to-Movies Programs
- Family/Teen Movie Nights
- After School Programs
- Holiday Events

- Classic Film Screenings
- Diversity/Cultural Programs
- Movie of the Month
- Youth, Adult and Senior Events
- Children's Story Time

Only Movie Licensing USA is able to offer you a Public Performance Site License for all of these Hollywood studios. No other licensing source can provide this comprehensive coverage.









**NBCUniversal** 

























Visit http://library.movlic.com/ for our complete listing of studios.

## What You Should Know about Public Performances of Movies and U.S. Copyright Law

This Public Performance Site License frees you from the possibility of embarrassing publicity associated with copyright violations when using copyrighted movies in your public library.

Neither the rental nor the purchase of a movie carries with it the right to use a movie outside the home; it must be granted specifically. The Federal Copyright Act (The Copyright Act of 1976, Public Law No. 94-553, 90 stat 2541: Title 17; section 110(i)) governs how copyrighted materials, such as movies, may be used.

Neither the rental nor the purchase of a movie carries with it from retail outlets, are licensed "For Home Use Only" to be viewed inside the home by a family and its social acquaintances and do not provide legal permission to use outside the home. Ownership of the movie and the right to use it publicly are two separate issues.

To exhibit a movie publicly, a library must be properly licensed from the studio, the copyright holder who retains exclusive public performance rights or through the studio's authorized licensing agent, Movie Licensing USA.



## **Limitations of the License**

You cannot extend your public performance rights to others, such as public schools, churches, businesses, etc., who might want to borrow copyrighted movies from you for showings in their facilities. This is illegal and is not covered by your license. The public performances authorized by this license agreement are to take place only inside the building of the public library specified in the license.

By purchasing this Public Performance Site License and exhibiting movies publicly, your library is entering into an agreement between the library and the movie producers. This license does not permit entertainment movies to be used when an admission fee is charged, other than to cover costs.

In addition, the movies may not be altered. This includes digitizing or duplication. They may not be transmitted electronically in any form without written permission from the copyright owners or their authorized agent, Movie Licensing USA.

Movies from the studios covered by this license agreement may be publicly exhibited with lawfully manufactured content acquired by your public library from any legitimate source including rental and retail outlets. It is understood that the costs and responsibility for obtaining such home movies is yours and is separate and distinct from the agreed Public Performance Site License fee.

The copyright of the movies remains the property of the copyright holders, who reserve all rights to protect their intellectual properties. All copyright notices must remain on the movie. This Public Performance Site License expires one year from the date of issue and will be automatically renewed annually with appropriate invoicing, unless we are informed otherwise.

### What Is Considered a Public Performance?

The concept of "public performance" is central to copyright. The circumstances which constitute public performance are clearly defined in the law: "A place open to the public or any place where a substantial number of persons outside of a normal circle of a family or its social acquaintances is gathered."

## Why Royalties?

Royalties are the shares paid to authors, computer programmers, playwrights, musicians, inventors, movie producers, etc. out of the proceeds resulting from the sale, performance or use of their work. Most people participating in a movie production depend upon these royalties as payment for work performed. If these men and women lose ownership of their work and do not receive royalty revenue, much of which is collected through licensing fees, there would be little incentive for them to continue to invest their time, research and development costs to create future endeavors.

Consequently, there is increased attention by the copyright owners to unauthorized and illegal use of their copyrighted creations. Your Public Performance Site License fee includes your royalties to the people who worked on the movie.

If you have any doubt about these statements regarding copyrights, please consult your copyright attorney to have any legal question answered or verified.



## **Advertising Guidelines**

Please review the following guidelines when advertising movie events. Advertising guidelines are suggestions only and are in no way connected to the copyright law. All guidelines are subject to change at the discretion of the producing studio.

#### Advertising Inside Your Library and to Registered Borrowers:

Within the library building, you are free to advertise the movie title, studio name and movie artwork. Artwork cannot be altered and must contain the studio's copyright, for example: © Walt Disney Pictures.

You are also free to advertise the movie title, studio name and movie artwork on the Library's website as well as in correspondence such as standard mailings, emails and monthly newsletters to registered borrowers/card holders of the library. The library website is considered another branch of the library, a virtual branch, allowing for such advertising.

Movie Licensing USA makes it easy to create publicity with customizable posters, bookmarks and movie tickets that are already properly copyrighted. This feature can be found on our website at <a href="library.movlic.com/publicity">library.movlic.com/publicity</a>. Your customer number is located on your license certificate. Copyrighted movie images are also available using the movie search feature on our website. Artwork found on the MLUSA website can be used to advertise your event as long as it is not altered and includes the studio's copyright, for example: ©Walt Disney Pictures.

#### Advertising in Social Media

If the public library's social media is set to private, the title may be used. If the social media is not set to private, it is recommended the title not be included. The movie event may be promoted on the social media page with a link to the title on the library's website, driving traffic to the library website.

#### Advertising in Public Media

If you choose to advertise through public media (such as public radio, television, or newspaper ), you may do so, as long as your message does not include the movie title and studio name. For example, "Join us at Anytown Library for a Neighborhood Movie Night at 7:00 pm" is permitted.

The reason for these guidelines is to avoid direct competition with a local movie theatre(s).

## **Movie and Program Ideas**

Program ideas are available on our website (http://library.movlic.com/), Check it Out Magazine and in *Movies and more E-Newsletter*. These are emailed to all licensed libraries or can be found online.

## **Movie Programs Made Easy!**

#### **Summer Reading**

Attract young people to your library with fun summer reading program ideas for children and teens. Learn more at library.movlic.com or contact us.

#### **Books-to-Movies Programs**

From book clubs to reading discussion groups, you can engage all audiences with movies based on popular books, such as *The Hunger Games, The Hobbit, Divergent, The Chronicles of Narnia, Pride and Prejudice, Memoirs of a Geisha, Zathura, Curious George, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The Da Vinci Code* and many more.

#### Themed Movie Events

You can also use our movie search at library.movlic.com to find movies by title, director, actor or genre. Using the genre feature, you can find themed movie lists in categories such as:

- Academy Award<sup>®</sup> Winners
- Animals
- Black History
- Books and Literature
- Christmas
- And much more!

- Classics
- G and PG Rated
- Hispanic Awareness Month
- Japanese Animation
- Shakespeare

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