

Finding Aids to Personal Papers and Special Collections in the VMFA Archives



Special Collection 09 (SC-09) Records of the Richmond Artists Association, 1955-2005

4 cubic feet

Processed by
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January 2009

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Provenance

The collection was donated by Irene Jessee Perry, past President of Richmond Artists Association in August 2005. The blue notebook belonging to Sara D. (Mrs. Israel) November was donated by Neil November in November 2011.

Abstract

This collection documents the history of the Richmond Artists Association (RAA), from its founding in 1955 by artist Westwood Winfree, to 2005 when the group joined with another Richmond art organization to form the Metropolitan Richmond Artists Association. The material highlights RAA's growth and achievements over five decades, including early annual exhibitions at the Carillon and Miller & Rhoads, as well as numerous other exhibitions. Meeting minutes, officer files, and membership materials detail RAA's administration over the years, while the newsletters provide an overview of all RAA activities. Several files highlight the RAA's relationship with other arts organizations, especially the Federated Arts Council of Richmond.

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions on the use of the collection. For permission to publish materials from the collection, please contact the VMFA Archives.

Processing Note

The collection was arranged chronologically and newsletters that were scattered throughout the collection were brought together in one series. When provided, original folder titles were kept.

Historical Note

Looking for ways to display their artworks and introduce Richmond to contemporary fine art, a group of full time art instructors and other professional artists from the Richmond Professional Institute (now Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Arts) started the area's very first art organization. The Richmond Artists Association began in 1955 with artist/lawyer, Westwood Winfree, as its first president and Theresa Pollock as one of its founding members. The Richmond Artists Association has been a leader in encouraging and showcasing all types of art throughout the community. In the fall of 2005, members of the Richmond Artists Association and the Metropolitan Artists Association met and decided to join together to form the Metropolitan Richmond Artists Association.

(The above information was taken from the [Metropolitan Richmond Artists Association](#) website.)

Scope and Content Note

The collection's inclusive dates are 1955-2005, with the bulk of the material dating from 1955-1994. The collection is comprised of exhibition catalogs, correspondence, membership lists, president and officer files, meeting minutes, committee files, newsletters, and other ephemeral material.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into two series, and items are arranged chronologically within each series. Items with no date are placed at the end of a series:

[Series 1: General Files, 1955-2005, n.d.](#)

[Series 2: Newsletters, 1971-2002](#)

Controlled Access Points

Richmond Artists Association
Metropolitan Richmond Artists Association
Arts Council of Richmond
Art, American – Virginia – 20th Century – Exhibitions
Artists – Virginia – Exhibitions
Richmond (Va.) – History

Related Materials

See further information in the VMFA Library:

Subject Files:

- [Organizations and Foundations: Virginia: Private: Richmond Artists Association](#)

See related archival records in the following institutions:

Library of Virginia:

- [Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Director's Correspondence, 1936-1976 \(Coll. No. 33863\)](#)

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS / ITEM LISTS

Series 1: General Files, 1955-2005, n.d.

Boxes 1-4 (157 Folders)

Box Title

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Founder's File, R. Westwood Winfree, 1955-1965 |
| | President's Permanent File, 1955 |
| | Certificate of Incorporation, 1956 |
| | Registered Agent, 1956 |
| | Annual Reports to SCC, 1958-1968 |
| | Museum Situation, 1957 |
| | Insurance, R. Westwood Winfree, 1957-1962 |
| | Exhibitions, 1958-1965 |
| | Virginia Artists, 1953-1957 |
| | Minutes, 1955-1960 |
| | General, 1955-1960 |
| | Festival of the Arts Summer Show, 1955-1960 |
| | Paid Bills, 1955-1960 |
| | Treasurer's File, 1955-1960 |
| | Regarding Charging Admissions, Carillon, 1955-1965 |
| | Membership, Applications, etc., 1955-1960 |
| | Mailing Information, 1955-1965 |
| | Exhibitions, 1955-1965 |
| | Federated Arts, 1955-1957 |
| | Raleigh Grill Shows, 1955-1965 |
| | Valentine Show, 1955-1959 |
| | Other Galleries, Catalogues, etc., 1955-1965 |
| | Membership Requirements, 1955-1965 |
| | Carillon Show, 1956 |
| | Tax Status, 1956-1973 |
| | Patrons and Patrons Committee, 1956-1957 |
| | Publicity, 1956-1959 |

Box	Title
1	Three Modern Painters: Hartley, Feininger, Beckmann, Jan. 6-27, 1957 Carillon Show, 1957 Federated Arts, 1958-1959 Carillon Show, 1958-1959 Miller & Rhoads Show, 1959-1960 Carillon Show, Feb. 1960
2	Federated Arts, 1960-1965 Valentine Show, 1960-1962 Minutes, 1961-1969 Insurance, 1961-1965 Executive Committee Minutes, 1961-1963 Carillon Show, 1961-1965 Miller & Rhoads Show, 1961-1965 Festival of the Arts Summer Show, 1961-1965 Carillon, Physical Setup, 1961-1962 Publicity, 1961-1962 Milton Avery, 1962 Constitution, 1962 Publicity, 1962-1967 Treasurer's Reports, 1962-1967 President's File, Barbara Kennedy, 1963-1964 Vice President's File, Frances Rex, 1964-1964 Vice President's File, Program Chairman, 1963-1964 Sara D. (Mrs. Israel) November's Blue Notebook – contains lists of officers, patrons, and committees, as well as member biographies and a drawing of artist A.B. Jackson done by November on May 21, 1968, 1963-1968 Hans Hoffman and His Students, 1964 President's File, Thomas Gay, Jr., 1964-1965 Thalhimers' Salon des Refuses, 1965 President's File, Nadara Goodwin, 1965-1966 Vice President's File, Ruth Ensign, 1965-1966 Patrons, 1965-1975 General, 1966-1967 Newsletter and Notices, 1966-1967 President's File, Ruth Ensign, 1966-1967 Exhibition Data (Procedure for Organizing Exhibitions), 1967 Programs, Feb. 1967 Exhibition President's File, Kenneth Rowe, 1967-1968 Vice President's File, Gertrude K. Russi, 1967-1968 Max Ernst Works on Paper, 1968 Federated Arts, 1968-1969 Business Meetings, 1968-1969 President's File, Baylor Nichols, 1968-1969

Box	Title
2	<p>General, 1969</p> <p>Fall Art Show, Carillon, Byrd Park, Sep. 21-Oct. 4, 1969</p> <p>Committees, 1969</p> <p>Questionnaires Returned, 1969</p> <p>Information Concerning New Memberships, 1969-1970</p> <p>Federated Arts, 1969-1970</p> <p>Minutes, 1969-1971</p> <p>Roster Committee Information, 1969-1972</p> <p>General, 1970</p> <p>Juried Exhibition at 20th Century Gallery, Williamsburg, Jan. 5-30, 1970</p> <p>Business Meeting, Art Market, Jan. 29, 1970</p> <p>Winter Show, Brandeis University Drawing Show, Carillon/Byrd Park, Feb. 15-Mar. 7, 1970</p> <p>Meeting and Panel Discussion, Carousel/Unicorn Room, Mar. 26, 1970</p> <p>Spring Art Show, Miller & Rhoads, Apr. 15-30, 1970</p> <p>Fall Art Show, Sept. 10-Oct. 5, 1970</p> <p>Drawings and Graphics Show, VUU Gallery, 1970</p> <p>Roster, 1970-1971</p> <p>General, 1971</p> <p>Business Meeting (Election of Officers) and Cocktail Hour, May 25, 1971</p>
3	<p>Annual Reports to SCC, 1971-1977</p> <p>Other Programs, Brochures, etc., 1971-1978</p> <p>Membership Committee, 1971-1972</p> <p>Federated Arts, 1971-1975</p> <p>Six State Biennial, 1972</p> <p>President's File, Gwyn Beitzell, 1971-1972</p> <p>Patrons, 1972-1985</p> <p>President's File, Kitty Schwarzschild, 1972-1973</p> <p>Council, 1973</p> <p>President's File, Etta Edwards, 1974-1975</p> <p>Membership, 1974-1985</p> <p>Festival of the Arts, 1975</p> <p>Drawing Contempo, 1976</p> <p>Federated Arts, 1976-1978</p> <p>President's File, Ed Steinberg, 1976-1978</p> <p>Treasurer's File, 1977-1978</p> <p>Gellman Room Exhibits, 1977-1983</p> <p>Artists Equity Association, 1978</p> <p>Southern Arts Federation, 1978-1979</p> <p>Artists and the Law, 1978-1979</p> <p>Federated Arts, 1978-1980</p> <p>Registered Agent, 1979</p> <p>Artists Equity Association, 1979</p>

Box	Title
3	General, 1979 President's File, Anne Savedge, 1979 ICA Works on Paper Show, 1979-1980 Publicity, [1980?] Washington, D.C. Trip, 1980 Virginia Museum Catalogue, 1981 President's File, Margot Blank, 1982-1984 Exhibitions and Insurance Information, 1982-1986 History by R. Westwood Winfree, compiled 1984-1991 Board Meetings, 1984-1985 30th Anniversary Postcard Project, 1985 Female Experience in Art, 1985 Arts Council, Adrienne Hines, 1985-1986 President's File, Mitzi Humphrey #1, 1985-1986 President's File, Mitzi Humphrey #2, 1985-1986
4	President's File, Mary Montague Sikes, 1986-1987 General, 1988-1989 Treasurer's Reports, 1988-1992 Board Meetings, 1989-1990 Gallery Agreements, 1989-1990 Publicity, 1989-1990 Survey Results by Anne Perkins, 1990s Grants, 1990 History by Ed Wiles, 1990 Exhibition, Tom Gay, 1990-1991 Board Meetings, 1990-1997 35th Anniversary, 1991 Art Organizations, 1991-1992 Prospective Patrons, 1991-1992 Membership, 1991-1994 General, 1992 Westwood Winfree Sculpture Grant, 1992 Baylor Nicholas, Artspace, 1992 Suggestions, 1992 35th Anniversary, Crestar Bank Exhibition, 1992 Board Meetings, 1992 Bea Klein Project, 1992 President's File, Irene Perry #1, 1992-1994 President's File, Irene Perry #2, 1992-1994 Treasurer's Reports, 1993 Board Meetings, 1993 Barnes Trip, National Gallery, July 1993 Member Janice McMurry, 1994

Box	Title
4	General, 1997-2000
	General, 2000-2005
	Go Fish Project, 2002
	Contribution Acknowledgment to Richmond Typographers
	Miscellaneous Clippings

Series 2: Newsletters, 1971-2002

Box 4 (3 Folders)

Box	Title
4	Newsletters, 1971-1972
	Newsletters, 1973-1989
	Newsletters, 1990-2002