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Brandeis University

415 South St.

Waltham, MA

URL: <https://findingaids.brandeis.edu/>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Brandeis University
Creator:	Brandeis University. Department of Theater Arts
Title:	Department of Theater Arts
ID:	02.MWalB00351A
Date [inclusive]:	1955-2007, undated
Physical Description:	2.00 Linear Feet
Physical Description:	2 record center boxes other_unmapped
Physical Description:	2.00 Linear Feet
Text [other]:	2 record center (RC) boxes
Abstract:	Arranged in three series: 1. Correspondence and Memoranda, 1955-2007, undated; 2. Curriculum, 1966?-2005, undated; 3. Photographs/Contact Sheets 1958-1972, undated. Materials are organized alphabetically. For more information about each series, please consult the series descriptions in the box and folder listing.

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Biographical or Historical Information

The theater program at Brandeis was founded in 1951 by visiting professor of dramatic art Louis Kronenberger and was part of the School of Creative Arts. In 1956, Assistant Professor John F. Matthews was named the first chairperson of the Theater Arts Department. Since then, seven other faculty members have chaired the department: John F. Matthews (1956-1958), Edwin B. Pettet (1958-1966), Howard Bay (1966-68), James H. Clay (1969-71, 1985), Martin Halpern (1972-75, 1982-84), Charles W. Moore (1976-1978), Theodore L. Kazanoff (1979-1981), and Michael Murray (1986-2003).

An Artists-In-Residence program was started in 1965-66, and the Master of Fine Arts Program was established in 1966. Mention of the M.F.A. program first appears in the 1967-1968 Brandeis University Bulletin. Concentrations within the M.F.A. program have included acting, directing, design, cinematography, and dramatic writing. In 2002-03, the department began offering a B.A. in Liberal Arts with a major or minor in Theater Arts, and a M.F.A. with concentrations in acting or design. The department also oversees the Nate and Frances Spingold Theater complex, which was completed in 1965.

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Scope and Contents

This collection has materials that date from 1955 through 2007. The collection includes correspondence, memoranda, meeting minutes, photographs, contact sheets, reports, catalogs, newspaper and journal articles and brochures. The materials cover a wide variety of topics related to curriculum and program development, department administration and funding, theatrical productions, professional associations, community relations and awards.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Brandeis University

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Conditions Governing Access

Access to the collection is in accordance with the policies of the Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University. Some material is restricted. Please contact the department for more information.

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Controlled Access Headings

- College theater -- Massachusetts -- Waltham
- Theaters -- Massachusetts -- Waltham
- Arts, Modern -- 20th century
- Arts, Modern -- 21st century
- Brandeis University
- Brandeis University. Department of Theater Arts
- Brandeis University. Spingold Theater Center

Other Descriptive Information

Addenda to this collection may not be listed in the finding aid, but may be available for research use. Please contact us for more information.

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Collection Inventory

Correspondence and Memoranda, 1955-2007, undated

Date: 1955-2007, undated

Scope and Contents

This series contains correspondence, memoranda and meeting minutes concerning a wide range of topics related to curriculum and program development, department administration and funding, professional associations, community relations and awards. One large subseries contains items pertaining to the department's involvement with the League of Professional Theater Training Programs from 1971-1984. The arrangement is alphabetical.

Box 1	Box 1	
Acting/Directing Committee, 1973-1977 <u>Date:</u> 1973-1977	Box 1	Folder 1
Affirmative Action, 1976-1978 <u>Date:</u> 1976-1978	Box 1	Folder 2
Alumni employment reports, 1979-1980 <u>Date:</u> 1979-1980	Box 1	Folder 3
Artists-in-residence, 1971-1972		

<u>Date</u> : 1971-1972	Box 1	Folder 4
Bicentennial/Theater Arts Celebration, 1974 <u>Date</u> : 1974	Box 1	Folder 5
Board of Overseers, 1969-1992, undated <u>Date</u> : 1969-1992, undated	Box 1	Folder 6
Board of Overseers, 1969-1992, undated <u>Date</u> : 1969-1992, undated	Box 1	Folder 7
Board of Overseers, 1969-1992, undated <u>Date</u> : 1969-1992, undated	Box 1	Folder 8
Board of Overseers, 1969-1992, undated <u>Date</u> : 1969-1992, undated	Box 1	Folder 9
Brandeis Repertory Company, 1988, undated <u>Date</u> : 1988, undated	Box 1	Folder 10
Brandeis Theater Society, 1959 <u>Date</u> : 1959	Box 1	Folder 11
Creative Arts Awards, 1970-1991 <u>Date</u> : 1970-1991	Box 1	Folder 12
Creative Arts Council, 1982-1990 <u>Date</u> : 1982-1990	Box 1	Folder 13
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Department chair memos, 1983-1985 <u>Date</u> : 1983-1985	Box 1	Folder 15
Encore Alumni Newsletter, 1997-1999 <u>Date</u> : 1997-1999	Box 1	Folder 16
Eugene O'Neill Memorial Theater Foundation, 1970 <u>Date</u> : 1970	Box 1	Folder 17
Expressions dance series, 1966-1968 <u>Date</u> : 1966-1968	Box 1	Folder 18
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Grants and grant-funded hiring, 1969-1979 <u>Date:</u> 1969-1979	Box 1	Folder 25
Grants and grant-funded hiring, 1969-1979 <u>Date:</u> 1969-1979	Box 1	Folder 26
Herald Traveler, 1971-1972 <u>Date:</u> 1971-1972	Box 1	Folder 27
Irving Fine Memorial, 1963-1966 <u>Date:</u> 1963-1966	Box 1	Folder 28
Jubilee 350 Boston, 1979 <u>Date:</u> 1979	Box 1	Folder 29

League of Professional Theatre Training Programs

Box 1

Title/Description	Instances	
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Actor presentations, 1977-1983, undated <u>Date:</u> 1977-1983, undated	Box 1	Folder 31
Actor presentations, 1977-1983, undated <u>Date:</u> 1977-1983, undated	Box 1	Folder 32
Actor presentations, 1977-1983, undated <u>Date:</u> 1977-1983, undated	Box 1	Folder 33
Actor presentations, 1977-1983, undated <u>Date:</u> 1977-1983, undated	Box 1	Folder 34
Alliance for the Development of the Arts, 1978-1979, undated <u>Date:</u> 1978-1979, undated	Box 1	Folder 35
Annual meetings, 1972-1983	Box 1	Folder 36

<u>Date:</u> 1972-1983		
Annual reports from Brandeis, 1971-1984 <u>Date:</u> 1971-1984	Box 1	Folder 37
Annual reports from Brandeis, 1971-1984 <u>Date:</u> 1971-1984	Box 1	Folder 38
Audition statistics for BFA/MFA, 1981-1983 <u>Date:</u> 1981-1983	Box 1	Folder 39
Board meetings, 1978-1981, undated <u>Date:</u> 1978-1981, undated	Box 1	Folder 40
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Finances, 1972-1982 <u>Date:</u> 1972-1982	Box 1	Folder 44
Funding, 1973-1981 <u>Date:</u> 1973-1981	Box 1	Folder 45
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Membership problems, 1974-1984 <u>Date:</u> 1974-1984	Box 1	Folder 52
Programs and purpose, 1974-1979, undated	Box 1	Folder 53

<u>Date:</u> 1974-1979, undated		
Promotional materials, 1980 <u>Date:</u> 1980	Box 1	Folder 54
Theatre company, 2009-2010 <u>Date:</u> 2009-2010	Box 1	Folder 55
Master of Fine Arts curriculum and catalogs, 1970-1977, undated <u>Date:</u> 1970-1977, undated	Box 1	
Mobile theater, 1967 <u>Date:</u> 1967	Box 1	
Morevski Foundation, 1968-1975, undated <u>Date:</u> 1968-1975, undated	Box 1	
Morevski Foundation, 1968-1975, undated <u>Date:</u> 1968-1975, undated	Box 1	
Pettet, Edwin (Bob), 1957-1959 <u>Date:</u> 1957-1959	Box 1	
Pettet, Edwin (Bob), 1957-1959 <u>Date:</u> 1957-1959	Box 1	
Pettet, Edwin (Bob), 1957-1959 <u>Date:</u> 1957-1959	Box 1	
Prizes and awards, 1969-1971 <u>Date:</u> 1969-1971	Box 1	
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Program Evaluation	Box 2	
Title/Description	Instances	
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Tenure consideration [R], 1987-1989 <u>Date:</u> 1987-1989	Box 2	
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Report to the President, 1966 <u>Date:</u> 1966	Box 2	
Rogers and Hammerstein Award, 1967-1971, undated	Box 2	

<u>Date:</u> 1967-1971, undated	
Rossum's Universal Robots, 1989-1993 <u>Date:</u> 1989-1993	Box 2
Sheepwell performance, 1982 <u>Date:</u> 1982	Box 2
Spingold, Nate and Frances, 1955-1957, 1968-1984, undated <u>Date:</u> 1955-1957, 1968-1984, undated	Box 2
Spingold, Nate and Frances, 1955-1957, 1969-1984, undated <u>Date:</u> 1955-1957, 1969-1984, undated	Box 2
Spingold, Nate and Frances, 1955-1957, 1968-1984, undated <u>Date:</u> 1955-1957, 1968-1984, undated	Box 2
Student/Faculty Committee, 1979-1980 <u>Date:</u> 1979-1980	Box 2
Summer drama workshop in Israel, 1975 <u>Date:</u> 1975	Box 2
Technical/design area, 1970-1992, undated <u>Date:</u> 1970-1992, undated	Box 2
Technical/design area, 1970-1992, undated <u>Date:</u> 1970-1992, undated	Box 2
Touring company, 1977-1979 <u>Date:</u> 1977-1979	Box 2
Workshops and guest artists, 1982, undated <u>Date:</u> 1982, undated	Box 2
Spingold, Frances and Abram Sachar correspondence [R], 1968-1984 <u>Date:</u> 1968-1984	Box 2

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Curriculum, 1966?-2005, undated

Date: 1966?-2005, undated

Scope and Contents

This series contains materials related to curriculum and program development. A large portion of the items pertain to guest artists and visiting faculty, some of whom offered master classes. Two notable visitors who led master classes in the 1990s were Olympia Dukakis and Marvin Hamlisch. The arrangement is alphabetical.

Box 2	Box 2
Acting program, 1992, undated <u>Date:</u> 1992, undated	Box 2
Bachelor of Arts Degree Program brochures, 1997-2000 <u>Date:</u> 1997-2000	Box 2
Course descriptions/declarations, 1993, undated <u>Date:</u> 1993, undated	Box 2
Department of Theater Arts courses of study, 2005 <u>Date:</u> 2005	Box 2
Design program, 1992, undated <u>Date:</u> 1992, undated	Box 2
Graduate Program in Theater Arts	Box 2
Title/Description	Instances
Announcement, circa 1966 <u>Date:</u> circa 1966	Box 2
Outline of program, undated <u>Date:</u> undated	Box 2
Program philosophy, undated <u>Date:</u> undated	Box 2
Guest Artists/Visiting Faculty, 1982-1996 <u>Date:</u> 1982-1996	Box 2
Guest Artists/Visiting Faculty, 1982-1996 <u>Date:</u> 1982-1996	Box 2
Guest Artists/Visiting Faculty: Albee, Edward, 1978-1986 <u>Date:</u> 1978-1986	Box 2
Guest Artists/Visiting Faculty: Master Classes	Box 2
Title/Description	Instances
Copland, Joan, 1997	Box 2

Date: 1997

Dukakis, Olympia, 1996

Box 2

Date: 1996

Irwin, Bill, 1996

Box 2

Date: 1996

Hamlich, Marvin, 1994-1995

Box 2

Date: 1994-1995

Ruehl, Mercedes, 1996

Box 2

Date: 1996M.F.A Professional Theater Training Program brochures, 1976,
1991, 1997-2001

Box 2

Date: 1976, 1991, 1997-2001[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Photographs, 1958-1972, undated

Date: 1958-1972, undated

Scope and Contents

This series contains photographs and contact sheets of theatrical productions and cultural events at Brandeis, and perhaps other venues. Several photographs are of Edwin (Bob) Pettet (a faculty member in the 1950s and 1960s) participating as an actor in rehearsals and performances of his own. In addition, there are several photographs of unidentified theatrical productions. The arrangement is alphabetical.

Box 2

Box 2

"50 Year Game of Gin", undated

Box 2

Date: undated

African Night, 1968

Box 2

Date: 1968

Creative Arts Festival, 1967, undated

Box 2

Date: 1967, undated

"Diary of Anne Frank", 1972

Box 2

Date: 1972

"Georgy Porgy", 1970

Box 2

Date: 1970

"The Importance of Being Earnest", 1968

Box 2

Date: 1968

Israeli plays, 1967

Box 2

Date: 1967

"Laughter's a Funny Business", circa 1958

Box 2

Date: circa 1958

Pettet, Edwin (Bob), undated

Box 2

Date: undated

Pettet, Edwin (Bob), undated

Box 2

Date: undated

"Tiger", 1967

Box 2

Date: 1967

Unidentified, undated

Box 2

Date: undated

Wien Reception, 1966

Box 2

Date: 1966

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Productions

Title/Description	Instances
Original poster: Brandeis University Theater Workshop presents "The Scapegoat" by John F. Matthews, 1954 <u>Date</u> : 1954	folder Map Drawer 15

Professor Kate Carney production books

Custodial History:

Custodial History

Donated by Kate Carney in 2017

Title/Description	Instances
De Donde, 1991-1992 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1991-1992	Box 2
The Rimers of Eldritch, 1990 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1990	Box 2
The Imaginary Invalid, 1990 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1990	Box 2

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