

1989

## Book Review of A Copyright Primer for Educational and Industrial Producers

James S. Heller

*William & Mary Law School*, [heller@wm.edu](mailto:heller@wm.edu)

---

### Repository Citation

Heller, James S., "Book Review of A Copyright Primer for Educational and Industrial Producers" (1989). *Library Staff Publications*. 115.

<https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/libpubs/115>

Copyright c 1989 by the authors. This article is brought to you by the William & Mary Law School Scholarship Repository.

<https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/libpubs>

include reproductions of the fair use guidelines for print materials, music, and off-air taping; several Copyright Office circulars; and selected Copyright Office regulations. Readers should pay close attention to Sinofsky's disclaimer that her opinions do not constitute legal advice. She ably meets her stated goal of providing readers "a glimmer of some of the key copyright issues you should encounter during a production" (p. xi), and wisely suggests that producers discuss these matters with an attorney. In view of the complex nature of copyright law and the author's purpose of providing only an introduction to copyright issues affecting media producers, the cautious reader will heed her suggestion.

This work is recommended for libraries in institutions offering media services support, as well as for media producers. Also recommended for such libraries are Sinofsky's *Off-Air Video-taping in Education* (R. R. Bowker, 1984), *Modern Copyright Fundamentals*, by Weil and Polansky (Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1985), and *The Copyright Primer for Librarians and Educators* (American Library Association, 1987). [R: LJ, 15 Sept 88, p. 75]

James S. Heller

286. Sinofsky, Esther R. **A Copyright Primer for Educational and Industrial Media Producers.** Friday Harbor, Wash., Copyright Information Services, 1988. 236p. bibliog. index. (Copyright Information Bulletin, No. 4). \$29.95. LC 87-15423. ISBN 0-914143-12-3.

*A Copyright Primer* is intended as an introduction to copyright issues for "educators, industrial trainers, and other amateur and small producers, including producers of programs for local-access cable TV channels" (p. xi). Part 1 of the book discusses key sections of the U.S. Copyright Act, including what types of works are copyrightable; who owns copyright; fair use and other exemptions; and copyright notices, deposit, and registration requirements. Part 2 provides an overview of selected production issues, including a checklist of basic legal procedures for producing copyrightable materials; protecting scripts, titles, and characters; copy-righting dramatic and visual works; ownership rights in printed materials, music, photographs, and other visual arts; and public domain materials.

As is the case with so many works dealing with copyright, the appendices make up a substantial portion of the work. The appendices