

Every great city deserves a great university, and at every university's core is a great library.

## The Houston Hip Hop Research Collection

Building the Houston Hip Hop Research Collection in UH Libraries Special Collections is an important priority for University of Houston, and UH Libraries. Located on campus, in the M.D. Anderson Library, the Houston Hip Hop Research Collection is a primary focus of UH Libraries' strategic plan to build original & unique archival collections embodying the essence of our region, people, and economy.

At UH we believe in the transformative power of the arts and their ability to positively shape the world. Artists embody the culture around them to generate ideas, express hope or despair, and inspire dreams.

The Houston Hip Hop Research Collection represents a significant priority of the University of Houston, and of UH Libraries, supporting President Renu Khator's strategic goals of: national competitiveness, community advancement, national and local recognition, resource competitiveness, and student success.

With the growth of hip hop studies in colleges and universities, UH Libraries is building a strong archival and research collection that will serve students and scholars in the disciplines of African American studies, art, English, history, law, music, sociology, and more. The collection supports UH Libraries' core value of providing resources that promote and value diversity while reflecting the unique essence of our people and our region.

The Houston Hip Hop Research Collection will serve the community to enrich and empower our students, our university, and the world. In a diverse urban city, like Houston, every person's potential can be elevated, and the economy fueled, by simply having a leading public university library woven into the fabric of the community. Building a significant Houston Hip Hop Research Collection will capture the creativity and drive of musicians, producers, and entrepreneurs as they document the world around them through music and culture that influences others around the world.

### Mission

The mission of the Houston Hip Hop Research Collection is to preserve Houston's unique hip hop music and culture, provide a launching pad for scholarship, and offer abundant and compelling resources that engage and empower our community.



We do this by building a unique collection of distinction that documents the hip hop scene. We build from the rich cultural heritage of the Houston region to encompass national and global impact. The Houston Hip Hop Research Collection will bring national and international scholars to the University of Houston to research and publish within a wide array of subjects, and attract top students, faculty and leaders to Houston. Our mission supports the activities of our community while helping to fulfill UH's ability to educate leaders with a future vision that is grounded in awareness of the past.

### **Vision**

Our vision is to become a leading regional hip hop archive offering a rich resource for scholarship and learning about the hip hop community. Such a collection reflective of the music community in Houston will serve to document and further Houston's artistic legacy for future generations.

### **Initiatives**

In support of this mission and vision, University of Houston Libraries is:

- Acquiring unique primary sources that document the activities of leading individuals and organizations in the Houston music community.
- Developing presentations, programming, exhibits and digital assets in partnership with the hip hop community, area organizations, and campus units, to enrich the academic and intellectual objectives of students, faculty, scholars, and lifelong learners.
- Preserving materials that would otherwise be lost.
- Digitizing collection materials to make them accessible to students, teachers, scholars, industry, and activists beyond the limits of print and the walls of the library onto the global stage.
- Creating on-line and on-site exhibits of collection materials to engage the public with the Houston Hip Hop Research Collection.
- Engaging UH and community students from different disciplines to be a part of our archival, exhibition, digital scholarship, and research programs, providing unique opportunities to gain experience and understanding of hip hop music.
- Organizing speakers and events that highlight our collections and programs.
- Securing and preserving Houston's artistic legacy for future scholarship.



Screwed Up Click rap collective

UH Libraries Houston Hip Hop Research Collection embodies our unique local heritage. It serves to provide an outstanding documentary resource for teaching, learning, research, culture, and enterprise.

## **UH LIBRARIES VISION**

**A community nurtured by curiosity and creativity that drives lifelong learning and scholarship.**

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