



Endowment for the Preservation and Dissemination of the KCSM Jazz Archives

Executive Summary

KCSM's Endowment for the Preservation and Dissemination of the KCSM Jazz Archives was established in 2006 in order to preserve, archive and disseminate our unique jazz collection. Our focus will be on regional jazz releases from the San Francisco Bay area and throughout the West Coast — from Seattle to San Diego. KCSM will be able to expand our research beyond simply audio and become the center for jazz history in the San Francisco Bay Area, utilizing digital mediums to preserve and further jazz music, in all its flavors, from many sources.

With a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) this year, KCSM is working with a sound archivist from Stanford University to assess our jazz collection and plan the best mode of cataloguing and preserving our holdings in perpetuity.

A cornerstone of this effort is an inherited jazz collection of over 16,000 unduplicated recordings from KJAZ, the first commercial jazz station in the United States, which was located in Oakland. A portion of this set is never-released live recordings at a number of San Francisco Bay Area venues, including Charles Mingus in 1974 at the Great American Music Hall and Stan Getz at the Hyatt Embarcadero.

The Need

We are the stewards of an irreplaceable treasure. Our vast collection of over 200,000 jazz music recordings is what our radio station is built around. Our collection is the heart and soul of KCSM, and our announcers are the stewards of this treasure.

Vision for the Endowment

To create a permanent, sustainable archive/library of rare and never-released jazz holdings derived from KJAZ and other sources, for dissemination to our audience, locally and globally.

Primary goals of the Jazz Endowment:

- Procure the expertise of a dedicated curator/archivist to manage the preservation of our current jazz collection
- Clear the copyrights of the recordings to legally provide this music to our audience via streaming
- Make the collection accessible to our FM announcers, jazz educators, academic researchers and our audience
- Store the collection in an optimal format and location for longtime durability

The endowment was seeded by an anonymous donor, a longtime contributor to KCSM FM, with a gift of \$25,000 in April 2006. The endowment is an advised fund at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation in Mountain View, CA.