Guidelines for Amplified Music and Speaking Activities in Core Areas of Campus

The TUPD is to be notified of any event in core campus, West Village and the Sports Complex where there is the potential of receiving noise complaints including all after hours events in the arenas. This responsibility belongs to the Event Manager planning the event.

What are the guidelines for electrified or amplified music?
Electronically amplified or disruptive music including boom boxes are prohibited in the core areas of campus at anytime academic classes are in session except in Freedom Square as outlined below. The State of Maryland COMAR regulations requires sound levels at university property lines as follows:

The standard is the average electronically amplified sound level not including peaks.
- Daytime hours (7am – 10pm) – 65 dBA including peaks.
- Nighttime hours (10pm – 7am) – 55 dBA including peaks.

Are there any exceptions to the above regulations?
No, sound levels are stipulated by State of Maryland COMAR regulations.

What if the music isn’t electrified or amplified?
Impromptu acoustical (non-amplified) music will be permitted but will be stopped if a complaint of disruption is received from an academic class or scheduled activity.

Are there any locations on campus where amplified music is permitted?
Permitted locations for electronically amplified music are defined below.

Inlement Weather
In the case of inclement or the potential of inclement weather, the Event & Conference Technical Operations Department will have sole discretion as to whether requested audio services will be provided to avoid damages to electronic equipment.

Other Permitted areas include:

The Speakers Circle at Hawkins Hall - Technical Operations Department will conduct sound level readings at the beginning of the event and if possible once an hour thereafter. Sound level amplification must not be greater than 95dBA (within 5 feet of the amplification source) for sound systems or 90dBAs (within 5 feet of the device) for handheld devices. Sound levels must be adjusted in response to complaints.
Freedom Square – Speaking amplification and music being provided through a CD player or I-Pod type device are permitted under the following conditions: Technical Operations Department will conduct sound level readings at the beginning and throughout the event.

Electronically amplified speaking and music (Freedom Square) will be permitted in the core areas of campus during academic class times. These requests must be received by the Event & Conference Services Facility Reservations Office at least 10 business days in advance of requested date.

***See Diagram Below for exact location and location description***

**Location 1:** Sound level amplification must not be greater than 85 dBA on an A rated scale (within 5 feet of the amplification source). The speakers must be setup adjacent to the 2 light poles closest to the Psychology Building facing the walkway leading to the University Union to avoid noise issues in the Lecture Hall offices and classroom. Sound levels must be adjusted in response to complaints.

**Location 2:** Sound level amplification must not be greater than 72 dBA on an A rated scale (within 5 feet of the amplification source). The speakers must be setup adjacent to the 2 light poles closest to the Lecture Hall facing directly toward & under the Lecture Hall main walkway to avoid noise issues in the Lecture Hall offices and classroom. Sound levels must be adjusted in response to complaints.
• Electronically amplified music in the **Paw’s Lawn and Patio** will be handled as such:
  • **Location A (under Pavilion)** – The speakers are to be setup in the open space on the far side of the pavilion on the Tower A side and must face the long section of the pavilion (towards the Union Garage, away from CFA). *The volume may not exceed 85 dBA measured on the A rated scale. Measurements are to be taken at 20’ from the speakers in the center of the two speakers. When using the built in speakers, the volume may not exceed 85 dBA.*
  
  THE EVENT MANAGER IS TO ENSURE THAT ANY GROUP LOOKING TO USE LOCATION “A” UNDERSTANDS THE TECH MONITORING COST SO THEY MAY INCLUDE IN THE BUDGET. WE SHOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE GROUP ADD TO THEIR CONTRACT THAT THE DJ WILL NOT BE PAID IF HE/SHE FAILS TO ADHERE TO THE UNIVERSITY’S NOISE STANDARD. If the DJ refuses to adhere to the volume limit for this area, the music is to be turned off to ensure academic programs and faculty in the CFA is not unreasonably disturbed.
• **Location B (at the bottom of the hill next to the staircase on the gravel, against the rock wall)** - The speakers are to be setup near the rock wall facing either the Union or into the pavilion. *The volume may not exceed 90 dBA measured on the A rated scale. Measurements are to be taken at 20’ from the speakers in the center of the two speakers.*

• **Location C (outside of the Paws door toward CFA)** – The speakers are to be back toward the tree with one on each side of the roadway. *The speakers must face directly at the Union Garage. The volume may not exceed 80 dBA measured on the A rated scale. Measurements are to be taken at 20’ from the speakers in the center of the two speakers.*

• **Location D (under cover on the paws patio between Paws and the Parking Services Office)** – The speakers are to be setup in the far corner of the patio on the CFA side and must face the long section of the patio (toward the far stairwell near the SECU ATM). A Tech Person must be scheduled to monitor volume prior to the start of the event rechecking periodically throughout the event. *The volume may not exceed 85 dBA measured on the A rated scale. Measurements are to be taken at 20’ from the speakers in the center of the two speakers.* If the DJ refuses to adhere to the volume limit for this area, the music to be turned off to ensure Parking Services is not unreasonably disturbed.

• **Location E (under cover on the paws patio)** - The speakers are to be setup near the PNC ATM facing Burdick Field about 8’ off the wall. A Tech Person must be scheduled to monitor volume prior to the start of the event rechecking periodically throughout the event. *The volume may not exceed 90 dBA measured on the A rated scale. Measurements are to be taken at 20’ from the speakers in the center of the two speakers.* If the DJ refuses to adhere to the volume limit for this area, the music to be turned off to ensure Parking Services is not unreasonably disturbed.

• **Health and Counseling Centers (H&CC)** - Speakers are to be directed just to the left of Scarborough Hall from the grass area with the backs of the speakers toward the H&CC preferably on the building side of the walkway. *The volume may not exceed 85 dBA measured on the A rated scale. Measurements are to be taken at 20’ from the speakers in the center of the two speakers.* If the DJ / band refuses to adhere to the volume limit for this area, the music to be turned off to ensure other buildings including the hotel are not unreasonably disturbed. Electronically amplified sound in this area is limited to 10am – 6pm as to not interfere with guest satisfaction of the hotel. The Marriott Hotel must be notified when amplified sound is setup in this area.