Often student organizations wish to include different types of media in their events. Before attempting to do so, the law requires that individuals consider all copyright ownership rights. Media includes works done in print, video, music, or any other format.

According to US Law, the owner of a copyright has the exclusive rights to do and to authorize any of the following: reproduction of the copyrighted work, distributing copies of the work, performing or displaying the copyrighted work publicly (17 U.S.C.A. § 106). Thus, it is critical to obtain official permission before using any copyrighted work. Without permission, the use of a copyrighted work will be a violation of US Law.

Georgetown University advises all students to seek permission for usage of copyrighted materials.