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Summary Information

Creator: Belfer, Hal
Title: Hal Belfer Papers
ID: MS-00575
Date [inclusive]: 1940-2004
Physical Description: 8.5 Linear Feet 10 boxes
Language of the Material: English
Abstract: The Hal Belfer Papers contain is comprised of the papers of producer, choreographer, and writer Harold (Hal) Belfer from 1940 to 2004. Materials include correspondence, program ideas, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, scripts, sheet music, arrangements, and photographs.

Preferred Citation


Biographical Note

Harold (Hal) Belfer was a writer, producer, and choreographer whose career spanned over 50 years. Belfer was born on February 16, 1922 in Los Angeles, California and his mother enrolled him in his first dance class at the age of three. Belfer began as a tap dancer and gradually expanded his entertainment career, eventually receiving more than 200 motion picture and television credits for choreography, producing, directing, and staging.

In 1953, Belfer was recruited to come to Las Vegas, Nevada to produce the Lena Horne Show. He stayed in Las Vegas and became entertainment director for both the Flamingo Hotel and the Riviera Hotel before returning to California to be a personal manager for celebrity entertainers. Belfer worked on movies with Elvis Presley and staged dance numbers for the television shows "Saturday Night Review" and "Colgate Comedy Hour." He produced the first live Liberace television show from Las Vegas.
He was a member of the Director's Guild of America, the Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a World War Two Army veteran. Hal Belfer returned to Las Vegas in the 1970s and continued to work until he passed away on March 7, 1999.


Scope and Contents Note

The Hal Belfer Papers chronicle the professional career of producer, choreographer, and writer Harold (Hal) Belfer from 1940 to 2004. There are general materials regarding his work in Hollywood, California and Las Vegas, Nevada. One of the scrapbooks contains photographs of famous personalities and his early work in movies and theater. Also included are newspaper clippings, scripts, sheet music, arrangements, and photocopies of "Fabulous Las Vegas" and "Ken's Spotlight on Las Vegas" where Belfer had made notations.

Arrangement

Material is arranged alphabetically within each subject heading.

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Material was donated in 2011 by Larry Billman; accession number 2011-04.

Processing Note

Material was processed by Joyce Moore in 2015.

Revision Description

The finding aid was revised and enhanced by Joyce Moore to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. July 2015

Controlled Access Headings

- Entertainment – Nevada – Las Vegas
- Entertainers
- Show business - Nevada - Las Vegas
- scores
- Belfer, Hal
- Riviera Hotel and Casino (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- Flamingo Hotel and Casino--Las Vegas--Nevada

Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Containers</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, program ideas, and other material</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob Sidney folio, 1957-2001</td>
<td>box 01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, Senorial Nightclub, Mexico City, Mexico, 1962</td>
<td>box 01</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Francis&quot; Army stage show, 1950</td>
<td>box 01</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Kissin' Cousins&quot; stage mat, undated</td>
<td>box 01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas hotels and history clippings, 1960-2004</td>
<td>box 01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Las Vegas show clippings, 1952-2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 2 Files</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Lucky Penny:&quot; a treatment, undated</td>
<td>box 01</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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"Operation Carrot Top" program idea, undated
Personal file: credits, articles, correspondence, and interview, 1953-1997
"The World Beneath the Sea," series idea, 1969 December 12
"Fabulous Las Vegas," annotated photocopies, 1950s-1970s
   Physical Description: 4 Files
"Ken's Spotlight on Las Vegas," annotated photocopies, 1959-1961
"Comancheros" movie sketches, 1961 July

Scrapbooks
   Photograph collection, 1940-2000
   France and Germany Tour, 1950
   Riviera Hotel publicity and clippings, 1955
   Flamingo Hotel publicity and clippings, 1956-1957

Scripts
   Batman Show, 1966 June 26
   The Saturday Night Review, weekly television show, 1954 June 12-September 18
      Physical Description: 15 Files
   Unnamed scripts, undated

Sheet music and arrangements
   Act of Collegiate, Rythmatic, Sleep, and Apache, undated
   Cashing in on Love, undated
   A Christmas Package, undated
   Don't Let it Bother You, undated
   Hi-Hat and Basin Street Blues, undated
   Jack Benny Overture, undated
   Jan Murray Show, undated
   Judy Garland Show, Flamingo Hotel, 1957 May 2
   Lena Horne Show Finale, piano parts, Sands Hotel, 1995
   Liberace Show, Riviera Hotel, 1955 April-May
   Louis Prima Show, Cal-Neva, Lake Tahoe, Nevada, 1958
   Mickey Rooney and Kitty Kallen Show, Riviera Hotel, undated
   Miscellaneous Belfer songs, undated
   Mills Brothers Show, Flamingo Hotel, 1957 May 23
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Box/Size</th>
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<tr>
<td>Opening introduction for Nita Cruz, piano parts, 1965</td>
<td>box 05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pearl Bailey Show, 1956 September 13</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take a Number from One to Ten, undated</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take Me Out to the Ballgame, Lake Tahoe, Nevada, 1953</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tea for Two, Rhapsody in Blue, Kitten on the Keys, undated</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serenade for a Wealthy Woman, undated</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Martin Casbah Overture, 1956 December 27</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Martin, lead sheets, undated</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Martin, Riviera Hotel, 1967 February</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Martin, Days of Wine and Roses, all parts, undated</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Martin Overture, undated</td>
<td>box 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Martin, Slightly out of Tune, all parts, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Top Hat Finale, 1956 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>You're the Top, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinah Shore Show, Flamingo Hotel, 1957 February 14</td>
<td>Oversized box 07</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circus, parts 1-4, undated</td>
<td>Oversized box 08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enchanted Forest, undated</td>
<td>Oversized box 08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot Igloo opening, Flamingo Hotel, 1956 August 16</td>
<td>Oversized box 09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liberace opening sequence, Riviera Hotel, 1955</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take it Sahib and Jao Cow, 1946</td>
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<td>Tony Martin Show, Flamingo Hotel, 1956 December 21</td>
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