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Archives & Special Collections*

UA 2003.50

Loyola University Chicago
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Theatre records

Dates: 1932-2003

Creator: Theatre Department (1968-)

Extent: 0.83 linear feet

Level of description: Folder

Processor & date: Bryan Morey, August 2018

Administration Information

Restrictions: No Restrictions.

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Citation: Loyola University Chicago. Archives & Special Collections. Department of Theatre records, 1932-2003. Box #, Folder #.

Provenance: Transferred to the University Archives by the Theatre Department on December 20, 2003.

Separations: None

See Also: Department of Fine and Performing Arts Records, Theatre Department Records

Administrative History

The Theatre major is a program within the Department of Fine and Performing Arts in the College of Arts and Sciences at Loyola University Chicago. It originated at St. Ignatius College as the Sock and Buskin. The name was derived from the costumes of Athenian actors: high socks of the comedian and the half-shoes (buskins) of the tragedians. The club was followed by the University Players in the 1931-1932 academic year. Professor Joseph Rice, Director of Dramatics, moderated the group for one year. Mr. Charles Costello took over the following year.

Beginning in the 1930s, theatre related classes were offered under the Education, Public Speaking, and English departments. Courses included Drama and Oratory. By the end of the decade, Loyola had expanded theatre-related classes to include Acting, Playwriting, Play Production, and Play Direction.



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In June 1935, Charles Costello organized the Curtain Guild (Dramatic Society). Although a student organization, it worked with the Department of Speech and Drama. The Curtain Guild continued until the end of the 1970-1971 academic year.

Established in 1948, the Department of Speech and Drama at Loyola offered required core courses in the fundamentals of speech, as well as specialized major courses and training in speech correction. Prior to 1948, speech and drama courses were offered through the English Department. In the 1957-1958 academic year, the Department of Speech and Drama added a major in Public Speaking. They also began offering classes specializing in radio and television in the late 1950s.

In 1968, the Department of Speech and Drama was separated into two departments: Department of Communication Arts and Theatre Department. During its first year, 1968-1969, the Kathleen Mullady Memorial Theatre opened, and the Theatre Department started the European Theatre Artists Program. This program brought six artists from Ireland, England, and France to teach in the Theatre Department. Students in the department graduated with a major in Theatre. Subjects in the department included Theatre and Dance.

In addition to teaching courses, faculty directed many plays. The coursework offered in the Theatre Department included courses to help students develop and create their own productions. From Introduction of Theatre to Stage Design, students learned how to write scripts, design sets, and produce plays. Professors expected students to use what they learned both inside and outside the classroom through Theatre coursework and the plays on which they worked.

Loyola merged Theatre, Music, Fine Arts, and added Dance in the fall of 2007 to create the Department of Fine and Performing Arts. Students interested in Theatre may major in Theatre or minor in Theatre, Musical Theatre, or Shakespeare Studies.

Scope and Content

The Theatre Department Records consist of 0.83 linear feet spanning the years 1932-2003. Records include meeting minutes, memos, correspondence, agendas, procedures, play programs, playbills, brochures, magazines, advertisements, press releases, postcards, newsletters, and an exhibit on Theatre Department history.

Series

Series 1: Department Records, 1969-1990. Box 1

This series includes faculty meeting minutes, memos, and correspondence from Arthur Bloom, the department's chairman.



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Series 2: Publicity, 1932-2003. Boxes 1-2

This series includes play programs, playbills, brochures, magazines, advertisements, press releases, postcards, newsletters, and an exhibit on Theatre Department history.

Subjects:

Arthur Bloom

Brochures

Curtain Guild

Drama

Faculty meetings

Intermission

Loyola University Chicago

Playbills

Season Programs

Theatre Department



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Accession No.: 2003.50

Creator: Theatre Department

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<u>Series 1: Department Records, 1969-1990</u>			
1	1	Theatre Department Faculty Meeting Minutes	1969-1972
1	2	Responsibilities and Procedures in the Box Office – Theatre Department	Circa 1970s
1	3	Theatre Department – Faculty-Student Meetings	1973, 1975
1	4	Theatre Department – Faculty Meeting Minutes, Agenda, Related Materials	1973-1975
1	5	Theatre Department – memos from Department Chairman (Arthur Bloom)	1973-1980
1	6	Theatre Department – Faculty Meeting Minutes, Agenda, Related Materials	1976-1978
1	7	Theatre Department – Theatre Major handbook	1977-1982
1	8	Theatre Department – Faculty Meeting Minutes, Agenda, Related Materials	1979-1981
1	9	Arthur Bloom, Chairperson Correspondence	1979-1981
1	10	Drama Space in New Campus Center	1980
1	11	Theatre Department – Faculty Meeting Minutes, Agenda	1990
<u>Series 2: Publicity, 1932-2003</u>			
1	12	Theatre Department Programs	1932
1	13	<i>Intermission</i> : Advanced Dramatic Magazine	1933
1	14	Theatre – Curtain Guild – Fall Drama Festival	Circa 1950
1	15	Theatre Department Programs	1951-2000
1	16	Theatre – Curtain Guild Programs (pre-dates Theatre Department)	1953-1954
1	17	List of Plays presented by Theatre Dept. 1968- 1986	1968-1986
2	1	Theatre Department Theatre Season Programs/Brochures, 1970-71, 1998-99, 1999- 2000	1970-2000
2	2	Theater Department Programs	September 1972 – May 1975
2	3	Theater Department Programs	September 1974 May 1975



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2	4	Theater Department Programs	September 1975 – May 1979
2	5	Theatre Department Flyers, ads, press releases, etc. Mostly 1970s	1977-1979
2	6	Theater Department Programs	September 1979 – May 1986
2	7	Theatre Department Flyers, ads, press releases, etc. Mostly 1980s	1980-1986
2	8	Theatre Department Program/application information pamphlets/brochures	1985
2	9	Theatre Department Newsletter	Summer 1989-1990
2	10	Theater Department Programs	September 1989 – May 1992
2	11	Exhibit – Theatre Dept. (Fall 1999)	1999
2	12	Theatre Department 1999-2000 Productions: Flyers, postcards, programs, ads (posters in map case – <i>The Crucible</i> , <i>A Little Night Music</i> , and <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> – Drawer 4)	1999-2003