

Jaroslav de Zielinski Papers Collection 412

Finding aid prepared by Katherine Besemer

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

December 30, 2014

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
111 Library Street NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503
616-988-5400
localhis@grpl.org

Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical/Historical note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents note</u>	4
<u>Administrative Information</u>	4
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	5
<u>Collection Inventory</u>	6
<u>Series I: Biographical Information</u>	6
<u>Series II: Copies of Concert Handbills and Price Lists</u>	6
<u>Series III: Letters</u>	6
<u>Series IV: Polish National Society</u>	8
<u>Series V: Miscellaneous Items</u>	8

Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Title	Jaroslaw de Zielinski papers
Date [inclusive]	1871-1879
Extent	0.5 Linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	Jaroslaw de Zielinski was a Polish music teacher and conductor living in Grand Rapids, Michigan from 1871-1879. While living in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Zielinski helped pioneer music education and entertainment during the early development stages of the city. While living in Grand Rapids, he befriended one of his pupils, Ms. Edith V. Rann, and corresponded with her extensively from 1871-1890 in regards to his philosophy of music, teaching music and personal matters.

Biographical/Historical note

Jaroslaw de Zielinski was born March 31, 1844 in Lubycza Krolewska, Poland. He was born into an affluent family, received a solid education in Lemberg and Theresianum in Vienna and became a student of Carl Mikuli, a famous pupil of Frederic Chopin. As a young man he participated in the unsuccessful Polish uprising against Russia in 1863-64, immigrating to the United States in 1864. Immediately upon arrival to the United States he joined the Union Army as a bugler during the Civil War. After being honorably discharged in 1865 he moved to New York and devoted himself to teaching pianoforte and voice.

In 1871 he moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan where he continued to teach music and conducted local concerts. He formed a long-term friendship with his pupil Edith V. Rann and corresponded with her for 30 years regarding his philosophy on music, music trends, and personal matters. In 1879 he moved to Detroit, Michigan and became the director of the Schuman Society and the Detroit Opera Company. In 1889 he moved to Buffalo, NY and became the director and choir master of the Church of the Ascension. In 1910 he moved to Los Angeles, California where he belonged to numerous musical organizations, contributed to a variety of musical literary publications and focused on his own piano and voice compositions. He died in Santa Barbara, California July 25, 1922.

Scope and Contents note

Papers contain copies of biographical information on Jaroslaw de Zielinski, copies of lesson pricing lists and handbills of concerts he conducted while living in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Also contained in these papers are two sets of translated letters dating from 1871 to 1890 between Zielinski and one of his long-term pupils Edith V. Rann. The first is an original translated copy produced by Edward Symans and contains handwritten notes in pen. The second copy has been reproduced from this original set with slight variations to years 1874 and 1890. The letters contain Zielinski's philosophy in teaching music as well as personal matters. Other items include a copy of a holograph produced by Zielinski, a copy of a bookplate cover by artist Ruth Thomson Saunders, copies of post card addresses and three photographs that are undated and unnamed.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

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

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Accession number 1986.463. Papers received as a gift from Mr. Edward A. Symans.

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History -- 19th Century

Subject(s)

- Music -- 19th Century -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Polish Americans -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History

Series I: Biographical Information

Collection Inventory

Series I: Biographical Information		
	Box	Folder
Copies of Biographical Information June/July 1890	1	1
The Kosciuszko Newsletter	1	1
Series II: Copies of Concert Handbills and Price Lists 1872-1877		
	Box	Folder
Copies of Concert Handbills 1872-1877	1	2
Copies of Music Lesson Price Lists	1	3
Series III: Letters 1871-1879		
Original Letter Translations		
	Box	Folder
1871 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	4
1872 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	5

Copies of Letter Translations

1873 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	6
1874 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	7
1875 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	8
1876 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	9
1877-78 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	10
1883 Detroit, MI Letter	1	11
1889-90 Buffalo, NY Letters	1	12
Copies of Letter Translations		
	Box	Folder
1871 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	13
1872 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	14
1873 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	15
1874 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	16
1875 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	17

Miscellaneous Letters

1876 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	18
1877-78 Grand Rapids, MI Letters	1	19
1883 Detroit, MI Letter	1	20
1889-90 Buffalo, NY Letters	1	21
Miscellaneous Letters		
	Box	Folder
Copy of 1916 Los Angeles, CA Letter	1	22
Copy of Findings Letter by Alice Rozan	1	29
Series IV: Polish National Society		
	Box	Folder
50 Year Anniversary Booklet 1928	1	23
Copy of 1899 Death Notice for Jozef Jakubowicz 1899	1	24
Series V: Miscellaneous Items		
	Box	Folder
Copy of 1871 Holograph	1	25

Series V: Miscellaneous Items

Photographs	1	26
Copy of Bookplate designed by Ruth Thomson Saunders	1	27
Copies of Post Cards	1	28
Copy of Appraisal	1	29