

A Guide to the The Records of the Speech & Drama Department in the University Archives Virginia Union University, 1934-1993

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A Collection in Archives and Special Collections Department, L. Douglas Wilder Library, Virginia Union University AR-0003

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History

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Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Collection Number

AR-0003

Language of Materials

English

Creator

Speech and Drama Department, Virginia Union University; University Players

Physical Characteristics

2 boxes; 1 oversize folder

Repository

Archives and Special Collections Department, L. Douglas Wilder Library, Virginia Union University

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use.

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Adjunct Descriptive Data

Separated Materials

Photographs (housed in PAR-003)

Broadsides (housed in OAR-003)

Related Archival Materials

Fine Arts Festival (AR-004)

Administrative History

Classes in acting and directing or stagecraft were offered through the English Department until 1975 when the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Drama was first offered. The University Players began as an extracurricular club that performed in La Cave, the theatre in the basement of Martin E. Gray Hall. Now a part of the department's curriculum, it is one of the oldest organizations on campus and one of the oldest theatre groups in Richmond. It was the first Richmond theatre group to sponsor a Black drama playwriting contest. The group has performed not only on campus, but throughout the community, and in the 1970's introduced African American drama to areas of Minnesota through a federal program of cultural exchange.

Scope and Content

These records reflect the performances and activities of the Speech and Drama Department at Virginia Union University. The bulk of the collection is performance programs and photographs of the University Players. The Administrative file contains very limited correspondence (mostly congratulatory letters) and press releases.

Index Terms

Corporate Names:

Speech and Drama Department

University Players

Virginia Union University (Richmond, Va.)

Arrangement

The Programs and Photographs files are arranged chronologically by performance date.

Contents List

[Level 1 Items]

Box 1

Administrative, 1934-1980

Broadsides

University Players

Photographs, The Triumph of Job, March 1967

Photographs, Shadows in Passing or The Big Black Box, April 1967

Photographs, God's Trombones, November 1967

Photographs, The Chairs & Holocaust, March 1968

Photographs, The Fantasticks, April 1968

Photographs, A Midwinter's Phantasy, December 1968

Photographs, Spoon River Anthology, April 1969

Photographs, Slow Dance on the Killing Ground, September 1969

Photographs, Black...Out!, October 1969

Photographs, To Be Black, October 1970

Photographs, The Unwicked Witch, March 1971

Photographs, Happy Ending & Day of Absence, November 1971

Photographs, This I Believe, March 1972

Photographs, Dark of the Moon, November 1972

Photographs, Androcles and the Lion, February 1973

Photographs, Mind Dream, April 1973

Photographs, Sty of the Blind Pig, February 1974

Photographs, Highway 1 - USA, April 1974

Photographs, Ceremonies in Dark Old Men, October 1974

Photographs, Lumpkin's Jail, April 1975

Photographs, Undated Programs, 1924, 1932, 1938-1940

Programs, 1966-1969

Programs, 1969-1971

Programs, 1971-1973

Programs, 1973-1975

Programs, 1975-1977

Programs, 1983, 1985, 1991-199

Programs, 1998-

Programs, Undated

Scripts, Freedom

Scripts, Lumpkin's Jail

Scripts, Mind Dream

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