Independent Voices Spring 2015 Newsletter

As more content flows into Independent Voices, the variety of scholarship areas the collection supports is expanding. Today, we highlight one such area, music and culture. In addition, you’ll find information below about your library’s opportunity to contribute content to Independent Voices and we announce the launch of our improved website.

Music in Independent Voices

Musicians and their music were defining elements of the social movements at work in the 60s, 70s and 80s. Independent Voices is opening digital access to content about music and musicians written from perspectives not often reflected in mainstream publications of the time. In particular, now that we have begun digitizing the Campus Underground collection, a growing number of substantive articles about music are becoming available.

It is difficult to know where to begin! You might want to check out this review of the 1969 Newport Jazz Festival where Led Zeppelin and Jethro Tull appeared on the same stage as Dave Brubeck and Miles Davis. Or, this eyewitness account (starts on page 20) about the disastrous music festival at Altamont. Here’s an opinion piece (page 8) about the deaths of Janis Joplin and Jimi Hendrix; a piece that would never appear as written in the New York Times! Try some searches yourself on musicians you admire.

The alternative press provided an opportunity for different voices to be heard. Sometimes raw and always uncensored, exposure to these perspectives adds depth to how people understand this pivotal time in history.

Be sure to let your anthropology, popular culture and music faculty know about the new content Independent Voices makes available to them.

Become a source library

There would be no Independent Voices if not for the libraries that are providing content. Some libraries have provided already-digitized content, like The Great Speckled Bird from Georgia State or The Ann Arbor Sun from the Ann Arbor District Library. Others send us the content to scan, or we go to their library to scan onsite. When the project is complete we expect at least two dozen libraries will have contributed to the collection.
As a funding library, your contribution of content to *Independent Voices* is encouraged! If your library has original material that would support any of the collection themes (GI Underground, Campus Underground, Feminist, LGBT...), we would like to talk with you. Your library’s contribution will enhance the collection and the copyright-cleared digital assets will belong to your library to do with as you please.

A title does not have to be on our [target title lists](#) to be included, but that’s a good place to start looking for potential matches. If you have titles that are not on a target title list, but you think they would add value to the collection, here’s a short checklist to use as an initial filter:

1. Does the publication’s start date fall within the 1960s-1980s time period?
2. Does your library have a complete, or near-complete run of the publication?
3. Does the publication support the theme of *Independent Voices*.

Inclusion in *Independent Voices* will ultimately depend on whether we are able to obtain the rights to the title from the publisher or key veterans of the publication. Former staff members have been remarkably responsive to our requests, and we would expect to have a similar success rate for publications offered by your library too.

**Set up your profile on the new website**

As mentioned in the Winter update, Reveal Digital launched an upgraded website this spring. The new [revealdigital.com](#) enables librarians to quickly set up a profile and make commitments to new projects with the click of a button. By automating the commitment process, users of the site will be able to track real-time progress on the fundraising status of every project.

Please take a few minutes over the next couple of days to set up your profile. If you haven’t already, you may want to make a commitment to one of the four other projects on the site while you are there!