



Arthurs (Alberta) papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator - aut:	Arthurs, Alberta
Title:	Alberta Arthurs papers
ID:	FA1507
Date [inclusive]:	1980-2006
Physical Description:	4.46 Cubic Feet 10 LTR, 1 LGL, and 1 Half-LTR size Hollinger boxes
Language of the Material:	English

Preferred Citation

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Biographical / Historical

Alberta Bean Arthurs has provided leadership in the philanthropic, cultural, and higher education fields as a scholar, educator, consultant, and Rockefeller Foundation program officer. She served as Director of the Arts and Humanities Division at the Rockefeller Foundation from 1982-1996.

Arthurs was born in Framingham, Massachusetts in 1932 and married Edward Arthurs in 1960. Together, they have three children: Lee, Daniel, and Madeline. She earned her B.A. and M.A. at Wellesley College in 1954 and 1957 respectively and later received a Ph.D. in English at Bryn Mawr College in 1972.

In the two decades between 1957 and 1977, Arthurs held a number of teaching and administrative positions at Tuft University, Rutgers University, Radcliffe College, and Harvard University before becoming President of Chatham College. She would leave that position in 1982 in order to join the Rockefeller Foundation.

In her post-Rockefeller Foundation career, she has worked as a consultant for MEM Associates, directed the Project on Culture and Development at the Council on Foreign Relations, and served on numerous boards and committees for various cultural organizations.

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Scope and Contents

Collection contains the papers of Alberta Arthurs, a consultant in the cultural and philanthropy fields and a former Director of the Arts and Humanities Division at the Rockefeller Foundation. Most of the papers regard Arthurs' career in philanthropy from when she departed the Rockefeller Foundation in 1996 to about 2006. Papers, speeches, drafts, notes, proposals, research materials, correspondence, photographs, and conference materials provide evidence of the various projects Arthurs managed and supported during this time period. Some of the key focuses of these initiatives and studies include the relationship between nonprofit and for-profit organizations within the arts field, cultural policy, cultural diplomacy, the relationship between culture and development, the role of emerging technologies within the arts, communication and convening in the arts field, and convening for cultural policy.

Arthurs did much of her consulting through MEM Associates during the time that the collection materials document, and through her consulting assignments, board memberships, and other professional activities, she worked on projects with organizations like the Rockefeller Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Center for Arts and Culture, the American Assembly, the Salzburg Seminar, UNESCO's International Fund for the Promotion of Culture (IFPC), Pew Charitable Trusts, the StreamingCulture program at the City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Center, Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA), and the James Irvine Foundation among many others. The collection also contains records that Arthurs created through her position as Director of the Project on Culture and Development at the Council on Foreign Relations as well as records that show her participation at the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy in November 2000.

Some files within the collection do hold materials that originate from when Arthurs headed the Arts and Humanities Division at the Rockefeller Foundation. These records consist of a few speeches, papers, and grant project descriptions. Personal correspondence and photographs were also produced during Arthurs' tenure at the Foundation. Her and her husband Edward Arthurs' later work with the resident scholars and artists program at the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Study and Conference Center in the early 2000s is documented by notes, a report that they wrote about the program, and letters from different resident scholars and artists.

The processes that the records' creator employed for filing and using the collection files created three different groupings of material: 1) files organized around specific projects and subjects; 2) files marked current and personal; and 3) file marked miscellaneous. The distinctions in file organization between these sets of records are represented in the collection's three series.

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Arrangement

The collection was divided into three series during processing in order to represent discerned systems of arrangement that the records' creator implemented. The first series contains a group of files that were arranged around a number of different subject headings. These headings appear to reference different projects and focus areas upon which Alberta Arthurs worked. The second series contains files that were grouped together under the heading "ABA Current and Personal" and the last series contains files that were grouped together under the heading "Miscellaneous". The miscellaneous heading on the third series and various filing notes discovered on materials throughout the collection indicate that these three systems of arrangement were not complete or intended to be fixed, but the decision was made during processing to incorporate those organizational schemes into the collection description in order to provide insight into the original order of the records.

The collection arrangement is as follows:

Series 1. Project files, 1980-2004

Series 2. Current and personal files, 1981-2003

Series 3. Other professional files, 1994-2006

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

Open for research with select materials restricted as noted. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC. Researchers interested in accessing digital media (floppy disks, CDs, DVDs, etc.) in this collection must use an access surrogate. The original items may not be accessed because of preservation concerns. To request an access surrogate be made, or if you are unsure if there is an access surrogate, please contact an archivist.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated to the Rockefeller Archive Center by Alberta Arthurs in 2017.

Processing Information

Processing Level 3: Standard Processing

Processed by Darren Young, March 2019

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Controlled Access Headings

- Rockefeller Foundation
- Humanities
- Humanities--Research
- Arts
- Cultural policy
- Ford Foundation

Collection Inventory

Project files, 1980-2004

Physical Description: 1.33 Cubic Feet About 3.5 LTR size Hollinger boxes

Scope and Contents

Series contains a segment of files in the collection that were grouped together around different subject headings. The more structured and consistent system of arrangement for this series may suggest that it was the intended model of organization for the records in the other two series.

Papers, drafts, notes, correspondence, project proposals, and research materials provide evidence of Alberta Arthurs' processes for working on the different projects associated with the subject headings on the files. Most of these projects were studies and initiatives she worked on as a consultant that focused on topics like cultural policy,

cultural diplomacy, arts and technology, and the relationship between nonprofit and for-profit organizations in the arts field. Nevertheless, there are a few files under the humanities subject heading that contain documents created during Arthurs' time as Director of Arts and Humanities at the Rockefeller Foundation.

Title/Description	Instances	
Humanities - Speech to Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts, and Humanities, 1995	box 1	folder 1
Humanities - Reference material on the state of the Humanities, 1988-1998	box 1	folder 2
Humanities - Article drafts, 1998	box 1	folder 3
Humanities - The Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellowships, 1999-2000, circa 1998	box 1	folder 4
Humanities - Event invitations, 1998	box 1	folder 5
Humanities - Structural observations notes, undated	box 1	folder 6
Humanities - Rockefeller Foundation Arts and Humanities Division publications, 1996	box 1	folder 7
Humanities - Rockefeller Foundation Arts and Humanities Core Strategies, 1994-1996	box 1	folder 8
Humanities - Report of the Rockefeller Foundation Meeting on Humanities draft, 1996	box 1	folder 9
Humanities - Loose notes, undated	box 1	folder 10
Humanities - Rockefeller Foundation Meeting on the Humanities/ The Humanities in American Life, 1980-1997	box 1	folder 11
Humanities - The Journal of Arts Management, Law, and Society, 1999-2002	box 1	folder 12
Arts and economics - Reference materials, 1981-2000	box 1	folder 13
Arts and economics - The Journal of Arts Management, Law and Society, 1998	box 1	folder 14
Arts and economics - Background to the general subject of culture and development notes, undated	box 1	folder 15
Arts, technology, and intellectual property - National Dance Heritage Videotape Registry: A Report, 2003	box 1	folder 16
Arts, technology, and intellectual property - Brief Amicus Curiae for the Rockefeller Foundation in Support of Respondents, 1998 February 6	box 1	folder 17
Arts, technology, and intellectual property - Grantmakers in Arts (GIA) Conference, Cleveland, Ohio, 2000-2003	box 1	folder 18
Arts, technology, and intellectual property - Report from the Fall 2003 Media Diversity Convening, 2004	box 1	folder 19
Arts, technology, and intellectual property - Background materials, 1996-2002	box 1	folder 20

Arts, technology, and intellectual property - The American Assembly, "Business Models and Technology", 2001	box 2	folder 21
Arts, technology, and intellectual property - Notes, undated	box 2	folder 22
Arts, technology, and intellectual property - Reflections, 2001	box 2	folder 23
Cultural policy - A Pre-Feasibility Analysis Regarding the Establishment of a Citizen's Association for the Arts draft, 2002	box 2	folder 24
Cultural policy - Cultural Policy Briefing, Center for Arts and Culture/Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA), 1998	box 2	folder 25
Cultural policy - Background materials, 1997	box 2	folder 26
Cultural policy - Rockefeller Foundation in the Arts and Humanities, 1997-2001	box 2	folder 27

Scope and Contents

Documents regard cultural policy research.

Cultural policy - Workshop on Mediating the Experience of Art, Social Science Research Council (SSRC), 2000	box 2	folder 28
Cultural policy - The Arts and Humanities in Public Life conference mailing, circa 1998-1999	box 2	folder 29
Cultural policy - Fourth Annual Summer Cultural Policy Meeting - Change and Exchange: Cultural Policy and Transition briefing book, 2000	box 2	folder 30
Cultural policy - Building and Sustaining an Arts Policy Community conference, 1997	box 3	folder 31
Cultural policy - Cultural Policy Network Conference, Center for Arts and Culture, 1999	box 3	folder 32
Arts and business - Deals and Ideals, 1999	box 3	folder 33
Arts and business - Silicon Valley Community Ventures (SVCV), 2000	box 3	folder 34
Arts and business - Report given at a meeting of the Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA), Chicago, Illinois, 1998	box 3	folder 35
Arts and business - Memo to Joan Shikegawa at Rockefeller Foundation regarding Deals and Ideals study proposal, 1998-1999	box 3	folder 36
Arts and business - Miscellaneous article drafts, 1998	box 3	folder 37
Arts and business - The Cultural Sector as an Emerging Investment Opportunity, 1999	box 3	folder 38
Arts and business - Nonprofit Capital: A Review of Problems and Strategies by William P. Ryan, 2000 October	box 3	folder 39
Arts and business - Attracting Private Capital to the Cultural Sector: Preliminary Summaries of Terms for a Proposed Fund, 1998-2001	box 3	folder 40

The 12th Man in Space Symposium: The Future of Humans in Space, 1997	box 3	folder 41
Proposals and consultancies, 2000-2003	box 4	folder 42-45
The Arts Chronicle .csv text file, undated	box 4	folder 45

Conditions Governing Use:**Conditions Governing Use**

Researchers interested in accessing digital media (floppy disks, CDs, DVDs, etc.) in this collection must use an access surrogate. The original items may not be accessed because of preservation concerns. Access copy currently unavailable. Please contact a RAC archivist for further instruction.

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Current and personal files, 1981-2003

Physical Description: 1.23 Cubic Feet About 2 LTR and 1 LGLsize Hollinger boxes

Scope and Contents

Series contains a group of files that were originally labeled with the heading "ABA Current and Personal". Due to the fact that there are more recently created documents in the other two series, the term current does not signify any real difference in date between the files in this series and the files in the rest of the collection. It merely reflects the records' creator's processes for filing and using the files. Some of the personal material in this series originates from Alberta Arthurs' time as Director of Arts and Humanities at the Rockefeller Foundation. These documents include photographs from different meetings and conferences Arthurs attended as well as correspondence she received about her departure from the Foundation. There are a few Official White House photographs amongst the personal photographs. They depict Arthurs with President Bill Clinton and First Lady Hillary Clinton at the dinner for the recipients of the Medal of Arts and Charles Frankel Prize and Arthurs with the First Lady at other meetings or events.

Records in the professional files in the series provide more content and contextual information about some of the projects documented in the first series. These projects include the work Arthurs did on a study to assess the feasibility of a newspaper for the arts field as well as her work on a cultural policy convenings initiative. Papers, invitations, correspondence, and conference program materials also provide evidence of Arthurs' participation in the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy in November 2000.

Title/Description	Instances	
Tokyo speech, 1995	box 4	folder 46
The Humanities in the 1990s article, undated	box 4	folder 47
On Making Cultural Policy: Remarks to the first meeting of the Cultural Policy Network, 1998	box 4	folder 48
Report on the American Assembly Meeting of For-Profit/Not-For-Profit Arts Professionals, 1998	box 4	folder 49
The Foundation of Knowledge: Reflections on Rockefeller Fellowships, 1998	box 4	folder 50

The Arts and Humanities in Public Life conference mailing, circa 1998-1999	box 4	folder 51
American Art, Vol. 10, No. 3 - National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institute, 1996	box 4	folder 52
Commentary: Taking Art Seriously, from American Art, Vol. 10, No. 3, 1996	box 4	folder 53
Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA) Newsletter, Vol. 7, No.2 , 1996	box 4	folder 54
Letter to the Presidential Search Committee for the University of Southern California, 1990 August 27	box 4	folder 55
From the Geo-Political to the Geo-Cultural: The Role of Culture in Development, 1998	box 4	folder 56
Some Artistic Neighbors Try to Lower Their Fence - New York Times, 1997 May 31	box 4	folder 57
The Humanities in American Life: Twenty Years Later, undated	box 4	folder 58
American Dance Festival (ADF) brochure, 1996	box 5	folder 59
The Art and Impact of Documentary Film: A Program of Grantmakers in Film, Television and Video in association with National Video Resources and the Film Society of Lincoln Center, 1997	box 5	folder 60
Art and Money - New York Times editorial, undated	box 5	folder 61
Council on Foreign Relations service agreement for Culture and Development project, 1998	box 5	folder 62
UNESCO's International Fund for the Promotion of Culture Council (IFPC), 1997 March 12	box 5	folder 63
Personal correspondence regarding Alberta Arthur's departure from the Rockefeller Foundation, 1995-1996	box 5	folder 64
Personal correspondence, 1996-2002	box 5	folder 65

Scope and Contents

File consists of letters, postcards, invitations, and a few photographs. Some of the items include computer photo prints of Alberta Arthurs at the 1999 Los Angeles Sacred Music Festival with the Dalai Lama, a letter from First Lady Hillary Clinton where Clinton thanks Arthurs for her support of the President's efforts on the arts, and correspondence regarding the Maine College of Arts' (MECA) symposium, ARTISTS NOW: Educating and Advancing Artists in a New World.

Chicago paper, 1999 January	box 5	folder 65
<u>Conditions Governing Use:</u>		

Conditions Governing Use

Researchers interested in accessing digital media (floppy disks, CDs, DVDs, etc.) in this collection must use an access surrogate. The original items may not be accessed because of preservation concerns. Access copy currently unavailable. Please contact a RAC archivist for further instruction.

Salzburg Seminar - A Record of Session 354: The Contemporary Novel, 1998	box 5	folder 66
Salzburg Seminar - A Record of Session 371: Art, Religion, and the Shaping of Culture, 1992-1999	box 5	folder 67
Poems about Bellagio by Poets in Residence at the Villa Serbelloni, 2002 August	box 5	folder 68
Rockefeller Foundation memo regarding the Museum Program, 1995 May 30	box 5	folder 69
Speeches and papers, 1998-2001	box 5	folder 70-71

Scope and Contents

File contains a copy of Alberta Arthurs' final remarks to the Rockefeller Foundation Board of Directors.

On Making Cultural Policy: to the Cultural Policy Network, 1999 February	box 5	folder 71
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Conditions Governing Use:

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A Sense of Urgency paper, undated	box 6	folder 72
Memo from Alberta and Edward Arthurs to Lincoln Chen regarding The Villa Serbelloni, circa 2001	box 6	folder 73
Social Imaginaries, 1998-2001	box 6	folder 74-75

Scope and Contents

File contains a significant amount of documents regarding the November 2000 White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy. Alberta Arthurs was a panelist for a workshop at the conference.

Rockefeller Foundation photograph file, 1987-1996	box 6	folder 76-77
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Scope and Contents

File is comprised of photographs and some other related documents. All of the photographs appear to have been

taken during Alberta Arthurs' time at the Rockefeller Foundation. They all depict Arthurs with other individuals or by herself.

Related documents and descriptions either attached or written on the back of the photographs can be used to learn the content and context of many of the pictures in the file. However, there are some photographs that have little or no associated description.

Many of the photographs were taken at different meetings and conferences that Arthurs attended. There are also copies of official White House photographs that depict Arthurs with President Bill Clinton and First Lady Hillary Clinton between 1993 and 1995 and a set of pictures regarding the American Dance Festival's (ADF) dedication of its 1996 season to Arthurs.

Chronicle of the Arts Direct Mail Market Test, 2000-2003	box 6	folder 78-79
Correspondence and other miscellaneous materials, 1992-2002	box 6	folder 80

Scope and Contents

File contains the confirmation of Alberta Arthurs' appointment as the Director of the Project on Culture and Development at the Council on Foreign Relations.

New Trends of Cultural Philanthropy - New Jersey State Council on the Arts Report to the Field, 2000	box 6	folder 81
Pew Trusts cultural policy convenings grant, 1999-2003	box 7	folder 82-84

Scope and Contents

The photographs contained within the file were enclosed in an envelope labeled Wildacres Switzerland Inn with a receipt printed in 2000. However, it seems that there might be two distinct sets of photographs within that group because the location appears different. The two sets of photographs may be from different cultural policy convening meetings.

Chronicle of the Arts, 2000-2003	box 7	folder 85
Indochina trip, 1981-1997	box 7	folder 86
Photography, 2001	box 7	folder 87

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Other professional files, 1994-2006

Physical Description: 1.9 Cubic Feet About 4.5 LTR and 1 Half-LTR size Hollinger boxes

Scope and Contents

Series contains a group of files that were originally labeled with the heading "Miscellaneous". The dates on the material show that they were the most recent documents added to the collection. This suggests that they may not have been properly incorporated into the filing systems used in the previous two series.

A large number of files in the series regard the first National Performing Arts Convention (NPAC) in Pittsburgh in 2004. Alberta Arthurs headed the I-DOC Project which was established to document and study the conference, to track issues discussed during the conference and to provide feedback to participants in real time, and to deliver an assessment of the conference in a report. Materials in these files include responses to surveys the I-DOC team issued both before and after the conference, charts, and other materials used for assessment and analysis.

The last few files in the series concern a part of the work that Arthurs did for the StreamingCulture program at the City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Center. Arthurs' son Daniel headed this project which provided technical services and resources to cultural organizations seeking to upload audio and video content to their websites.

Title/Description	Instances	
UNESCO's International Fund for the Promotion of Culture (IFPC), 2002-2004	box 7	folder 88
Cultural Diplomacy: Recommendations and Research - Center for Arts and Culture, 2004	box 7	folder 89
MacArthur Fellows Program Roundtable on Creativity, Globalism, and Global Creativity Working Papers, 1996	box 7	folder 90
Cultural diplomacy, 2000	box 7	folder 91
Conference application, original, 2000 November	box 12	folder 132
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> Conditions Governing Access		
Restricted - confidential material.		
Notepad, undated	box 8	folder 92
Center for Arts and Culture - International cultural policy meetings, 2001-2002	box 8	folder 93
Talking Points - Globalization and Its Impact on Culture, 1999	box 8	folder 94
Conference on Strengthening International Educational and Cultural Exchanges - President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, 1999-2000	box 8	folder 95
Michael Holquist talk - "The Role of Foundations in Foreign Language Study, 1920-?", 1999	box 8	folder 96
Cultural policy - Working Dinner by The Secretary of State on Cultural Diplomacy, 2000 March	box 8	folder 97
World Decade for Cultural Development, 1988-1997, UNESCO - Culture and Development: A Study, 1994 February	box 8	folder 98
Japan trip - Contacts/Correspondence, 1995-1996	box 8	folder 99-100

Individual artists' project (Holly Sidford - The Urban Institute), 2002-2005	box 8	folder 101-104
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC - Orchestra information, 1997-2005	box 9	folder 105-106
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC - Shared arts network ideas, 2001	box 9	folder 107
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC - National Performing Arts Convention and affiliated conferences, 2003-2004	box 9	folder 108
Funding the arts, 1999-2003	box 9	folder 109
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC, 2004	box 9	folder 110
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC - Findings, codebook, schedules, etc., 2001-2004	box 9	folder 111
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC - Surveys and notes, 2004	box 9	folder 112
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC - Post-convention, circa 2004	box 10	folder 113
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC - Pre-convention, undated	box 10	folder 114
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC - Findings, circa 2004	box 10	folder 115
Pittsburgh Conference/I-DOC - Background to conference and expectations of I-DOC, 2004	box 10	folder 116
The 2006 Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize, 2005-2006	box 10	folder 117-118
Notes and findings, 1997-2004	box 10	folder 119-120
Scope and Contents File contains notes, drafts, reports, articles, and publications regarding topics such as funding for the arts, relationships between the nonprofit and for-profit sectors in the arts, cultural diplomacy, and the history of the arts.		
Venice Biennale, 2005	box 10	folder 121
Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Study and Conference Center, 1999-2004	box 11	folder 122-124
Notes from various meetings, 1997-2004	box 11	folder 125-126
Ford Foundation project - Bringing New Media Opportunities to Community-Based Organizations, 2002-2004	box 11	folder 127-128
StreamingCulture projects, 2001-2003	box 11	folder 129
StreamingCulture - Ford Foundation meeting, 2003-2004	box 11	folder 130
Address book, undated	box 12	folder 131

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

Restricted - confidential material.

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