



Ford Foundation records, Office of Reports, Office Files of Richard Magat

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Rockefeller Archive Center

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URL: <http://www.rockarch.org>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator - aut:	Magat, Richard
Creator:	Ford Foundation
Title:	Ford Foundation records, Office of Reports, Office Files of Richard Magat
ID:	FA690
Date [inclusive]:	1952-1992, bulk 1952-1979
Date [bulk]:	1952-1979
Physical Description:	7.3 Cubic Feet 3 record storage boxes, 4 LTR size Hollinger boxes, and 3 LGL size Hollinger boxes
Language of the Material:	English .

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Biographical / Historical

The Ford Foundation was chartered by Henry and Edsel Ford in 1936 "to receive and administer funds for scientific, educational and charitable purposes, all for the public welfare", and initially served the Ford family's charitable interests in the Detroit area. Following the deaths of Edsel Ford (1943) and Henry Ford (1947), the Foundation was propelled to the forefront of philanthropy as the largest American foundation in terms of both endowment and yearly expenditures, and with an international scope to its major program areas.

During the Foundation's first twenty years its major programs were in international economic development, primary and higher education, educational and public broadcasting, behavioral sciences, civil liberties, urban development, fine arts and the humanities. The Ford Foundation also partnered with the Rockefeller Foundation in supporting agricultural development in South America, Africa, and Southeast Asia. Since the 1970s, the Foundation has also pioneered programs in women's rights, energy policy, micro-financing in under-developed countries, establishing human rights groups, and improving international HIV/AIDS education.

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Biographical / Historical

Richard Magat was a member of the Ford Foundation staff from 1957 until 1982. Throughout his career at the Foundation Mr. Magat worked in the Office of Reports. He held the following positions:

April 1957, Writer

October 1957, Program Assistant

May 1958, Director

March 1968, Director and Editor

January 1982, Director (part time)

As Director and Editor, Mr. Magat was responsible for: preparing press releases, writing notes to editors and drafting letters to congressmen; writing and editing Foundation publications and articles including the Annual Report, Current Interests, and Ford Foundation Letter; recommending public reports on Foundation activity; responding to media inquiries and arranging press conferences; and administering the Office of Reports.

Mr. Magat also held the following positions:

1947-51, Dayton Daily News, Ohio, The Binghamton Sun, New York, Reporter

1951-52, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Editor in Technical Writing Service

1952-53, Paramount News, Script Writer

1953-57, New York University, Senior News Writer, Office of Information Services

1967, Mayor's Advisory Panel on Decentralization of NYC Schools, Special Assistant

1969, SUNY (Mount Vernon) Cooperative College, Instructor

1975, Joint Committee for the Reappraisal of the Role of the Red Cross, Editor

1979, SUNY (New York) Fashion Institute of Technology, Instructor

Mr. Magat was born January 1, 1927. He received his A.B. degree in 1947 from New York University. Mr. Magat took additional courses at Columbia University, New York University and the New School. Mr. Magat is the author of *Ford Foundation at Work*, New York: Plenum (1979), and *As Others See Us*, Geneva: Henry Dumant Institute (1975). He also wrote articles for *Saturday Review*, *Consumer Reports*, *Trans-action* and other magazines and journals. Mr. Magat left the Ford Foundation in September 1982 to become President of the Edward W. Hazen Foundation.

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Scope and Contents

Contains correspondence, memoranda, publications and subject files.

Collection consists of more than one accession of Richard Magat office files ingested by the RAC over the years. An accession processed in 2018 consisted of a group of subject files regarding different press, publications, and public relations topics and was added to the end of the Subject Files series in order to reconstitute the relationship between the materials.

The RAC holds another Ford Foundation, Office of Reports, Office Files of Richard Magat collection. A more deliberate collection arrangement appears to have been imposed on this set of material during processing. Therefore, it was decided not to integrate the 2018 accession with that collection or to merge the two collections together. The finding aid for FA728 of Ford Foundation, Office of Reports, Office Files of Richard Magat can be accessed [here](#).

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Arrangement

Arranged in 4 series by file type.

Original order has been retained.

Collection arrangement is as follows:

Series 1. Chronological Correspondence, 1974-1979

Series 2. Memoranda and Publications, 1967-1973

Series 3. Publications, 1964-1992

Series 4. Subject Files, 1952-1980

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Ford Foundation archive was deposited at RAC in 2011. Ford Foundation records, correspondence, reports, program files and officers papers were transferred to, and accessioned by, RAC beginning in 2011. Accessions continue as necessary.

An additional group of Richard Magat office files was transferred to the RAC by the Ford Foundation in 2018 and was ingested by the RAC as Accession 2018:061. This accession was incorporated into the collection during processing in 2018.

Conditions Governing Access

Open for research. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Ford Foundation
- Education
- Endowments -- Public relations -- United States

Collection Inventory

Chronological Correspondence, 1974-1979

Title/Description	Instances
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1974 Chronological Correspondence, 1974 January-June	box 1
1974 Chronological Correspondence, 1974 July-December	box 1
1975 Chronological Correspondence, 1975 January-June	box 1
1975 Chronological Correspondence, 1975 July-December	box 1
1976 Chronological Correspondence, 1976 January-June	box 1
1976 Chronological Correspondence, 1976 July-December	box 1
1977 Chronological Correspondence, 1977 January-June	box 1
1977 Chronological Correspondence, 1977 July-December	box 1
1978 Chronological Correspondence, 1978 January-June	box 1
1978 Chronological Correspondence, 1978 July-December	box 1
1979 Chronological Correspondence, 1979 January-June	box 1
1979 Chronological Correspondence, 1979 July-December	box 1

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Memoranda and Publications, 1967-1973

Title/Description	Instances
Richard Magat Memoranda (1/2), 1967-1970	box 2
Richard Magat Memoranda (2/2), 1967-1970	box 2
Current Comment on the Ford Foundation (1/2), 1970 April-1973 September	box 2
Current Comment on the Ford Foundation (2/2), 1970 April-1973 September	box 2

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Publications, 1964-1992

Title/Description	Instances
Current Comment on the Ford Foundation, 1974 March-1975 February	box 3
Current Comment on the Ford Foundation (last copy do not remove), 1974 November	box 3
Current Comment on the Ford Foundation, 1976 March-1981 May	box 3
Newspaper Feature Articles and Other Comments Re: Ford Foundation, 1964 January 15-1966 August 15	box 3

Editorial Comment on Fourth Installment of "Tax-Exempt Foundations and Charitable Trusts: Their Impact on our Economy" (Wright Patman, December 21, 1966), 1966-1967	box 3
Office of Reports -- Editorials, Selected Newspaper Feature Articles, and Other Comments about the Ford Foundation Received Since 1970, 1970	box 3
Ford Foundation Annual Report Supplements and Excerpts -- Education and Public Policy (1981) and Education and Culture (1982-1983), 1981-1983	box 3
Ford Foundation Annual Report Excerpts -- The Arts Program, 1978-1981	box 3
Ford Foundation Annual Report Excerpts -- International Affairs, 1984-1987	box 3
Ford Foundation Annual Report Excerpts -- Education and Culture, 1984-1992	box 3

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Subject Files, 1952-1980

Scope and Contents

Series contains subject files Richard Magat created and maintained to document the Office of Report's work with various press, publications, and public relations projects and issues.

The most prevalent material formats found within the series are press clippings, correspondence, pamphlets, reports, tables and charts, notes, and publication mock-ups.

Title/Description	Instances
"The Ford Foundation and Noncommercial Television" -- Rewrite of PBL-NET Factsheet, 1967-1968	box 4
Ford Foundation Building -- Press Arrangements, Coverage, Releases, and Fact Sheets Re: Ford Foundation Building and Dedication (1/2), 1967	box 4
Ford Foundation Building -- Press Arrangements, Coverage, Releases, and Fact Sheets Re: Ford Foundation Building and Dedication (2/2), 1967	box 4
Foundations Case Research Material Re: Foundation Supported Projects, Assorted Foundations, etc., 1963-1964	box 4
Newton -- School Improvement Program -- R. Seaver, 1964	box 4
New Building -- Building Specs, Factsheets (incl. information on garden), Press Releases, Dedication Materials, etc. -- R. Seaver, 1967	box 5
Patman Report on Tax-Exempt Foundations, Reports Re: Ford Foundation Finances and Private Foundations, 1963-1966	box 5

School Improvement Program -- Individual City Reports for Ford Foundation Report, 1965-1977	box 5	
Tutorial Community Project -- Book -- Newmark, Jerry [PHOTOS], 1975-1976	box 5	
Whitman Bassow Carbon File -- Correspondence, Interview Transcripts, Memoranda Re: Foundation Activities, 1969-1970	box 5	
Whitman Bassow Tape Transcriptions from the Convocation and Groups Re: State of the Ford Foundation and Communication within the Foundation, 1970	box 5	
Task Forces, 1972-1973	box 6	folder 1
Grant Guidelines, 1972	box 6	folder 2
Filer Commission, 1978	box 6	folder 3
Rockefeller Brothers Fund - Foundation Luncheon Group Panel on New York City Public Schools, 1973-1974	box 6	folder 4
International Division - Public relations, 1973-1974	box 6	folder 5
International Affairs Program, 1955-1967	box 6	folder 6
International Training and Research Program, 1959-1966	box 6	folder 7
Latin America, 1960-1963	box 6	folder 8
Medicine - Including mental health, 1958-1959	box 6	folder 9
National Merit Scholarship, 1956-1962	box 6	folder 10
Population, 1954-1969	box 6	folder 11-12
Overseas Development Program, 1958-1979	box 7	folder 13-16
Learning About Learning Task Force , 1972-1973	box 8	folder 17-20
Newman report - Report on Higher Education, 1971 March	box 8	folder 21
Nicholas Von Hoffman, 1977 December	box 8	folder 22
Non-program gifts - Wayside Inn and Detroit Museum of Art Founders Society, 1958-1959	box 8	folder 23
Presidential announcements, 1956-1979	box 8	folder 24
Operation Philanthropy, 1957-1964	box 8	folder 25-26
Publications - Possible future, 1960-1966	box 9	folder 27
Publications - Handling and distribution, 1959-1969	box 9	folder 28
Publications - Reprint series, 1958-1968	box 9	folder 29
Publications - General, including schedules and inventories, 1952-1974	box 9	folder 30
Publications - Country pamphlets, 1964-1970	box 9	folder 31
Annual Report - Action Control Records (ARs), 1953-1958		

	box 9	folder 32
Proposed formal quarterly - Dummies and outlines, 1955-1967	box 9	folder 33
The Fund for the Advancement of Education (TFAE) publications, 1958-1962	box 9	folder 34
Reprints of speeches, 1961	box 9	folder 35
A Resource in Jeopardy report, 1969	box 9	folder 36
School finance, 1974	box 9	folder 37
School finance - Political Economy of Education Conference, Silverado, California, 1973-1975	box 10	folder 38
Staff speech - Is Education Worth It? by Harold Howe , 1980	box 10	folder 39
Travel and Study Awards, 1964 September 1	box 10	folder 40
U.S. Treasury Department Report on Private Foundations, 1964-1966	box 10	folder 41
Resolutions, 1979	box 10	folder 42
United Nation Development Corporation (UNDC), 1967-1969	box 10	folder 43
Urban Affairs, 1957-1963	box 10	folder 44
Vocational education, undated	box 10	folder 45
Yale University - Pay as You Earn (PAYE), 1971	box 10	folder 46
Yale University - Pay as You Earn (PAYE), 1970-1971	box 10	folder 47

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