


A yellow dashed arc is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the white circle.

# A Review of Performing Arts Content in U.S. Institutional Repositories

Kate Lambaria | [lambari1@Illinois.edu](mailto:lambari1@Illinois.edu)

Music & Performing Arts Librarian  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign


A solid blue circle is located at the bottom right of the white circle, partially overlapping the orange background.





Why this topic?







# Research Questions

- Who can submit to the institutional repository?
  - Are creative works explicitly mentioned as acceptable materials? If not, are audio, video, and image files listed as acceptable file formats, or is there broad reference to “scholarly,” “research,” or “other” works?
  - Can materials related to the performing arts disciplines be found in the IR?
  - Can performance (audio or video recordings) be found in the IR?
- 



# Literature – Visual Arts

- Gray, A. (2009). Institutional Repositories for Creative and Applied Arts Research: The Kultur Project. *Ariadne*, 60, Article 60. <http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue/60/gray/>
  - Akins, J. (2018). Establishing an Open-Access MFA Thesis Collection. *Art Documentation: Journal of the Art Libraries Society of North America*, 37(1), 44–54. <https://doi.org/10.1086/697271>.
  - Watson, E. J., & Dworak, E. (2022). Impact of an Institutional Repository on Viewers' Experiences of a Student Art Exhibition. *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication*, 10(1), Article 1. <https://doi.org/10.31274/jlsc.12910>
  - McKeehan, M. E. (2015). *Collecting and Documenting Faculty and Student Artwork in Institutional Repositories in U.S. Colleges and Universities* [Master's, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill]. [https://cdr.lib.unc.edu/concern/masters\\_papers/vh53x0659](https://cdr.lib.unc.edu/concern/masters_papers/vh53x0659)
- 
- 
- 
- 



# Literature – Performing Arts

- Sliger Krause, R., Langhurst Eickholt, A., & Otto, J. L. (2017). Creative collaboration: Student creative works in the institutional repository. *Digital Library Perspectives*, 34(1), 20–31. <https://doi.org/10.1108/DLP-03-2017-0010>
- Yang, L., Ketner, K., Luker, S., & Patterson, M. (2016). A complete system for publishing music-related ETDs: Technology development and publishing model. *Library Hi Tech*, 34(1), 151–163. <https://doi.org/10.1108/LHT-10-2015-0096>
- Shelley, A. (2020). It Takes a Village: Populating the Institutional Repository with Performing Arts Content. *Music Reference Services Quarterly*, 23(3–4), 130–141. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10588167.2020.1786308>



# Study Details



# Study Sample

- 30 US doctorate-granting institutions with Carnegie classification: Very High Research Activity
- IR sizes ranged from 6,500 items to 200,000+ items

## *Degrees Offered at Sample Institutions*

	Dance	Music	Theatre
Bachelor's	21	30	30
Master's	10	26	25
Doctoral	1	22	10



# Data Collection Process

- Policies and Collection Statements
  - Visited collection development statements, About, and FAQ pages for each IR
  - Noted who could submit, whether creative works were accepted, and how creative works were mentioned





	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	Institution	URL for policy or other collection statements	Who can submit?	Broad mention of Community or Researchers	Faculty	Staff	Students	thesis/diss. writers	Students w/ faculty support	Outside collaborators	depts/units	Emeriti faculty	Other affiliates	Are creative works accepted?
2	Brown University	<a href="https://repository.library.brown.edu/studio/policies/">https://repository.library.brown.edu/studio/policies/</a>	"As of May 2012, the BDR is open to submissions by all faculty. Student work may be included in the BDR as part of faculty or administrative projects."		1				1					Yes, Ingest Policies mention "audio, video, or images derived from research or creative works," "art work," and "digital surrogates of primary sources".
3	Carnegie Mellon University	<a href="https://guides.library.cmu.edu/kilthub/about">https://guides.library.cmu.edu/kilthub/about</a>	"CMU faculty, staff, and students, and their collaborators"		1		1	1			1			Not specifically mentioned, but could be included "research data and other scholarly outputs" ("scholarly outputs should be broadly understood to mean the published or <b>otherwise publicly presented outputs</b> ")
4	Clemson University	<a href="https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/about.html">https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/about.html</a>	"faculty, students, and staff of Clemson University and their global collaborators"		1		1	1			1			Not specifically mentioned - "IRs are an excellent vehicle for working papers or copies of published articles and conference papers. Presentations, senior theses, and other works not published elsewhere can also be published in the IR."
5	Columbia University in the City of New York	<a href="https://academiccommons.columbia.edu/about">https://academiccommons.columbia.edu/about</a> and <a href="https://academiccommons.columbia.edu/faq">https://academiccommons.columbia.edu/faq</a>	"Columbia University community members" "Columbia University or one of its affiliate institutions (Barnard College, Teachers College, Union Theological Seminary, Jewish Theological Seminary)"	1										not specifically mentioned, "scholarship produced by researchers at..."; FAQ specifically mentions "Videos (with caption files)", "Images", and more
6	George Mason University	<a href="https://library.gmu.edu/repositories">https://library.gmu.edu/repositories</a>	"Mason faculty, staff, and students"		1		1	1						not specifically mentioned: "digital scholarly and research materials of enduring value"; does accept audio, image, and video file types
7	Harvard University	<a href="https://dash.harvard.edu/pages/About">https://dash.harvard.edu/pages/About</a> and <a href="https://dash.harvard.edu/pages/FAQ">https://dash.harvard.edu/pages/FAQ</a>	"members of the Harvard community"	1										no mention – "DASH hosts a wide range of Harvard-affiliated scholarly works, including pre- and post-refereed journal articles, conference proceedings, theses and dissertations, working papers, and reports." and "we encourage you to deposit related materials with your manuscripts (including data, images, audio and video files, etc.)"
8	Indiana University-Bloomington	<a href="https://openscholarship.indiana.edu/iu-sw-features#features">https://openscholarship.indiana.edu/iu-sw-features#features</a>	"materials authored or published by the following IU affiliates are eligible for deposit: Any IU research unit, institute, center, department, or university partner; IU faculty and staff; IU dissertation and thesis writers; IU students with authorization from a sponsoring department or faculty member"		1		1		1	1		1		Not specifically mentioned, although multimedia is – "Types of content may include, but are not limited to: Submitted manuscripts (as sent to journals for peer-review); Accepted versions (author's final peer-reviewed drafts); Published versions (publisher-created files); Supplementary files, including multimedia or datasets; Gray literature (conference papers, working drafts, primary evidence); Dissertations and theses; Negative results or work that will not be finished"
		<a href="https://open.lib.iastate.edu/">https://open.lib.iastate.edu/</a>	"accepts work created by current faculty, staff and students of Iowa State University. We also welcome contributions from current faculty"											not specifically mentioned – "access to research and scholarship of Iowa State's faculty, staff, and students. Through the repository, readers worldwide can access a range of content including, but not limited to: Journal articles and manuscripts; Conference proceedings, presentations, and posters; Theses and Dissertations; Technical reports and data; Images, audio and video files; and other content."

A	N	O	P	Q	R	S
Institution	Are creative works accepted?	Explicit mention	No Explicit mention	File format mention	Other works, Scholarly or Research outputs	Excluded
Brown University	Yes, Ingest Policies mention "audio, video, or images derived from research or creative works," "art work," and "digital surrogates of primary sources".	1				
Carnegie Mellon University	Not specifically mentioned, but could be included "research data and other scholarly outputs" ("scholarly outputs should be broadly understood to mean the published or otherwise publicly presented outputs")			1		1
Clemson University	Not specifically mentioned - "IRs are an excellent vehicle for working papers or copies of published articles and conference papers. Presentations, senior theses, and other works not published elsewhere can also be published in the IR."			1		1
Columbia University in the City of New York	not specifically mentioned, "scholarship produced by researchers at..."; FAQ specifically mentions "Videos (with caption files)", "Images", and more			1	1	1
George Mason University	not specifically mentioned: "digital scholarly and research materials of enduring value"; does accept audio, image, and video file types			1	1	1
Harvard University	no mention -- "DASH hosts a wide range of Harvard-affiliated scholarly works, including pre- and post-refereed journal articles, conference proceedings, theses and dissertations, working papers, and reports." and "we encourage you to deposit related materials with your manuscripts (including data, images, audio and video files, etc.)"			1	1	
Indiana University-Bloomington	Not specifically mentioned, although multimedia is -- "Types of content may include, but are not limited to: Submitted manuscripts (as sent to journals for peer-review); Accepted versions (author's final peer-reviewed drafts); Published versions (publisher-created files); Supplementary files, including multimedia or datasets; Gray literature (conference papers, working drafts, primary evidence); Dissertations and theses; Negative results or work that will not be finished"			1	1	
	not specifically mentioned -- "access to research and scholarship of Iowa State's faculty, staff, and students. Through the repository, readers worldwide can access a range of content including, but not limited to: Journal articles and manuscripts; Conference proceedings, presentations, and posters; Theses and dissertations; Technical reports and white papers; Images, audio, and video files; and University					



# Data Collection Process

- IR Holdings
  - Browsed IR by collections, subjects, departments and searched by keyword, reviewing and summarizing the holdings
  - Tracked each discipline, faculty/staff work, student work (incl. theses and dissertations), digitized library collections, audio and video content (incl. of performances), and access methods (authentication, stream, download)



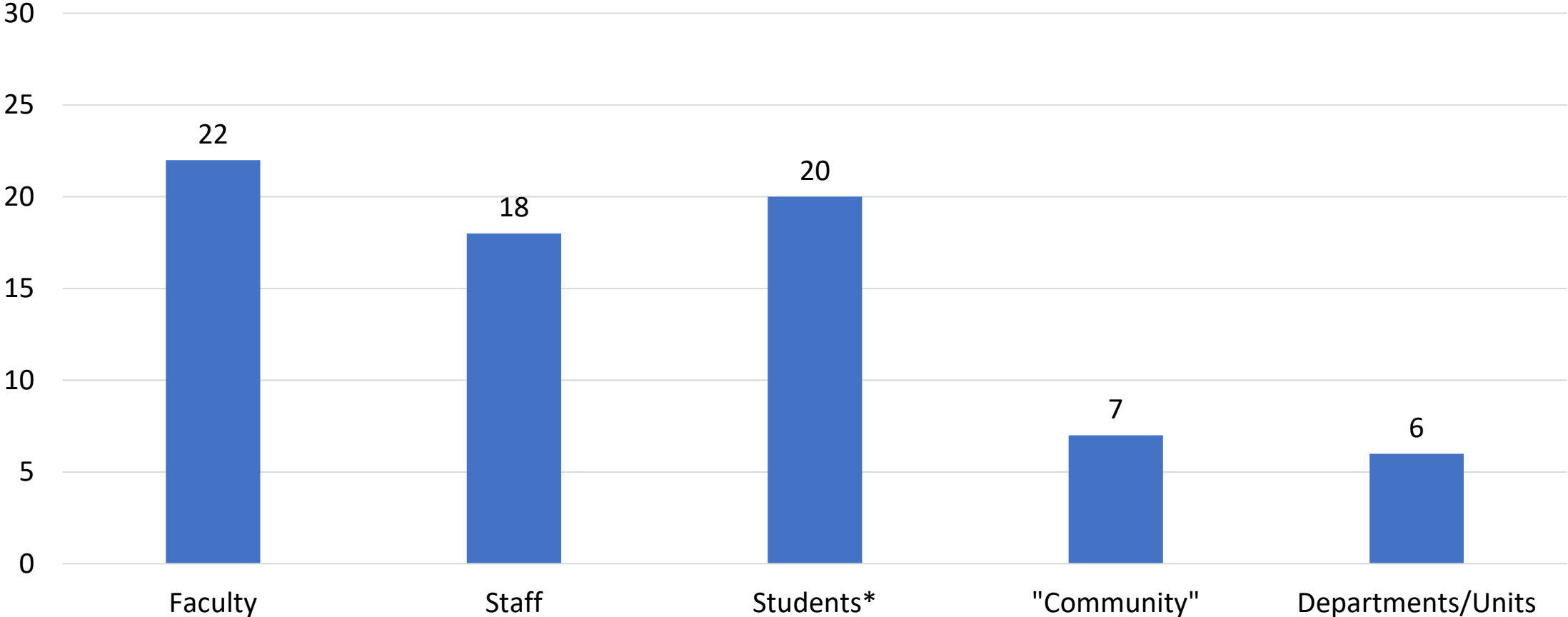
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	
	Institution	Performance content? (Y/N)	Summary of content found by Browsing	Summary of content found by Searching "Dance", "Music", and "Theatre" and filtering by format	Dance	Music	Theatre	Faculty or staff works	Student work (not theses)	Theses & Dissertations	Digitized Library Collections or other URLs	Video content? (incl. lectures, etc.)	Audio content	Performance video	Performance audio	Authentication notes	media stream or download	Other notes	
1				Search "dance" > Julie Adams Strandberg Collection: 50 Years of Dance at Brown University (includes concert programs and posters) and some archival content (found by filtering formats); Search "Music" > Alcohol, Temperance & Prohibition collection (includes digitized sheet music and broadsides, library collection) and other digitized sheet music from Library collections, conference presentations, videos from Digital Arts Showcase, audio of piano works as part of larger collection and one historic concert, audio recordings of podcast and field recordings; Search "theatre" > Rites and Reasons Theatre collection (archival photos)															
2	Brown University	Y	Music > sub-collections include Digital Art Showcase, Ethnomusicology (only theses and dissertations), Theses and dissertations (includes student compositions, audio files, and text docs), computer music and multimedia composition (only theses and dissertations); Rap Scholars Digital Archives (podcast); Theatre Arts and Performance Studies > subcollection includes theses and dissertations; Ostad Hatam Asgari Collection - collection of videos of persian songs, but limited to Brown-access only for classroom/research use		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y		Some video content requires authentication	stream	
3	Carnegie Mellon University	Y	College of Fine Arts collection > sound and video recordings and supplemental scores that accompany a book publication by faculty member, journal contributions (faculty)	Search "Dance" > student theses in various other degree programs, Future Tenant Gallery materials (mostly images); search "Music" > theses from other degree programs, one MFA Drama thesis includes screenplay musical, journal contributions, future tenant gallery content including video; Search "Theatre" > content from shakespeare VR project (images, video); search "drama" > MFA theses including plays (dramatic writing)	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N			stream	



# Findings: Policies



# Who Can Submit?

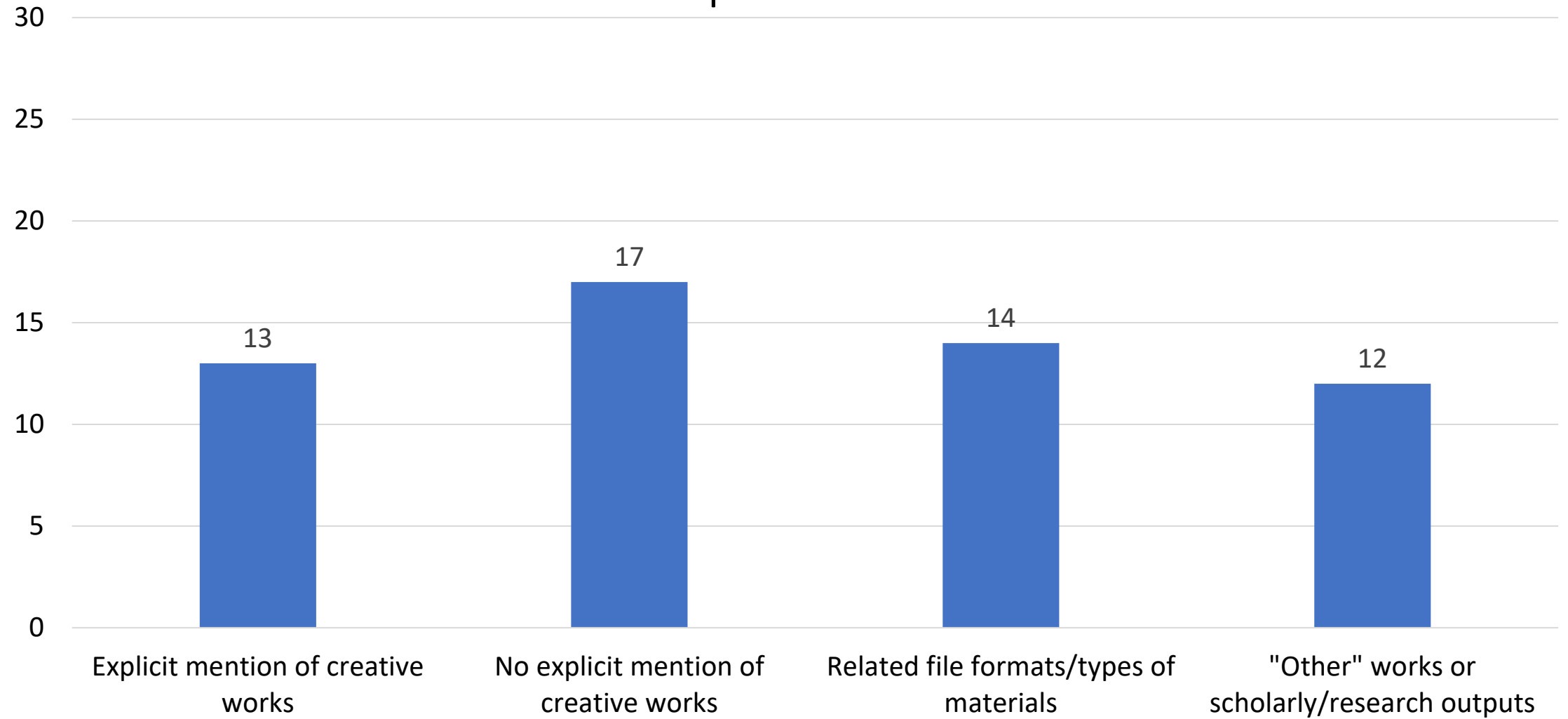


\*2 institutions limited student work to only theses and dissertations





## Accepted Content



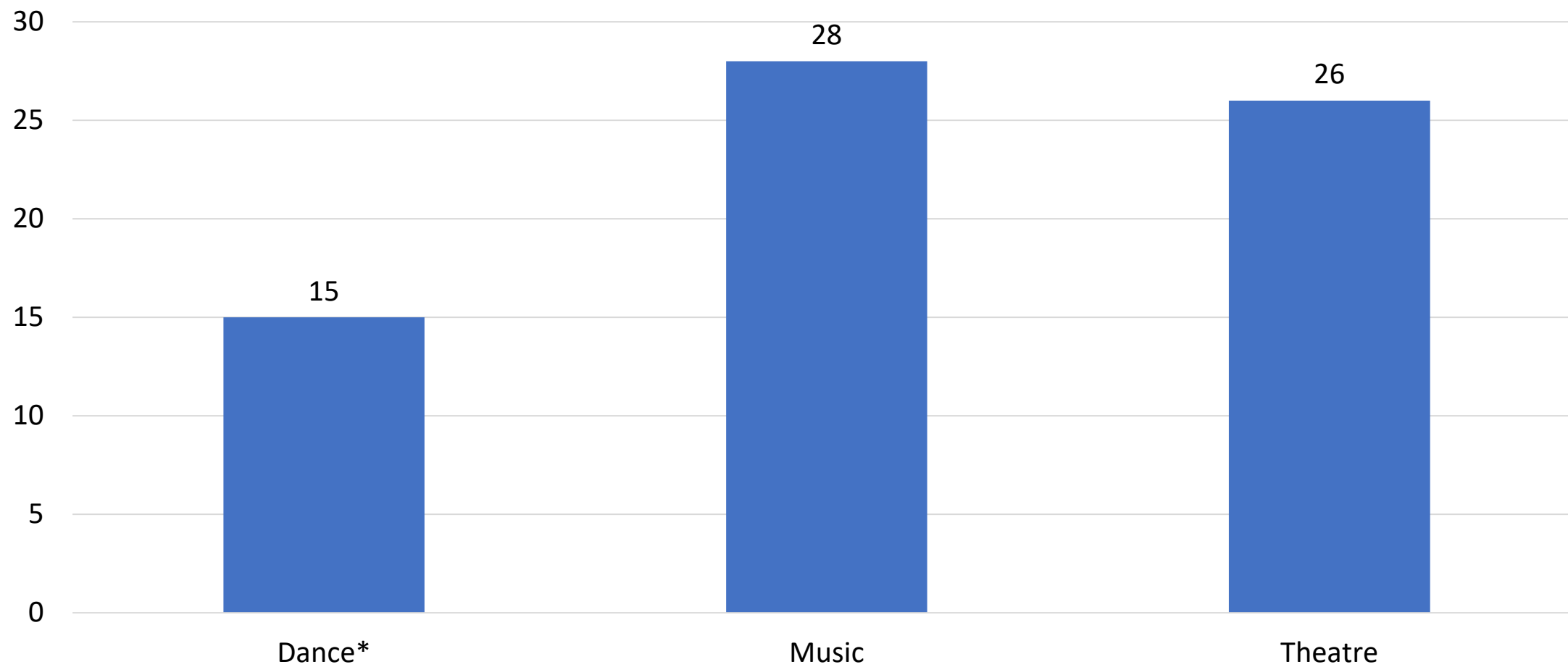


# Findings: Content





## Content by Discipline



\* 8 of the 15 institutions with dance content did **not** offer dance degrees



# Performance Content

- Ten IRs included digitized library materials or archival collections that related to performance
- One institution used the IR to host departmental sound recordings
- Twenty-one IRs had at least one example of recorded performance





# Recorded Performance



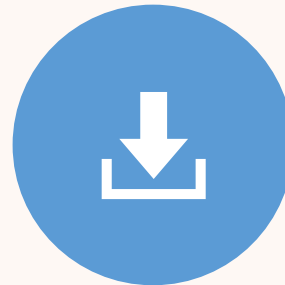
14 institutions included video recordings of performance & 13 included audio recordings



Access options varied; 7 institutions required authentication (usually only available to institutional affiliates)




One institution relied on short clips



Mix of streaming and download options available



## Student, Staff, and Faculty Works

- Twenty-nine institutions hosted ETDs from dance, music, and theatre
  - Twelve included student work beyond ETDs, often related to competitions and showcases
  - Twenty-seven included faculty or staff work
- 



## Questions for Music Content



Access and hosting models for recordings



Discovery of original compositions related to ETDs



Function of the library as publisher and distributor

A decorative yellow dashed arc on the left side of the slide, composed of several short, thick yellow dashes.

# Thank you!

Questions? Email me at  
[lambari1@illinois.edu](mailto:lambari1@illinois.edu)

A solid blue circle located in the bottom-right quadrant of the large white circle.