

# Seattle Public Library hooks up with local music for PlayBack - Three Imaginary Girls

Monday, April 18 2016, 12:50 PM

---



## Seattle Public Library hooks up with local music for PlayBack

by Imaginary Gemma on April 15, 2016 in Imaginary Scoop, Larry Mizell, Seattle Public Library, The Vera Project, Tim Lennon

Local music and the public library are getting together, and it's just like watching two of your best friends turn into the cutest couple. Of course the library's collection of over 2.2 million items already includes [music](#). Besides physical CDs, they've had digital music through



Freegal and Hoopla for years. Now the library is going beyond providing access to music and is actively **supporting local artists with a new program called Playback.**

“**PlayBack** is a curated local music collection celebrating Seattle’s music scene hosted by **The Seattle Public Library**. Anyone will be able to stream albums and, with a library card, will be able to download their favorite tracks. The library has always been about excellent collections and meaningful public engagement. PlayBack is another way we achieve our mission of bringing people, information and ideas together to enrich lives and build community. We are in a great position to

engage with and support Seattle’s creative community by representing the work of the creative community in our collections, and by cultivating and recognizing creativity through our programs and events,” says **Andrew Harbison**, Assistant Director – Collections and Access Services at the Seattle Public Library.

## The Seattle Public Library playback

So, if you are a library patron, which of course you are, just follow the Seattle Public Library on **Facebook** or **Twitter** for updates, then use your library card to check out lots of local music beginning in late summer.

But if you’re a musician, the time to act is now. **PlayBack’s first submission period runs from May 9 – 23, 2016.** Submit one song from your album that was recorded in the last five years (it’s easy, just go **here** and if you need help email **playback@spl.org**). A jury will listen to all the submissions and choose 50 of them for the inaugural PlayBack collection. The jury is made up of awesome folks in the local music community who are near and dear to our hearts:

- **Tim Lennon**, **The Vera Project** executive director and member of the **City of Seattle Music Commission**
- **Liz Riley Tollefson**, **Three Imaginary Girls** founder and contributor
- **Larry Mizell, Jr.**, **City of Seattle Office of Arts and Culture** digital media specialist, **KEXP DJ** and columnist for **The Stranger**
- **Kreg Hasagawa**, adult librarian for **The Seattle Public Library**, music enthusiast and project lead

- **Meira Jough**, program coordinator for [The Seattle Public Library](#), musician and music enthusiast

**Selected musicians will receive \$200** and will have the option of signing on for a perpetual license, five-year license, or offering their work under a Creative Commons license. Their entire album will become part of the library’s collection where patrons will be able to discover and access it online through the library catalog.

Some of the 50 musicians will be highlighted on social media and be invited to perform at the library. Don’t worry if your band is still trying to book studio time – **PlayBack is not a one shot deal. This is just the first round.** There will be two submission periods annually, giving your band plenty of chances to participate, and giving the rest of us will access to 100 new local albums each year. Yay!

*Top photo: Seattle Public Library, Central Library, photo courtesy of SPL.*

**Related**



KEXP is having a party, and you're invited! {TODAY at 6pm}  
In "The Cave Singers"



Seattle's most epic night of 2016 (so far): Quasi, Cave Singers, Sound Off!, Viva Vera, and more  
In "The Cave Singers"



Viva Viva Viva KEXP and Robyn Hitchcock  
In "Imaginary Scoop"



**About Imaginary Gemma**

[View all posts by Imaginary Gemma →](#)

□ **City of Seattle Music Commission, City of Seattle Office of Arts and Culture, Playback**