

Polish Heritage Society scrapbooks Collection 383

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

May 19, 2013

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

June 2011

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Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Creator	Polish Heritage Society. (Grand Rapids, Mich.)
Title	Polish Heritage Society scrapbooks
Date [inclusive]	1963-1985
Extent	4.0 Linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	<p>The Polish Heritage Society promotes Polish heritage in the Grand Rapids, Michigan area. The organization was founded in 1963 as the Polish Arts Society, with the name changing to Polish Heritage Society in 1970. This collection includes scrapbooks dating from 1963 to 1985 which document the activities of the group through newspaper clippings, photographs, event fliers and other ephemera.</p>

Biographical/Historical note

The Polish Heritage Society was founded in 1963 as the Polish Arts Society. The society was established to “bring Americans of Polish extraction together for the purpose of fostering a consciousness and pride in their heritage, to spread the knowledge of Poland's thousand-year-old culture, to encourage education and to endow scholarships for young people of Polish descent.”

In 1970, the name of the organization was changed to the Polish Heritage Society in order to reflect the interests and activities of the organization, which extended beyond arts.

Since its inception, the organization has been active in promoting Polish heritage activities and events. These events include a food booth at Festival of the Arts, an annual Polish Heritage Day and festival (begun in 1979), concerts and dinners.

Scope and Contents note

The scrapbooks date from 1963 to 1985 and document the activities of the Polish Heritage Society through newspaper clippings, photographs, event fliers and other ephemera. The newspaper clippings cover both local events and mentions of Poland or Polish people in local newspapers or magazines. The collection also contains some items related to the Dutch Immigrant Society, as the two groups worked together on events for the nation's bicentennial in 1976.

Items that were loose in the scrapbooks or that came with the scrapbooks, such as photographs or papers, were placed in separate folders. So, although there are folders specified as containing photographs or newsletters, these may also be found throughout the scrapbooks.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department June 2011

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Polish Heritage Society of Grand Rapids, accession number 1990.021.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- scrapbooks

Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

Subject(s)

- Polish Americans -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History

Series I: Scrapbooks

Collection Inventory

Series I: Scrapbooks		
	Box	Folder
Scrapbook, The Polish Arts Society 1963-1970		1
	Box	Folder
Photographs, 1963-1970 scrapbook	6	1
		Box
Scrapbook, Polish Heritage Society 1971-1973		2
	Box	Folder
Photographs, 1971-1973 scrapbook	4	4
Photographs, 1971-1973 scrapbook	6	2
Loose Items, 1971-1973 scrapbook	4	5
		Box
Scrapbook, Polish Heritage Society 1974-1975		2
	Box	Folder
Photographs, 1974-1975 scrapbook	6	3

Series I: Scrapbooks

Loose Items, 1974-1975 scrapbook	4	6
		Box
Scrapbook, Polish Heritage Society 1976-1977		3
	Box	Folder
Photographs, 1976-1977 scrapbook	6	4
Loose Items, 1976-1977 scrapbook	4	7
		Box
Scrapbook, Polish Heritage Society 1978-1979		3
	Box	Folder
Loose Items, 1978-1979 scrapbook	4	8
Scrapbook, Polish Heritage Society 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983		
	Box	Folder
Mixed Materials	4	1
	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	4	2
	Box	Folder
Photographs, 1980-1983 scrapbook	4	9
Scrapbook, Polish Heritage Society 1984-1985	4	3

Series II: Photographs

Photographs, 1984-1985 scrapbook	6	5
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Loose Items, 1984-1985 scrapbook	4	10
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Series II: Photographs

	Box	Folder
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Wigilia Dinner 1984	6	6
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Unknown event circa 1983	6	7
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Photographs labeled as prior to 1984	6	8
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Rzeslow Dancers; Polish Heritage Day 1985	6	9
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Photographs, Maciej Piotrowski and Jacek Rogowski, pianists at Calvin College June 1984	6	10
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Miscellaneous Photographs (black & white)	4	11
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Series III: Miscellaneous

	Box	Folder
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Newsletters, Polish Heritage Society 1974-1977	5	1
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Newsletters, Polish Heritage Society 1978-1985	5	2
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Series III: Miscellaneous

Commemorative Booklet, Polish Ethnic Christmas and Cultural Exhibit at the Grand Rapids Public Museum 1971	5	3
Proclamation, by the President of the United States of America, Polish American Heritage Month 1985	5	4
A Tribute to Lech Walesa, Ethics and Public Policy Center December 1983	5	5
Magazine Clippings 1980 and 1985	5	6
Fliers and Programs 1976-1985	5	7
Miscellaneous	5	8