

# Book Reviews



**Emily Knox.** *Document Delivery and Interlibrary Loan on a Shoestring.* New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2010. 225p. alk. paper, \$65 (ISBN 9781555706784). LC2009-035189.

Today, many types of libraries provide interlibrary loan (ILL) and document delivery services. With a developing increase in the need for these services, even libraries that typically have not provided them in the past have evolved to accommodate their users. Author Emily Knox states in the preface that “interlibrary loan and document delivery services are critical to today’s library service” (ix). It is not uncommon for users to ask librarians to help obtain a book owned by another institution or to assist in getting a copy of an article. In fact, for smaller libraries, it is especially important to be able to offer ILL and document delivery services so that they can keep their customers happy. These types of services have become a critical need for libraries to provide, regardless of whether they already have a system set up to do so or not.

Historically, much has been written about ILL and document delivery: how these services are established and performed in various types of libraries. However, the majority of what has been written has covered mid- to large-sized libraries, instead of small-sized libraries. ILL and document delivery services are typically difficult for small libraries to provide because of limited staffing and the high costs involved. In this book, Knox provides a detailed yet simple guide about what to consider when setting up and running an ILL service, with a focus on smaller libraries. Currently, Knox is a doctoral student in the Department of Library and Information Science at the School for Communication and Information at Rutgers University. She begins by covering a brief history of the ILL process and its evolution. In addition, she also mentions best

practices and explains why libraries need to provide ILL services. Knox also presents a close look at the challenges facing smaller libraries, such as lack of staffing, time management, budgeting, establishing library networks, and providing customer service. Copyright law, which is an important issue for any library conducting ILL services, is also emphasized in several chapters. This well-rounded book serves as a helpful guide to librarians who might be interested in adding these services to their own libraries.

This well-organized book is divided into nine chapters, and topics consist of various ILL policies and procedures, as well as the affordability and availability of technologies to perform ILL functions. Chapter 1 discusses best practices for providing ILL and document delivery in smaller libraries. Chapter 2 explains how the lack of staffing and budgeting problems can affect these operations in smaller library settings and how to overcome these challenges. The next chapters reflect what the copyright laws are and give a brief history of what policies have typically been for borrowing and lending. ILL codes are also covered in a separate chapter. Chapters 5 to 7 emphasize various types of policies that smaller libraries need to consider, while chapters 8 and 9 discuss cost-effective technologies for smaller libraries that are easy to implement. In addition, strategies for libraries with limited budgets and resources are provided. As Knox states, this book “assumes that readers do not have adequate staff, financial, or technology resources to allocate to interlibrary loan or commercial document delivery services” (xi). Thus, it approaches ILL issues from the perspective of librarians who work in small-sized libraries and do not have ready resources for performing ILL functions.

Most chapters end with their own bibliography. The appendices at the end of the book contain the ILL code for the United States, as well as an explanatory supplement. Perhaps most useful is the list of figures provided near the beginning. Throughout the book, figures are used to depict images of various samples of library policies and forms used for ILL and document delivery, which allow readers to easily visualize what is being described. The writing style and language of this book are focused toward librarians and information professionals who are already familiar with library-related terms and phrases. This book presents a simplified look at how to set up and maintain a small-scale ILL operation and would be of most interest to librarians and information professionals. It takes a realistic approach to what smaller libraries are able to offer in terms of ILL and document delivery services and offers advice to librarians developing these types of operations within their libraries.—*Judy P. Bolstad, University of California, Berkeley.*

**Barry Cooper.** *Child Composers & Their Works: A Historical Survey.* Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2009. 216p. alk. paper, \$65 (ISBN 9780810869110). LC2009-000236.

When does a composer become a composer? Barry Cooper sets out to rehabilitate and reassess the musical compositions of Western young people. He is quite right that Western music history has tended both to prejudice “adult” works (however defined) and to favor that “mature” music that specifically advances musical style. It has more or less ignored the “juvenilia” of major composers, even when such compositions contain formal coherence or musical innovation, features that are clearly valued later in the composer’s life. *Child Composers & Their Works* at its best attempts to shine scholarly light on neglected corners in this repertory. It sometimes does so, however, at the expense of objectivity and sound method.

The heart of the book’s value as a library reference work is the “Annotated Checklist of Notable Child Composers.” For more than 100 individuals, who wrote more than 2000 “childhood” pieces of music, Cooper has assembled snapshots of compositional lives before the age of sixteen (admitting this is an arbitrary boundary). Each person is listed in chronological order by date of birth, and each receives a brief prose description of his or her early compositional life, including a discussion of specific musical features where possible, an extremely helpful discography of extant musical recordings, and a brief bibliography. The availability of documentation unfortunately governs the depth of Cooper’s entries and leads to an inevitable unevenness of treatment. He cites, for instance, evidence for several years’ worth of lost Händel church music, documentation that probably is known only because it concerns Händel. For Mozart, Felix Mendelssohn, and Richard Strauss, enough of their “childhood” music (and musicological commentary on it) survives that several pages of text can present Cooper’s thoughtful take on the development of these composers as children. For Rossini, there is a critical evaluation of his early musical style and, for Schubert, extensive discussion of a single early work. In the case of composers such as Bonville (99), or even Paganini (105), on the other hand, the documentation for more than a sentence or two either does not exist or has not yet been uncovered.

The Checklist allows Cooper to advance several fascinating observations on “child composers” as a group (chapter 5). It is quite common for a child composer to have a musical parent, for instance, but also to live without parental pressure to compose. Many child composers have early training at the keyboard, which helps to foster their early musical experimentation. Several “prodigies” surprisingly become more conservative in style later in life, which further contributes to their marginalization in common music histories. Erich Korngold, “one of the