Nancy Austin Papers MS-00613

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English
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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Summary Information

Creator: Austin, Nancy
Title: Nancy Austin Papers
ID: MS-00613
Date [inclusive]: 1966-1978
Physical Description: 0.5 Linear Feet 1 box
Language of the Material: English
Abstract: The Nancy Austin Papers (1966-1978) consists of newspaper clippings and photographs documenting the career of Las Vegas, Nevada entertainer Nancy Austin. The photographs in the collection document Austin’s entertainment career as well as other business ventures, including her own clothing line for plus-size women, called Pudgy Playmates.

Preferred Citation


Biographical Note

Las Vegas, Nevada entertainer Nancy Byrne Austin was born in Silver Springs, Maryland in 1934. She received her education at the University of Maryland, earning a degree in Education. She taught elementary school for a short time before committing full time to show business. She began performing comedy in New York City in the 1950s and moved to Las Vegas in the early 1960s. Austin made an initial impression as one of the original cast members of the popular Las Vegas daytime review Bottoms Up. She and her husband, fellow Las Vegas entertainer David London, also performed a morning radio show in the 1970s called "Coffee with the Londons."
Austin appeared in many movie and television programs including *The Carol Burnett Show* and several television episodes of *Vega$. She was also involved with charities and organizations in Las Vegas and opened the first women’s plus-size dress shop in Las Vegas in 1970. She designed and made many of the clothes herself. The store expanded to three locations and operated successfully for 15 years. Austin died in 1995 at the age of 60.

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**Scope and Contents Note**

The Nancy Austin Papers (1966-1978) consists of newspaper clippings and photographs documenting the career of Las Vegas, Nevada entertainer Nancy Austin. The photographs in the collection document Austin’s entertainment career as well as other business ventures, including her own clothing line for plus-size women, called Pudgy Playmates.

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**Arrangement**

Materials are arranged by subject.

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**Administrative Information**

**Publication Statement**

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University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections Division.

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Revision Description
The finding aid was revised by Ian M. Baldwin to bring it into compliance with DACS. June, 2014

Publication Rights
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Acquisition Note
Materials were donated in 1998 by David London; accession number 2005-031. Materials were collected by the directors of the Arnold Shaw Popular Music Research Center and transferred to Special Collections.

Processing Note
Material was processed by Joyce Moore in 2005. In 2014, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Ian M. Baldwin revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. Subsequently, Ian M. Baldwin entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

Access
Collection is open for research.

Related Materials

Separation Note
A six-hour taped interview with David London, Nancy Austin’s husband, has been removed from this collection and housed in the Arnold Shaw Collection, MS-00432.
Controlled Access Headings

- Entertainment -- Nevada – Las Vegas -- History
- Austin, Nancy

Collection Inventory

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<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
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<tr>
<td>Newspaper articles, 1968-1975</td>
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<td>Photographs: clothing line, undated</td>
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<td>Photographs: David London, undated</td>
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