



# EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

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## UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER



## Miller Center

Miller Center, named and dedicated by Mitch Miller for his parents, is located on Gibbs Street, opposite the School's Main Building. The four-story, multi-use building was designed by the Rochester architectural firm Macon-Chaintreuil & Associates. The top three floors of the rectangular portion of the building house the Sibley Music Library (totaling 45,000 sq. ft.). The curved portion of the building houses four upper floors of office space. The first floor holds restaurants and shops (including the Eastman School Bookstore), as well as the School's Offices of Admissions, Registrar, and Financial Aid. Miller Center's spectacular atrium and outdoor public plaza provide gathering places for concerts, ceremonies, and informal meetings.

## History of the Library

Hiram Watson Sibley (1845-1932) founded the Sibley Music Library in 1904 as a public music collection open to "all the music lovers of Rochester." Today, it is the largest academic music library in North America, with a staff of 17 librarians and paraprofessionals. The collection was first installed in the reading room of the University of Rochester's main library, then located on Prince Street. The holdings were transferred to the Eastman School of Music in 1922. In 1937, the first separate building in the country to house a music library was erected on Swan Street, in order to hold the growing collection. The Sibley Music Library was moved to its present location in 1989. The Library has a wireless network, allowing students and faculty with various devices to have Internet access anywhere in the Library. There is seating for 200 readers in the Library. More information can be found at our website: <https://www.esm.rochester.edu/sibley/>.

## Collection Information

The Library contains upwards of 750,000 items, offering both superb opportunities for scholarly research and a broad selection of music for performance. The holdings include:

- Approximately 375,000 cataloged books and scores
- Subscriptions to more than 600 music periodicals
- A recorded sound collection of about 100,000 LPs, CDs, and tapes, including the Eastman Audio Archive
- Over 5,000 microforms
- A world-class Special Collections Department containing manuscripts, first and early editions of scores and treatises, iconographic material, and letters. In particular, the Rare Books section contains some 150,000 items, including:
  - Autograph manuscripts including sketch materials for Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*; songs of Brahms, Fauré, Haydn, and Schubert; Debussy's *La Mer*; and works by Liszt, Puccini, Copland, and many others
  - The 11<sup>th</sup>-century Reichenau manuscript (the "Rochester Codex") and the 12<sup>th</sup>-century Admont-Rochester Codex

- The Petrucci printing of the Masses of Josquin des Pres
- One of the finest extant collections of pre-1800 theory texts

## A Walk Through the Sibley Music Library

The lobby and main staircase are made of Italian travertine tile. The exhibit case near the entrance, one of four exhibit areas, showcases some of the Library's holdings. To the left of the lobby, along the Gibbs Street windows, is the Alec Wilder Reading Area, named in honor of the late composer. Photographs of Mr. Wilder may be viewed on the north wall.

### Other areas of the second floor include:

- **Reference**, which includes the reference desk where staff answer questions from Eastman students and faculty, Rochester's professional music community, alumni, and other musicians and scholars from around the world
- **Circulation**
- **Administration**
- **Acquisitions and Cataloging**
- **Interlibrary Loan**
- Stack space for most of the **score collection and microforms**

### The third floor houses:

- **Listening Room**, with nearly 50 individual, custom-designed carrels containing a variety of audio, video, and computer equipment
- **Conservation Laboratory**, the only such facility in the world housed in a music library, and a leader in the field of preserving irreplaceable manuscripts and aging publications
- Stack space for most of the **books and bound journals**
- **Sound Recordings**
- A small **seminar room**
- **Current Periodicals Room**

### The fourth floor contains:

- **The Ruth T. Watanabe Special Collections**, including the Eastman School Archives, the Eastman Audio Archive, a reading area, work stations, and vault
- **The Elaine Wilson Seminar Room**, a classroom for up to 30 students, with full A/V equipment and a piano
- **The Eastman Wind Ensemble Room**, a group study area that contains a semi-permanent exhibit devoted to the history of the EWE
- **Collected works** and other scholarly editions
- **Study carrels**, assigned for graduate student usage