To the Copyright office and members of congress:

My name is Kimberly Mehler. I am an artist, and have been working in this field for over 30 years. I went to Moore College of Art, and hold a degree in Design.

I worked for the Franklin Institute Science Museum and various ad agencies and design firms before working in my current mediums of watercolor and public murals. I have exhibited at galleries and art centers regularly in Philadelphia and the surrounding area, have won awards, and received grants and commissions from such organizations as the Cultural Alliance, the Leeway Foundation, Einstein Hospital, CHOP, SEPTA, Abington and Central Bucks school districts, Cheltenham Township, to name a few. I have received a decent amount of press coverage, including radio, TV, and newspapers. I have collaborated with other artists to create art for social justice. I am a member of an artist's cooperative, Cheltenham and Abington Art Centers, and Creative Montco.

To me, *copyright law is not an abstract legal issue, but the basis on which my business rests*! Our copyrights are the products we license. This means that infringing our work is like stealing our money. It's important to our businesses that we remain able to determine voluntarily how and by whom our work is used.
Our work does NOT lose its value upon publication. Instead everything we create becomes part of our *business inventory.* In the digital era, inventory is more valuable to artists than ever before! I do not welcome someone monetizing my work without my knowledge or consent!

Thank you,
Kimberly Mehler