

Media Rights and Usage



Smithsonian



Sarah Stierch

Wikipedian In Residence – Archives of American Art,
2011

@sarah_stierch
stierchs@si.edu

Provides a media repository that:

- Makes available public domain & freely licensed *educational* media to all
- Acts as a common repository for projects related to the Wikimedia Foundation (i.e. Wikipedia)



What can be included on Wikimedia Commons?

- Must be a media file
 - Photographs, scanned images, diagrams, animations, audio (music, interviews) , videos
- Must be an allowable free file format
 - .jpg, .tiff, .png, .gif., .ogg, .pdf (no mp3, wma)
 - See full list of [allowable filetypes](#)
- Must be freely licensed or public domain
 - No restrictions on commercial or derivative works
- Must realistically be able to be used for an educational purpose
 - No holiday family photos, self-created art with no educational purpose, advertising, etc.

Acceptable Licensing

We accept only **free content**.

That includes **PUBLIC DOMAIN**
and **freely licensed media**



What does **freely licensed** mean?

People have the freedom to:

- Use or modify the content
- Distribute copies of the content
- Distribute works derived from the content



Wikimedia Commons has a vast network of volunteers who monitor copyright violations.

- We delete it if it's missing the correct license tag (i.e. PD, CC-BY-A)
 - We delete it if permissions are not granted after 7 days (i.e. from a photographer or artist who isn't the uploader)
-just examples

Examples of Wikimedia Commons donations from institutions

- National Archives & Records Administration (USA)
- Nationaal Archief (Netherlands)
- Children's Museum of Indianapolis (USA)
- Brooklyn Museum (USA)
- Palace of Versailles (France)
- Bundesarchiv (Germany)

More examples: see list of [Wikimedia/institutional partnerships](#)

Wikipedia ≠ Wikimedia Commons

Fair Use of copyrighted images IS permitted on *Wikipedia*, only if:

- No free equivalent is available
- It is only used in only one article
- Must be significant to the article – i.e. to show what someone or something looks like

Wikimedia vs. Flickr Commons

WIKIMEDIA

- Almost endless disk space
- No ads, no corporation, no commercial motivation
- Intended to have media used on Encyclopedia (mainly)
- You can see where your images are used on Wikimedia
- We have tools to show you how entire categories (i.e. Archives of American Art) are being used
- Multiple languages
- Free

FLICKR

- Primarily for photographs & photographers
- User-friendly for registered users to comment and tag
 - Ran out of space in 2010
- Must be “no known copyright”
 - Analytics for views & comments
 - Most of these images are already in Wikimedia Commons
 - \$30/year

