Noise and Amplified Sound

Stanford is not only an academic institution but a residential community within the boundaries of Santa Clara County. Supporting the mission of the university and respecting those who are studying, researching or otherwise carrying out academic-related activities is a Stanford priority. It is the responsibility of all faculty, students and staff to moderate noise especially during an organized event or general activity held on campus.

Disturbing noise in outdoor areas, near a residence or other campus buildings that infringe on the rights of those residents or members of the university or neighboring communities is considered a violation of this policy.

Weekday events, amplified sound and use of outdoor campus spaces

- Amplified sound is NOT permitted during weekdays at gatherings in outdoor areas that could disturb classes or university business.
  - These include but are not limited to spaces such as Terman Fountain, Meyer Lawn and Dohrman Grove.
- Permissible locations include: White Plaza [1] and in its immediate surrounding area, Monday through Friday between 12:00 p.m. (Noon) to 1:00 p.m.
- All event related sound must be significantly curtailed by 10:00 p.m. daily.

Weekend events and amplified sound

- Weekend and evening events using amplified sound may be permissible with limitations, and must be coordinated with the appropriate administrative offices listed below.
- All event related sound must be significantly curtailed by 10:00 p.m. daily.

As part of the event planning process, the Stanford event organizer must obtain approvals regarding the use of amplified sound during an event or activity being held outdoors.

For information regarding maximum permissible sound levels in decibels, please refer to the Santa Clara County Code. Copies of the County Noise Ordinance can be obtained from the Department of Public Safety [2] as well as the Office of Special Events & Protocol.

Other limitations and modifications to this policy may be made at the discretion of the University Events Policy Committee (UEPC).

Event Organizer?s resource information

Events organized by departments, schools and institutes:
