

## WHAT IS ECCLA?

**ECCLA** is a copyright licensing agency set up by creators (authors and publishers) to manage their reprographic reproduction rights (mainly photocopying).

ECCLA was legally incorporated in 2011 as a non-profit organisation whose main functions are to:

- ★ negotiate licences with users to photocopy specified portions of printed works
- ★ collect royalties from these users
- ★ distribute the royalties to authors and publishers

ECCLA will also help to:

- ★ educate the public and promote respect for copyright
  - ★ initiate legal action against infringers of members' photocopying rights
  - ★ keep members informed about new developments in copyright legislation and administration
  - ★ lobby for changes to current legislation to improve protection of members' rights
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## WHO IS A CREATOR?

Creators are authors and publishers of original "works of the mind" in literature, art and music. Examples of creators are:

<u>AUTHORS</u>	<u>PUBLISHERS</u>
Writers	Books
Translators	Magazines
Journalists	Periodicals
Songwriters	Newspapers
Composers	Music
Visual Artists	
Photographers	
Cartographers	

The *Antigua & Barbuda Copyright Act 2003*, *Dominica Copyright Act 2003*, *Grenada Copyright Act 1989*, *St. Kitts & Nevis Copyright Act 2002*, *Saint Lucia Copyright Act 2000* and *The St. Vincent & the Grenadines Copyright Act 2003* all give creators legal ownership of their works and the sole rights to publish, reproduce, or authorise the reproduction of these works in any form.

For printed publications, the law recognises two forms of copyright: authors' and publishers'. The author as creator of the manuscript must give permission to the publisher (by way of contract) to publish the work. The publisher's own copyright is in the typographical arrangement of the published edition.

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## HOW DOES A CREATOR BECOME A MEMBER OF ECCLA?

- ☞ To be eligible for membership creators must have had at least one original work published in printed form.
  - ☞ Membership is open to both individual creators and organisations that are rightsholders themselves or which have been assigned copyright by creators.
  - ☞ Creators become members by giving ECCLA the mandate to manage their reprographic reproduction rights through a membership agreement. Reprographic reproduction includes photocopying, facsimile, xerography, duplicating or copying on to microfilm.
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## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO MEMBERS?

The right to reproduce a work by reprographic reproduction is one of a bundle of rights given to authors and publishers by the *Antigua & Barbuda Copyright Act 2003*, *Dominica Copyright Act 2003*, *Grenada Copyright Act 1989*, *St. Kitts & Nevis Copyright Act 2002*, *Saint Lucia Copyright Act 2000* and *The St. Vincent & the Grenadines Copyright Act 2003*.

It would be difficult for each author to administer this right individually, given the extensive demand for photocopies.

Persons needing permission to photocopy would also have difficulty locating and negotiating with individual rightsholders.

By establishing a Collective Licensing Agency like ECCLA

- ☞ Authors can administer their rights more efficiently
  - ☞ Users who need photocopies can obtain them legally, conveniently and on reasonable terms
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## BENEFITS

- ☞ Authors are better able to control the amount of photocopying done so that sales of the published editions are not jeopardised by extensive illegal photocopying
- ☞ Authors are assured of remuneration from the licence fees collected from users
- ☞ Authors also benefit from international protection of their works through ECCLA's bilateral agreements with licensing agencies in other countries. These countries give the same protection to ECCLA's authors as they give to their own nationals
- ☞ Authors stand to benefit from any legal action ECCLA may initiate to obtain remedy for breaches of copyright
- ☞ Through collective action authors are better able to educate users of their works about the need to respect copyright and comply with the law

## WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS?

- ☐ ECCLA is owned and administered by its members, who determine its objectives, policies and programmes.
- ☐ Members should become familiar with:
  - i) The *Copyright Act* of their country.
  - ii) The role and operations of **Reproduction Rights Organisations (RROs)** like ECCLA.
- ☐ Members should use every opportunity to educate the general public also about the need to respect copyright.
- ☐ Members should form Associations to promote their general interests as creators. They should be willing to represent these associations on ECCLA's Board of Directors, which has equal numbers of authors and publishers.
- ☐ Members are also expected to attend ECCLA's Annual General Meeting and other General Meetings called from time to time to address specific issues.

## HOW DO I OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION?

ECCLA is establishing a copyright library for the general education of its members.

Why not visit our office to get more information or contact us at:

Eastern Caribbean Copyright  
Licensing Association Inc.  
P O Box 1396  
Mac Vane Drive  
Sans Souci  
Castries  
Saint Lucia  
Phone: (758) 451 9967  
Email: [ecclacopyright@gmail.com](mailto:ecclacopyright@gmail.com)

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# Your Invitation

To

*Membership*

From

ECCLA

EASTERN CARIBBEAN



**COPYRIGHT  
LICENSING  
ASSOCIATION**

To

*Creators of  
Literary, Artistic &  
Musical Works in  
Printed Form*