

MANUSCRIPT REPOSITORIES NEWSLETTER

A Newsletter from the Manuscript Repositories Section of the Society of American Archivists

SPRING 2017

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FROM THE CHAIR

*Jackie Dean, Head of Archival Processing
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

Hi everyone,

I'm already looking forward to our section meeting in Portland! The Steering Committee is working to finalize the roster of speakers for our program. Our conversations this year have centered on supporting repositories' efforts to help their researchers feel comfortable engaging with handwritten documents. Our meeting program will feature speakers who have developed tools or programs for their researchers. Our goal is that you leave our meeting with tips and tricks to bring back to your repository. I hope you can join us on Friday, July 28 from 11:15am to 12:30pm.

Thanks to everyone who responded to our emails asking about existing tools for demystifying handwriting. Many of you expressed interest in participating if the Manuscript Repositories Section

endeavored to create a resource such as an online video or brochure. Please continue to share feedback you may have on this topic with me or any steering committee member. And, we'll keep everyone posted as this conversation evolves.

May 1, the deadline for Steering Committee nominations is fast approaching. There is more information about the process below. Please consider getting involved with this group! As we transition into the new affinity group structure, we look forward to welcoming more members into the section. One of our short term goals is to survey the membership to find out what new interests and needs we can address in the coming years.

Finally, thanks so much for the contributions of news and announcements from our members. I hope you'll enjoy the newsletter!

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR SECTION LEADERSHIP

*Anke Voss, Director of Archives and Special Collections
The Urbana Free Library*

The Nominations and Election Committee is seeking candidates for the following positions:

Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Serves as Vice Chair from the conclusion of the 2017 meeting through the 2018 meeting; serves as newsletter editor; works with the Chair and Steering Committee in establishing an agenda for the year; works to ensure that sessions of interest to Section members appear on the SAA program for the following year; prepares for term of service as Chair in 2018-2019; takes minutes during the annual Section meeting. The Vice Chair/Chair Elect must attend the SAA annual meeting.

Steering Committee (3 members): Serves for two years from the end of the 2017 meeting through the 2019 meeting; serves on the Nominations and Election Committee for 2018; assists in planning for the 2019 annual meeting; participates in Steering Committee meetings at SAA; helps set the agenda for the year; and contributes to the newsletter or other activities. Steering Committee members are expected to attend the SAA annual meeting in person or virtually.

Candidates must be members of SAA and the Manuscript Repositories Section. Elections will be held by electronic ballot four weeks before SAA's annual conference in Portland, July 23-29, and winners will be announced at the Section meeting at the conference.

To suggest a candidate (or to nominate yourself!), please send an email to Anke Voss:
avoss@urbanafree.org

The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2017. Let's get involved!

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

AUC Woodruff Library Shares in \$4 Million Award to Digitize Rare and Unique Collections Documenting 132 Years of AUC History

*Andrea Jackson, Head, Archives Research Center
Atlanta University Research Center*

The AUC Woodruff Library is one of 17 institutions to receive funding from CLIR to expand the reach of the AUC's unique publications, periodicals, theses, dissertations and photographs that document the rich history of the nation's largest consortium of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The total awarded to AUC Woodruff Library was \$447,078.

"Our Story: Digitizing Publications and Photographs of the Historically Black Atlanta University Center Institutions" is a 30-month project, which will begin this year and end in 2020. Project partners, including AUC Woodruff Library, Morehouse College and Spelman College Archives will contribute content, serve on the project planning team and assist with outreach and promotion of the digital collections. Once completed, archives related to past and present AUC schools (Atlanta University, Clark College, Clark Atlanta University, Gammon Theological Seminary, Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College, Morris Brown College and Spelman College) will be more easily discoverable for learning about various aspects of African American higher education from emancipation of slavery through the 21st century.

Over the course of the project, more than 700,000 items will be digitized and made available online to ensure resources are easily accessible for the purpose of scholarship and research. Project staff at the Digital Library of Georgia will create the metadata, prepare the newspaper database and upload content to the Digital Library of Georgia's online portal. "The impact of digitizing exceptional collections is infinite, and we deeply appreciate the Council on Library and Information Resources for funding this project that will ensure the accessibility of the AUC's rich and invaluable history for generations to come," says Loretta Parham, CEO and Director. Deliverables produced by the project will be widely promoted through the Internet, blog, social media, in research guides (LibGuides), at conferences and in scholarly publications.

CLIR is an independent, nonprofit organization that forges strategies to enhance research, teaching, and learning environments in collaboration with libraries, cultural institutions, and communities of higher learning. CLIR's Digitizing Hidden Collections program is generously funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The program provides institutions the means to enhance their global digital research environment in ways that support innovative scholarship for the long term, ensuring that the full wealth of resources held by the institution becomes integrated with the open Web.

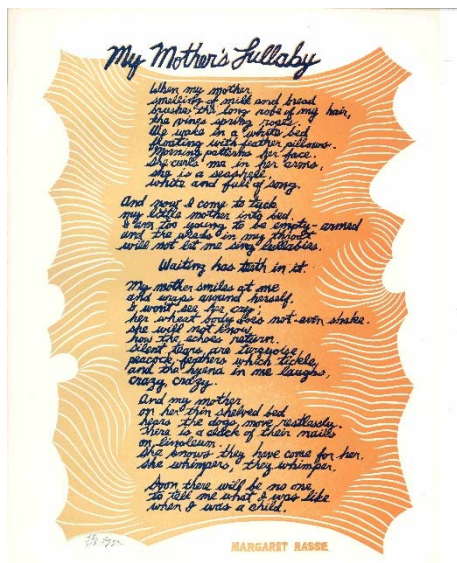
Prairie Poets and Press: Literary Lives of the Upper Midwest

Kathryn Hujda, Assistant Curator, Upper Midwest Literary Archives
University of Minnesota Libraries Archives and Special Collections

Home to a thriving community of writers and publishers, Minneapolis alone boasts three award-winning independent presses, one of the largest service organizations for writers in the country, and thousands of passionate student writers, published authors, and emerging voices. But to understand the story of the literary community in Minnesota, one must look outside the urban sister-cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul to the heart of the prairie. Over the course of 2017, the University of Minnesota Libraries Upper Midwest Literary Archives is mining this history through the archives of Robert Bly, Margaret Hasse, Bill Holm, and Milkweed Editions. *Prairie Poets and Press: Literary Lives of the Upper Midwest*, an archival processing project with support for community engagement and programming, will increase access to four pivotal literary collections by removing current barriers to access and revealing the research and creative possibilities hidden within these collections.



COVERS OF *THE FIFTIES* LITERARY MAGAZINE, ROBERT BLY PAPERS.



"MY MOTHER'S LULLABY" BROADSIDE,
MARGARET HASSE PAPERS.

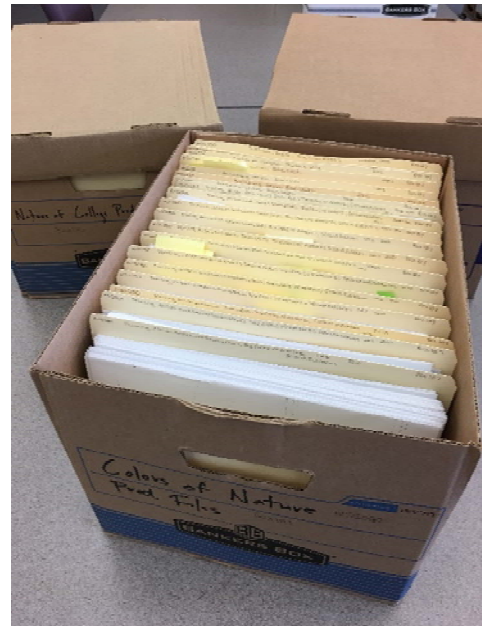
Part of Archives and Special Collections at the University of Minnesota, the Upper Midwest Literary Archives (UMLA) serves as the repository for the personal papers and records of writers and publishers with significant connections to the region, including Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and the Dakotas. Recognizing the unique literary history of the region, the UMLA was established specifically to acquire, preserve, and provide access to this literary legacy. The UMLA now makes accessible well over a hundred collections, including not only the archives of Bly, Hasse, Holm, and Milkweed, but also John Berryman, Clifford Simak, Frederick Manfred, James Wright, Patricia Hampl, Lewis Hyde, and Graywolf Press, to name only a few.

Collections documenting literary life in Minnesota not only attract local researchers but also stimulate national and international research. In the past year alone, the UMLA has been a resource for students, faculty, scholars, writers, and researchers from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana, Massachusetts,

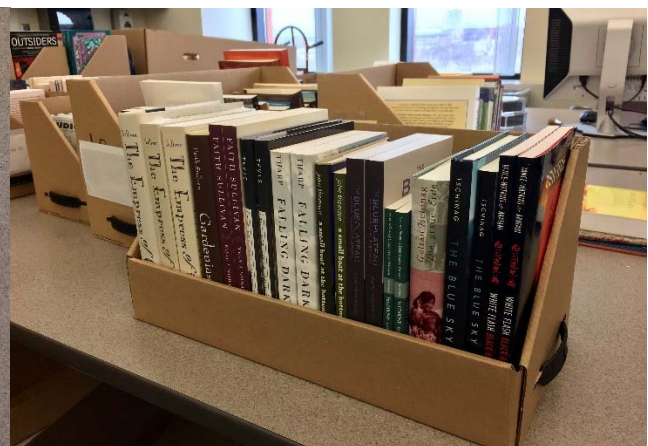
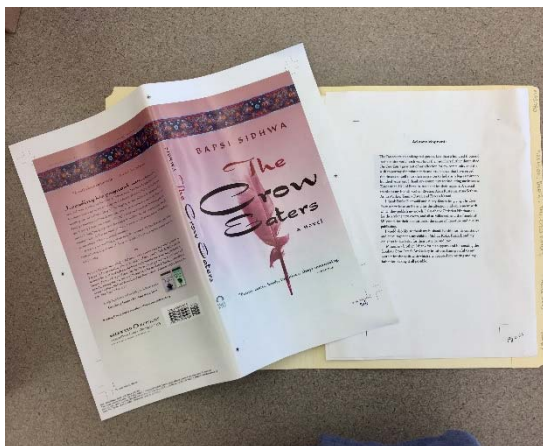
California, Ireland, and China. The archives of Bly, Hasse, Holm, and Milkweed were chosen for this project because of the ways in which these particular collections document the intimate and often interconnected relationships among writers (captured in correspondence and the sharing of manuscripts); the relationship between writers and a particular place (rural Minnesota) and time (1950 – present), and the role of editors and publishers in anchoring and supporting a literary community (captured in editorial correspondence, book design, and marketing).

Through the arrangement and description of over 350 linear feet of archival material, this project makes critical collections available for use by faculty, students, and the public. Each collection will be processed, including re-housing, arrangement, and description in an online finding aid in ArchivesSpace, the new archival content management system for University of Minnesota Libraries. This project will also allow us to assess copyright issues to plan for potential large-scale digitization of literary collections in the future, and to develop scalable programming and outreach opportunities that share the impact and creative reach of Minnesota’s literary life. Both the copyright planning and programmatic help the Upper Midwest Literary Archives to achieve 21st –century goals of providing open access to special collections that engages and inspires diverse communities through openness, innovation, and collaboration.

In his book, *Roads: Driving America’s Great Highways*, author Larry McMurtry ponders while speeding down Interstate 35, “How good Minneapolis looks may depend on how far out on the prairies you’re coming to it from.” This insider/outsider dichotomy is present not only in the relationship between Minneapolis and the prairie, but also the Midwest— or “flyover country”— as a whole. This project explores the work of prairie poets and small presses as a way to not affirm a sense of place as a source of poetry, but also, in the words of editor Stephen Mooney, to send the work of those on the inside out, and bring those on the outside in. By increasing access to the archives of Bly, Hasse, Holm, and Milkweed, the Upper Midwest Literary Archives ensures unrestricted and perpetual access to resources that continually transform the cultural fabric of the Upper Midwest and inspire communities abroad.



PROCESSING BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS FROM THE RECORDS OF MILKWEED EDITIONS.



PROCESSING BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS FROM THE RECORDS OF MILKWEED EDITIONS.

Revitalizing the Manuscripts Collection at the Micronesian Area Research Center: Providing Access to Users in the 21st Century

*Antonio Brunal Perry, MLS, Assistant Professor Library Science
University of Guam*

The Micronesian Area Research Center was established in 1967 as a research center at the University of Guam with a three-fold mission of strengthening the university's local, regional and international contributions through resource collection development, research and service. Since its establishment, the Micronesian Area Research Center has developed a major interdisciplinary collection of Micronesian and Western Pacific materials. Currently, the collections are located in the Micronesian Area Research Center/Computer Center Building, and includes the Reference Collection, where books, periodicals, serials, maps, databases, are available; the Spanish Documents Collection includes holdings of Spanish language materials in both full-size print material and microforms, reflecting the lengthy presence of Spain in Micronesia; the Manuscripts Collection contains personal papers of the governors of Guam, from the early governors of the American Naval period, the civilian governors appointed after the Organic Act of 1950, to the most recent elected governors, the delegates to US Congress, field notes from archeologists, anthropologists, ethnographers, and other historical reports. In addition, to the written material, there are important holdings of audiovisual materials, including slides, still photographs, cinema film, musical scores relating to the cultural and historical heritage of the area.

In keeping with the University of Guam's mission "to Enlighten, to Discover, to Serve", the Manuscripts Collection has to provide access to primary sources to support the teaching, learning, research, and scholarship of UOG students and faculty as well as the general public, local, regional, and international communities. Materials can be accessed in the Spanish Documents Collection Reading Room, which is open Monday-Friday 9:30am to 4:30pm. First-time researchers are asked to fill out a registration form before using the materials, which are housed in closed stacks.

In 2013, the University of Guam was awarded a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, NHPRC, to physically process a backlog of about 600 linear feet of materials in the Manuscripts Collection. Also, the intellectual processing of the existing collections was conducted, creating more than 200 electronic finding aids. The collections range in size from a single item to 130 linear feet for a combined total of over 900 linear feet. Of these collections, approximately 55% of them required more detailed processing to enhance their description or to incorporate additions to the collection. Eighty-two of these collections (totaling 650 linear feet) were selected for more detailed processing as part of this grant based on their national and regional significance, their high demand and difficulty researchers have had accessing and using the materials.

The grant included the hiring of a Project Archivist, who applied current archival standards of description to the intellectual processing of the Manuscript Collections holdings, such as DACS, EAD and Dublin Core to encode its metadata. The project was successfully completed in the spring of 2016. Placing the repository finding aids in the Web environment through the creation of a digital repository. Statistics show an increased access to the collections from users worldwide from 250 average in previous years to 8,450 in the last six months. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Micronesian Area Research Center's establishment, which is celebrated with providing better access to its collections.

The repository can be accessed through the University of Guam Web site <http://www.uog.edu/guam-and-micronesia-collection> the tab marked MARC Digital Collections on the Micronesian Area Research Center's page on the University of Guam's website or through the URI, <http://rfk2.edu.gu:8080/jspui/>.

University of Tennessee Libraries Special Collections Announces Two New Collections

*Laura Romans, Manuscripts Archivist
University of Tennessee*



CAPTAIN WILLIAM ROBERT ANDERSON PAPERS

The University of Tennessee Libraries Special Collections department announces the opening of two exciting collections: the Captain William Robert Anderson Collection and the Wilma Dykeman and James R. Stokely Jr. Papers. Both collections of personal papers provide intimate glimpses into the lives, careers, and accomplishments of remarkable individuals.

Captain William Robert Anderson Collection – William Robert Anderson (1921-2007) was a decorated officer in the U.S. Navy and politician from Humphreys County, Tennessee. He participated in eleven combat submarine patrols in the Pacific during World War II for which he was awarded several honors including the Bronze Star Medal. After the war, Anderson continued his career with the Navy, moving up through the ranks. In June 1957, Anderson was named commander of the USS *Nautilus*, the first operational nuclear submarine. Upon assuming command, Anderson pressed the

Nautilus to explore the uncharted Arctic and in the summer of 1958, he led the boat and its crew on a historic voyage as it became the first submarine to successfully sail from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic beneath the ice cap around the North Pole. Anderson's courage and leadership were praised after the journey as he was met with parades, interviews, and a trip to the White House where President Dwight D. Eisenhower presented him with the Legion of Merit.

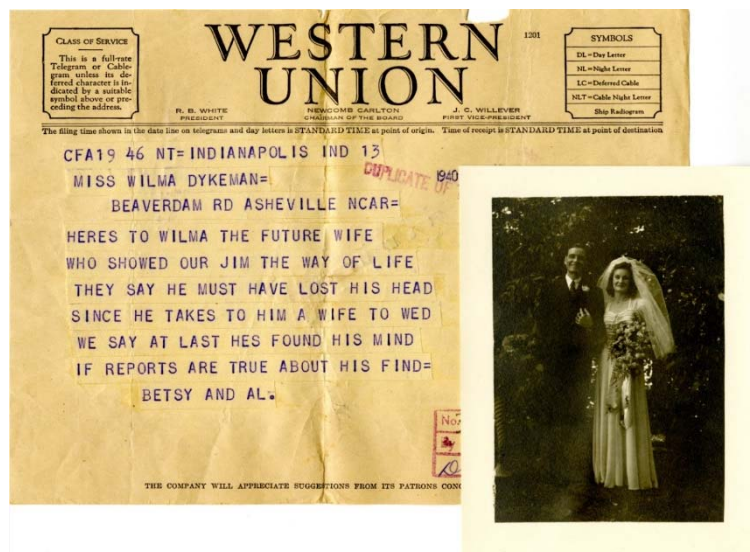
Anderson retired from the Navy in the early 1960s and turned his efforts to politics. He served four terms in Congress, became a consultant to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, and went on to found a data management firm with his wife, Pat, for presidential campaign committees and members of Congress. Anderson also authored several books about his time on the *Nautilus*.

The Captain William Robert Anderson Collection spans 31 linear feet and includes correspondence, photographs, journals, literary manuscripts, awards, and more documenting the many aspects of Anderson's incredible life. The finding aid for this collection is available online:

http://dlc.lib.utk.edu/spc/view?docId=ead/0012_003891_000000_0000/0012_003891_000000_0000.xml.

Wilma Dykeman and James R. Stokely Jr. Papers – Throughout her life, Wilma Dykeman (1920-2006) wore many hats: author, educator, speaker, historian, environmentalist, and more. Born and raised in Asheville, North Carolina, Dykeman recalls her parents instilling in her a love of both reading and nature; these two eventually informed her lifelong career of telling stories about the world around her. Dykeman authored several critically acclaimed works of nonfiction and fiction as well decades of columns in newspapers and magazines, works that primarily told stories of the people and land of southern Appalachia.

Her first novel, *The French Broad* (1955), tells the history, legend, culture, and economics of a region defined by the great river for which the novel is named. Dykeman's other works include *Neither Black Nor White* (1957), one of her many collaborations with husband James R. Stokely Jr., an examination of integration in the American South from personal stories; *The Tall Woman* (1966), a novel about a mountain woman's life in the late 19th century; and *Too Many People, Too Little Love* (1975), a biography of Edna Rankin McKinnon, an early advocate for family planning. In addition to writing, Dykeman also regularly taught, lectured, and served as Tennessee's state historian from 1981-2002.



WILLIAM DYKEMAN AND JAMES R. STOKELY JR. PAPERS

The Wilma Dykeman and James R. Stokely Jr. Papers span 97.5 linear feet and contain correspondence, family history, research material, and visual media documenting the life and work of Dykeman. Also included in the collection is material on her husband, James, an author, poet, and conservationist who owned and managed apple orchards. The finding aid for this collection is available online:

http://dlc.lib.utk.edu/spc/view?docId=ead/0012_003835_000000_0000/0012_003835_000000_0000.xml

For more information about the University of Tennessee Libraries Special Collections, visit our website: <https://www.lib.utk.edu/special/>.

New Collections Available from AUC Robert W. Woodruff Library

*Jessica Leming, Processing Archivist
AUC Robert W. Woodruff Library*



**DR. ISSAC CLARK WITH HIS RECORDING
EQUIPMENT, CA. 1960**

The Archives Research Center (ARC) at Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library is pleased to announce the accessibility of more audiovisual collections due to a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities entitled Spreading the Word: Expanding Access to African-American Religious Archival Collections of the Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library. The Library's ARC and Digital Services Department are creating access to fourteen collections of rare materials that document African American religion spanning from the 1900s to the 2000s. These unique collections include correspondence, sermons and speeches, research files, photographs, and audio and video recordings, which document theologians and scholars, as well as Christian and Islamic ideologies. To date, the archives has digitized over 2,700 photographs, cassettes, reel to reel audio and video formats, and has made available almost 70% of these materials on

the Library's institutional repository, Digital Commons.

Collections now available feature the Anna E. Hall Collection, C. Eric Lincoln Collection, C. Eric Lincoln Lecture Series Collection, Interdenominational Theological Center Audio Visual

Collection, James P. Brawley Collection, J. Howard Dell Collection, Society for the Study of Black Religion Collection, and the Isaac R. Clark Memorial Collection.

Dr. Isaac R. Clark believed preaching was essential to the African American experience. This systematic theology and homiletics master with a colorful personality taught 28 years at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) on the substance and methods of preaching. 200 recordings of his class lectures, guest speakers, ITC panel speakers, and student sermons are now broadly accessible online for the first time.

The C. Eric Lincoln Lecture Series Collection is named for the distinguished scholar, writer and lecturer on the Sociology of Black Religion, and Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States. The annual Lecture Series started at Clark College in 1983, and has continued at Clark Atlanta University. More than 30 audiocassettes and videos have been digitized and are available on Digital Commons.



DR. SHAYNE LEE DELIVERS HIS KEYNOTE LECTURE, "THEY PREACHIN! – AW, MADE YOU LOOK: THE BLACK CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY" DURING THE 26TH ANNUAL LECTURE IN 2008. PROGRAMS, TRANSCRIPTS, NOTES AND A RECORDING ON DIGITAL COMMONS ARE AVAILABLE.

The Interdenominational Theological Center Photograph Collection contains approximately 1,300 images from the 1880s through the 1970s. The

photographs consist of students, alumni, faculty, presidents, campus life, campus events, and buildings of the founding institutions, seminaries and the ITC, which was chartered in 1958.

Find all the collections through Digital Commons: <http://digitalcommons.auctr.edu/sword/>

Please follow the progress of the grant project through our blog at:

<https://aucwoodruffarchives.wordpress.com/>

A Front Row Seat to Film History

Warren Sherk, Manager of Special Collections Margaret Herrick Library

A Front Row Seat: American Film History and Culture on View through Academy Library Collections, a two-year project funded by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), has been successfully completed.



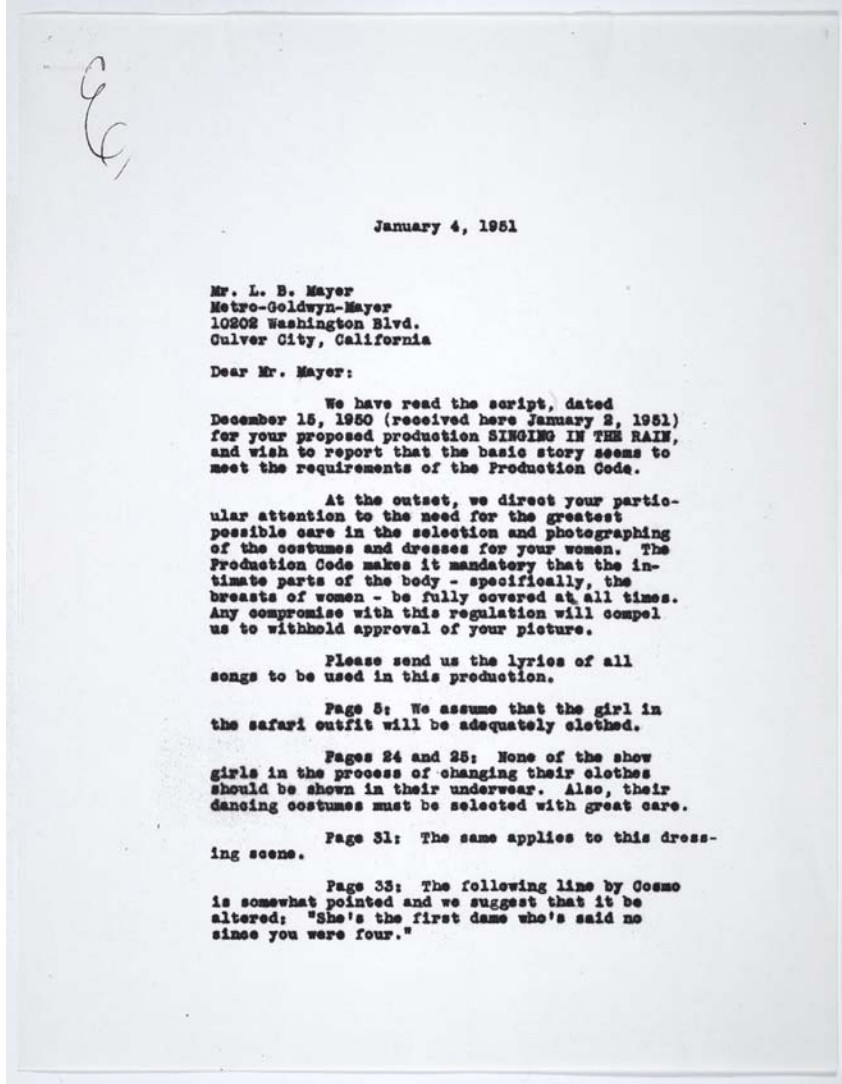
MARGARET HERRICK LIBRARY READING ROOM

This large-scale project provided detailed processing, metadata creation, and select digitization for three collections of American filmmaking held at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences [Margaret Herrick Library](#): the Motion Picture Association of America/Production Code Administration (MPAA/PCA) records; the Guggenheim Productions records; and the *Cinefantastique* magazine records.

Some 575 linear feet of materials were processed from the three collections and the project outcomes include 20,281 digitized documents from the MPAA/PCA records; 8,300 inventory records for Guggenheim Productions; and more than 2,100 digitized photographs and 7,000 inventory records for the *Cinefantastique* magazine collection.

The Motion Picture Production Code was introduced in 1930 by Will Hays, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America (later known as the Motion Picture Association of America). The Code was designed to help the industry regulate the content of motion pictures by following certain moral principles and guidelines. There was no enforcement mechanism in place until 1934, a change which coincided with the hiring of Joseph Breen to oversee the administration of the Code.

The files for 500 significant titles from the Production Code Administration records representing a wide range of production dates, directors, genres, and topics were selected for digitization by Special Collections staff and an advisory panel of film studies scholars. The MPAA/PCA files document the inner workings of the organization and the enforcement of the Code from the 1930s through 1960s. Digitized documents include: correspondence between and among the PCA, film producers and studios, and national political, social, and religious special interest groups; state censor board reports; and materials that will help researchers analyze the portrayal of racial and ethnic groups, world leaders, and the treatment of crime and alcohol use.



FIRST PAGE OF LETTER TO LOUIS B. MAYER AT M-G-M REGARDING THE SCRIPT FOR SINGIN' IN THE RAIN (1952)

The scanned documents from the MPAA/PCA records can be viewed online at [Margaret Herrick Library Digital Collections](#). To promote access and to help researchers find relevant material among the 20,000 scanned items, OCR (optical character recognition) software was used to generate full-text transcripts. After testing several software options and varying scanning resolutions, ABBYY FineReader OCR was selected to obtain optimal results.

Charles Guggenheim (1924-2002) devoted his life to documentary filmmaking. The director's career spanned five decades and his films garnered 12 Academy Award nominations and four ©Oscar® statuettes. The manuscript collection documents Guggenheim's works for film, television and other media, including *Nine from Little Rock* (1964), *The Johnstown Flood* (1989), and *A Time for Justice* (1994). The Guggenheim Productions records span the years 1954- 2003, encompass more than 400 linear feet,



CHARLES GUGGENHEIM

and consist largely of scripts, production materials, correspondence, interview transcripts, and voluminous research materials.

Guggenheim mastered the art of biographical films on political candidates and demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of using media as a political tool long before others. His detailed memos to campaign staff will prove useful to those researching American politics in the second half of the 20th century. Political junkies may be interested in reading about his work with Robert F. Kennedy during his 1964 Senatorial campaign, "[The Charles Guggenheim and Robert F. Kennedy Story](#)," written by project archivist Mary Haberle. Under the auspices of the NHPRC grant, Haberle arranged and described the Guggenheim collection and also authored a second article on American architecture, "[Building a Dream with Charles Guggenheim](#)."

Ever wonder what became of the severed ear in *Blue Velvet* that sets the film's plot into motion? We don't know its current location, however, during processing of the records of *Cinefantastique*, the influential horror, fantasy, and science fiction film magazine, project archivist Taylor Morales came across an interesting pair of letters regarding a prosthetic ear from the film that was mailed to the editor; these letters were included in a Medium post, "[What Happens on a Typical Day in the Ultimate Movie Library](#)."



THE FORCED-PERSPECTIVE SAND PLANET SET, *BEETLEJUICE* (1988).

The *Cinefantastique* magazine records span the years 1951-2004 (bulk 1971-2004) and encompass 114 linear feet. The collection primarily consists of material related to the publication of *Cinefantastique*, including correspondence between editor Frederick S. Clarke and his staff, some correspondence with filmmakers, article manuscripts, scripts and publicity materials obtained for research purposes, photographs, drawings, and posters. Photographs related to the publication were scanned and can be viewed in Digital Collections.

The collection documents the filmmaking process, including the evolution of visual effects, stop-motion animation, and costume and makeup design.

Collection-level records for these collections are in the [Margaret Herrick Library Catalog](#) and the [Online Archive of California](#), and finding aids can be viewed and searched in [Manuscript Inventories](#).

SECTION LEADERSHIP

Jackie Dean, *Chair*
Ashley Todd-Diaz, *Vice Chair/Chair Elect*
Anke Voss, *Immediate Past Chair*
Michelle Light, *Council Liaison*

Steering Committee Members:
Sean Benjamin
Lori Birrell
Jillian Cuellar
Alison Clemens
Rory Grennen
Elisa Ho

THE DEADLINE FOR THE SPRING NEWSLETTER IS 1 JUNE 2017.