

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



Special Collection 12 (SC-12)
Eda Carter Williams Personal Papers, 1940-1993

1 box / 4 folders

Processed by
Kevin Williams, Archives Intern
December 2013

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Provenance

This collection was donated by Eda W. Martin, daughter of Eda Carter Williams, in October 2003. The collection was accessioned into the VMFA Archives' collection in December 2013.

Abstract

The collection documents the service of Eda Carter Williams to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Williams was nominated to be a Trustee of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in 1954, and served for 11 years until 1965. She was also a founding member of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Council in 1955 and served on the Council for 45 years, until 2000.

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

Two annual reports (1954 and 1955), "Members' Bulletin" (September 1955), and the first issue of "Arts in Virginia" (1960) were transferred to the VMFA Library's holdings. Original newspaper clippings were photocopied and originals.

Biographical Note

Eda Atkinson Carter Williams gave a lifetime of community service and was still volunteering at Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church when she died in 2002 at the age of 96. A 1927 graduate of Oldfield's School, Mrs. Williams was the widow of Walter Armistead Williams Jr., who died in 1971. She was a former president of the board for Richmond's Sheltering Arms Hospital, a past trustee of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, a charter member of the Junior League of Richmond, and a charter member of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Council.

In 1978, she was awarded the Junior League of Richmond's Barbara Ransome Andrews Award for her volunteer service, which included helping to establish the former Children's Theater of Richmond. Mrs. Williams crafted puppets for children's shows and wrote several puppet plays. An amateur watercolorist who loved writing, she was the author of several articles for local publications, including Richmond Quarterly, and was co-author of "The Lone Vixen," a play about Civil War spy Elizabeth Van Lew. Her interest in Virginia history and her own family history led her to help found the Richmond Committee of the Robert E. Lee Memorial Association, an organization that works to support Stratford Hall.

(The above information was taken from "Eda Williams Dies at Age 96 - She was Known for Volunteering," by Jennifer V. Buckman, *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, October 15, 2002.)

Scope and Content Note

The collection's inclusive dates are 1940-1993, but the bulk of the material is from the 1950s. The collection is comprised of correspondence.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into one series, and items are arranged chronologically within each folder. Items with no date are placed at the end.

[Series 1: Personal Files, 1940-1993](#)

Controlled Access Points

Williams, Eda Carter
Melchers, Gari, 1860-1932
Melchers, Corinne Lawton
Belmont, the Gari Melchers Memorial Gallery
Museum trustees – Virginia – Richmond – 20th century
Cheek, Leslie, 1908-
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts – Council
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts – History

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS / ITEM LISTS

Series 1: Personal Files, 1940-1993

Box 1 (Folders 1-4)

This series is comprised of personal files from Williams' work as a Trustee and Council member of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

<i>Box</i>	<i>Title</i>
1	Gari Melchers Memorial, 1940-1955
	Trustees, 1954-1965
	Leslie Cheek Resignation, 1957-1958
	Council, 1969-1993