

Guide to the Alice Key Papers

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on August 22, 2016.

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository:	TEST Repository
Creator:	Key, Alice
Title:	Alice Key Papers
ID:	MS-00095
Date [inclusive]:	1936-1995
Date [inclusive]:	1966-1990 (bulk)
Physical Description:	0.4 Linear Feet (1 box)
Physical Description:	0.35 linear feet (1 box)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Collection consists of the papers of Alice Key, who came to Las Vegas in 1955 as Public Relations Director for the Moulin Rouge Hotel. Key had been a chorus girl in her early days in Los Angeles. Key was active in the Civil Rights movement in Las Vegas, and in a number of political and community service organizations such as the NAACP. Collection consists of clippings, photographs, correspondence, and videos regarding civil rights and entertainment, in particular, the preservation of the Moulin Rouge Hotel.

Preferred Citation Note

Alice Key Collection, 1936-1995. MS-00095. Special Collections, UNLV Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Sketch

Biographical Sketch

Alice Key was born in Kentucky around 1911. Her family moved to Southern California when she was still a small child. During her second year at UCLA, she was recruited as a chorus girl for the Cotton Club in Culver City, California, which began her long, successful dancing career.

In 1955, Key came to Las Vegas as Public Relations Director for the Moulin Rouge Hotel and, also, co-hosted the “Talk of the Town,” the first all-black television show in Las Vegas. From 1966 to 1969, she was editor of the Las Vegas Voice, the city’s first black newspaper. Always active in civil rights, Key was the director of the Nevada Commission for the Rights of Women from 1967 to 1969, coordinator for the Nevada Careers Program for the Equal Opportunity Board of Clark County from 1969 to 1972 and, from 1980 to 1983, she served as director of the Las Vegas branch of the NAACP. In 1983, Governor Bryan appointed her to the Labor Commission where she served for 10 years. In 1984, she helped organize the Barbara Jordan Democratic Women’s Caucus. She continued to be active in community affairs and at the time the collection was processed was working for the preservation and reopening of the Moulin Rouge Hotel in West Las Vegas.

Note

For additional biographical information see: *An interview with Alice Key: an oral history*, conducted by Claytee D. White

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Scope and Content Scope and Content

The main topics in this brief collection are civil rights and the preservation of the Moulin Rouge Hotel. The collection includes certificates awards given to Alice Key, a little correspondence, invitations, programs, pamphlets and newspaper clippings. There is also some background information on Key's early life as a dancer. The donor noted that the photograph collection was assembled by someone else and is not in any rational order. Alice is writing some memoirs and will add them at a later date. Someone is also sending the newspaper columns she wrote which she will later add to the collection.

In 2003 an accretion was added consisting of 3 folders, which are described in the inventory below.

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Arrangement of the Records

Arrangement of the Records

The collection is retained in a single series and divided into folders by topic and format.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

Added new accession. 2014

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1995 by Alice Key; accession number 1995-047.

Processed by:

Processed by:

Joyce Marshall, January 1995.

Access

This collection is open for research. Digital versions of this material are available through the UNLV Libraries website at: <http://digital.library.unlv.edu/objects?CISOOP1=all&CISOFIELD1=CISOSEARCHALL&CISOROOT=all&CISOBOX1=MS+95-47&submit=Search+All>

Publication Rights:

Publication Rights:

For permission to reproduce or publish from this collection, please contact the Director of Special Collections.

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

Note

Eight photographs featuring Alice Key and other entertainment celebrities were removed to the UNLV Special Collections Photo Collection 0297.

Related Materials

Donald M. Clark Collection, MS-00158

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Controlled Access Headings

- Dancers
- Public relations personnel -- Biography
- Women newspaper editors -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- Biography
- Political activists -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- Biography
- African Americans -- Civil rights -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- African Americans -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Las Vegas Voice
- Talk of the town
- Moulin Rouge Hotel and Casino -- History
- Key, Alice

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Certificates and Awards, 1980-1995	Box 1	Folder 1
Correspondence, 1989-1995	Box 1	Folder 2
Invitations, 1965-1995	Box 1	Folder 3
Las Vegas Review Journal, "Living" section, May, 19, 1993	Box 1	Folder 4
Las Vegas Review Journal, "Nevadan" section, September 17, 1989	Box 1	Folder 5

Las Vegas Review Journal "Nevadan" section, February 25, 1990	Box 1	Folder 6
Las Vegas Voice, July 21, 1990	Box 1	Folder 7
Newspaper clippings, 1936-1986	Box 1	Folder 8
Nevada Black History, Newspaper supplement, published 1992	Box 1	Folder 9
Photocopies and JPG images of photographs removed to Photo Collection 00297, circa 1940s-1970s	Box 1	Folder 10
Programs, 1937-1995	Box 1	Folder 11
Pamphlets, 1995-1996	Box 1	Folder 12
Video recording (VHS tape) Channel 8 KLAS-TV Black History Month: Alice Key, January 30, 1995	Box 1	Folder 19
Awards, certificates and proclamations, undated	Box 1	Folder 13
Newspaper clippings, undated	Box 1	Folder 14
Correspondence and speeches, undated	Box 1	Folder 15
Newspaper and magazine clippings, 1980-2004	Box 1	Folder 17
Photographic prints, circa 1950s-1980s	Box 1	Folder 18
Newspaper clippings, 1954, 1965, 1976, and 1979	Box 1	Folder 16