

Guidance for Streaming Music Concerts

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There are two ways in which schools can legally stream their music concerts: live stream or an archived stream.

- 1) **Live Stream:** U.S. Copyright Law allows schools to legally stream their music concerts online as long as the stream is truly “live”. “Live” streams are broadcast over the internet without recording or archiving the performance. It is broadcast at the same time it is being performed. All “archival” and “recording” settings must be disabled.

Here are the links for ASCAP, BMI and SESAC repertoire music lists.

- <https://www.ascap.com/repertory>
- <https://www.bmi.com/search>
- <https://www.sesac.com/#/>

If your music is not listed on these three repertoire lists, you may very well need additional performance rights from each specific publisher and/or copyright holders.

LIVE STREAMED CONCERTS MUST BE LIVE PERFORMANCES ONLY and schools must have legal copies or permissions of all music performed.

- 2) **Archived Stream:** This method requires that the school obtain synchronization licensing/permission for each piece of music (that is not in the public domain) being performed. That licensing is obtained directly from each copyright holder (typically the publisher of the work).

Suggested platforms for concert broadcasts:

- YouTube **LIVE** (May not be archived or on a private channel)
- NFHS Network
- Schools Google Drive (students have access and can show parents)

Platforms to avoid with copyrighted materials:

- Facebook Live (currently user agreement does not allow for broadcast of copyrighted materials).

*****Live streaming musicals and theatrical performances have different copyright requirements and require specific permissions directly from the publisher and/or copyrights holders to live stream these events.**

