Finding Songs from Musicals Reference Guide

This guide will help you find songs in collections or anthologies. Use this as a starting point, or browsing tool. As always, consult library catalogs for complete holdings information, and when uncertain, ask for help at the desk! Check out the related guides on Accents, Auditioning, Dance, Finding Classical Songs and Arias, Finding Play Scripts & Monologues, Musical Theatre, Performing Arts Careers, Theatre, Vocal History & Pedagogy, and Vocal Repertoire.

Sample Musical Song Collection Scores (listed alphabetically)

100 Years of Broadway: A Centennial Collection of Song M1507 .O685 1994
All Sondheim M1507.S66 W37 1985 v. 1-3
Bernstein on Broadway M1507.B476 M87 2007
Bernstein Theatre Songs M1507.B476 M8794 2010
The Best of Lerner & Loewe M1507.L64 V63 1997
Broadway M1507 .B76 2013
Broadway Hits for Female Singers M1507 .B76 2013 female
Broadway Hits for Male Singers M1507 .B76 2013 male
The Gershwin Song Collection M1630.18.G47 A54 2007 v. 1-2
Jerome Kern Collection M1507.K37 M97 2004
The Lerner & Loewe song book M1507.L64 L47 1962
The New Charles Strouse Songbook M1507.S877 M8 1996
The Rodgers and Hammerstein Song Book M1507.R616 S5 1968
The Rodgers and Hart Song Book M1507.R7 R7 1951
Sondheim for Singers : Duets M1507.S66 W35 2013 duets
Songs of the 20’s [also available: 30s, 40s, 50s, etc.] M1630.18 .S662 1989
The Stephen Sondheim Collection M1507.S66 W35 2012

We have a large collection of show scores, so always search for the musical’s title as well as the song title.

Catalog Searching Strategies

First, know the title of the song collection OR the song title, the composer/arranger, and the musical title. Need help identifying this information? Use one of the song indexes listed on the back of this sheet.

1. Open KentLINK advanced keyword search @ http://goo.gl/nL72D.
2. In the first search box, type the title of the song in quotation marks (ex. “Any Dream Will Do”).
3. In the drop-down menus below, select “Music Score” from the Material Type menu to search for printed music or choose “CD” from the Audio menu to search for a sound recording. Click “Submit.”

Unable to find the song you're looking for in KentLINK? Search OhioLINK (http://goo.gl/LwSI8) and SearchOhio (http://goo.gl/AlaPX). Still no luck? Request items through InterLibrary Loan (http://goo.gl/M1AxZ).

Contact Us:
(330) 672-2004
performingartslibrary@kent.edu
www.kent.edu/library/performingarts
How to Use a Song Index

Often song titles included in anthologies are not listed individually in catalog records, which means you will not find them doing a keyword search in KentLINK (see ex. - 30 Years--30 Hits - http://goo.gl/tdBZi). Song indexes include lists of songs – sometimes arranged by title, sometimes by composer, sometimes both – and provide cross-references for the anthologies/collections that include the song.

To identify song titles in collections, start with the indexes below. Online indexes are more up-to-date and comprehensive than print. Look up the song by title, composer, first line, or whatever you have. A code represents the anthologies that have that song. When you identify the collection, search for it in KentLINK. Remember, if KSU doesn't own the collection, search OhioLINK, SearchOhio or submit an InterLibrary Loan request.

Online Song Indexes

ASU Song Index: http://spmi.lib.asu.edu/songs
California Library Systems Cooperative Song Index: http://www.sjvls.org/songs/index.html
LAPL Song Index: http://www.lapl.org/collections-resources/lapl-indexes/song-index
Singer's Musical Theatre Anthology - Alphabetical Song Index: http://goo.gl/8OJIE
UT Song Index: http://www.lib.utk.edu/databases/songdb/

All links above are live @ http://goo.gl/WCPH0

Print Song Indexes (listed alphabetically)

*Find that Tune: An Index to Rock, Folk-Rock, Disco & Soul in Collections*  ML 128. R6 F56 1984 v. 1-2
*Popular Song Index*  Ref. ML128.S3 H4 suppl. 1-4
*The Rock Song Index: The 7500 Most Important Songs*  Ref. ML 128.R6 P65 2005
*Singer's Repertoire*  ML 128.V7 C67 1960 v. 1-3
*SongCite: An Index to Popular Songs*  Ref. ML 128.P63 G66 1990

Note: Reference titles (“Ref.”) are non-circulating and are located in the Performing Arts Library Reading Room.

Call Numbers for Shelf Browsing

Below are general call number ranges. More about call numbers @ http://goo.gl/ALzqn.

- M1500  full scores of musicals
- M1503  vocal scores of musicals
- M1507  song collections -- musicals
- M1508  songs -- musicals
- M1630.18  popular song collections
- ML128  song indexes

Subject Headings for Searching Library Catalogs - To find material on a related topic, type one of these terms to get a list of relevant titles. Access KentLINK subject heading search @ http://goo.gl/gtAvO.

- Disco music
- Musicals -- Vocal scores with piano
- Musicals -- Excerpts -- Vocal scores with piano
- Popular music -- Vocal scores with piano
- Rock music
- Songs (High voice) with piano*
- Songs (Medium voice) with piano*
- Songs (Low voice) with piano*
- Soul music
- Vocal music

*Piano is used for purposes of illustration; may also use guitar, orchestra, organ, etc.