

MS 307

The Living Arts Center Collection

Dunbar Library
Special Collections and Archives
Wright State University

Processed by
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Introduction

The Living Arts Center Collection consists of six boxes that are filled with photographs, grants, correspondences, reports, film, and newspaper articles. The collection was received in December 1998 and was donated by Carol Develbiss. The Living Arts Center was in operation from November 6, 1967 to the end of the school year in 1977. The purpose of the Living Arts Center was to encourage creativity to all students regardless of background. It is arranged chronologically from 1964 to 1972. The accession number is 98-47.

Organizational Sketch

On April 1967 the Dayton Board of Education was notified by the department of Health, Education, and Welfare that it would receive a grant of \$1,000,035 from Title III of the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act to fund the Living Arts Program. The Project Director of this program was Jack A. Develbiss. The Living Arts Program served approximately 400 students in grades five through twelve. It was divided into five departments: Creative writing, dance, drama, music, and the visual arts. The Living Arts Center enrolled students from the Dayton City Schools and the school systems located in Montgomery County and Greene County. The Living Arts Center emphasized creativity and self-expression. It was selected as one of six outstanding Title III Programs in the nation. The National School Board Awards Program and the Thom McAn Company awarded Living Arts the “Lamp of Learning trophy” and \$2,500 in May 1970. Federal funding ended on June 1970. It was then taken over by the Dayton Board of Education. The program ended in 1977 due to lack of funding.

Scope and Content Note

The Living Arts Center Collection is divided into 11 series.

Series I Administrative

This includes the program history, general correspondence, and autographed envelopes of famous politicians, reports, and information on grants. The most important documents relating to the grants are the Ohio Guidelines for Title III, Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Series II Newspaper articles

This includes newspaper articles related to the Learning Arts Program. The earliest newspaper article on the Learning center is dated December 8, 1966 and the last newspaper article was published on February 10, 1972. The newspaper articles include pertinent information on the Learning Center such as the objectives of the program and how it was funded.

Series III Publicity

These are pamphlets and flyers related to the Living Arts Program. These advertisements show the various ways the staff at the Living Arts Center tried to get some publicity for their program. It was also a way for them to get the citizens of Dayton involved in the success of the program.

Series IV Magazine Articles

There are various articles in national educational magazines that discuss the Living Arts Program. The magazine articles also give pertinent information on the Living Arts Center. It also gave the Living Arts Program some national prominence.

Series V Reunion Week

This is a program that re-united people and artists who had visited or worked at Living Arts Center. The purpose of this program was to re-energize the staff and students and the Living Arts Program who were starting to feel demoralized from the budget cuts.

Series VI Fifth Grade Program

The Living Arts Center developed the Fifth Grade Program because their research showed that after the fourth year of school the level of desire for creativity diminishes. The Fifth Grade Program was designed to enhance the fifth grade curriculum.

Series VII Photographs

This series contains photographs of staff members, visiting artists, and school functions. There are photographs of the original Living Arts Staff, the outreach programs, and students who worked there. There are photographs of visiting artists interacting with the student body. There are also photographs of the Living Arts building.

Series VIII Newsletters

These series comprised the official Living Arts newsletters, which ran from March 1968 to February 1970. The newsletters detail the origins of the Living Arts Center. Later articles dealt with the problems of lack of funding and diminishing support from the community.

Series XI Creative writing magazines

These are publications created by the students of the Living Arts Center. They showcase the talents of the student body with original short stories, plays, poems, and art.

Series X Miscellaneous

This series contains a study that was funded by Title III. This study evaluated the Living Arts Program to see if it was effective in stimulating creativity in students. The study is titled *A Longitudinal Study of the Development of Creativity* and was written by Charles E. Skipper.

Series XI Reel-to-reel films

These are films that pertain to the Living Arts Center. Think TV PBS is currently processing them. They are being transferred from film to videotape.

Oversize material:

Architectural drawing of L.A.C. building – Loc. 60, Folder 5

Box and Folder Listing

Series I: Administrative

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Program History	N.D.
	2	General Correspondence	Sept. 10, 1968- June 28, 1972
	3	Carol Horford	April 15, 1969-Mar.29, 1972
	4	Autographed Envelopes	N.D.
	5	Economic Act of 1964	August 20, 1964
	6	Pacesetters in Innovation Guidelines and Manual for Application	October 1965
	7	Pacesetters in Innovations Projects Approved	Feb. 1966- April 1966
	8	Pacesetters in Innovations Fiscal year 1968	1968
	9	Ohio Guidelines for Title III, Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)	December 1969
	10	Planning Grant	1966
	11	Grant Notification	June 28, 1966- June 25, 1969
	12	Operation Procedures From the Original Grant	January 15, 1967
	13	Inventory	April 1, 1969
2	1	Report and Summary Second Year of Operation	June 28, 1968-June 22, 1969
	2	Termination Report	June 28, 1967-June 29, 1970
	3	President's National Advisory Council On Supplementary Centers and Services	April 1, 1970
	4	A Report to the Ford Foundation	May 1970
	5	A Review of Projects in the Arts	August, 1970
	6	Evaluation	N.D.
3	1	Application for Continuation Grant	1968-1969
	2	Application for Continuation Grant	June 29, 1969-June 28, 1970
	3	Duplicate	June 29, 1969-June 28, 1970
	4	Project Phase-In Report	January 1, 1971

Series II: Newspapers

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	1	Newspapers	January 1966- June 1968
	2	Newspaper articles	Dec. 8, 1966- Feb.10, 1972

Series III: Publicity

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	3	Publicity	N.D.

Series IV: Magazine Articles

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	4	Magazine Articles	April 1968- May 22, 1970

Series V: Reunion Week

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	5	Reunion Week	Feb. 7-13
	6	Reunion Week	Feb. 7-13

Series VI: Fifth Grade Program

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	7	Fifth Grade Program	Summer 1970
	8	Fifth Grade Program	Summer 1970

Series VII: Photographs

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	1	Photographs: Brooks, Gwendelyn Poet Laurete	N.D.
	2	Photographs: Camelot Orchestra	N.D.
	3	Photographs: Ciardi, John and Bing Davis in classroom visitation	N.D.
	4	Photographs: Davis, Bing and Jack Develbiss, Jim Payne, Barbara Benham, Clarence Walls, Cho li Chi, Glenn Ray	N.D.
	5	Photographs: Develbiss, Jack and Edgar Tafur	N.D.
	6	Photographs: Evans, Lee Pianist	N.D.
	7	Photographs: Hollander, Lorin Pianist	N.D.
	8	Photographs: Irani, Joanne and Lorene Scott, Linda Alton	N.D.
	9	Photographs: Living Arts Center	N.D.
	10	Photographs: Mara of Mara and Co.	N.D.
	11	Miscellaneous Photographs: No Identification	N.D.
	12	Photographs: Payne, Jim Drama Director	N.D.
	13	Photographs: Payne, Jim and Jack Develbiss, Carol White, Tom Broderick	N.D.
	14	Photographs: Ray, Glenn Music Director	N.D.
	15	Photographs: Tafur, Edgar	N.D.
	16	Photographs: Teachers Art Workshop	N.D.
	17	Photographs : Williams, Miller Poet	N.D.
	18	Photographs: Yuriko Dancer	N.D.

Series VIII: Newsletters

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
6	1	Newsletters	Mar. 1968- Feb.1970

Series IX: Creative Writing Magazine

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
6	2	Creative Writing Magazines	April 1969

Series X: Miscellaneous

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
6	3	Miscellaneous	N.D.