Guide to the Liberace Fan Memorabilia Collection

This finding aid was created by Joyce Moore and Ian M. Baldwin on February 08, 2017.
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Summary Information

Creator: Johnson, Karl B.
Title: Liberace Fan Memorabilia Collection
ID: MS-00622
Date [inclusive]: 1944-2004
Physical Description: 1.32 Cubic Feet (3 boxes, 1 oversize folder)
Physical Description: 2.72 Linear Feet
Language of the Material: English
Abstract: Liberace Fan Memorabilia Collection (1944-2004) consists of fliers, brochures, news clippings, and ephemera chronicling the life and career of famed Las Vegas, Nevada entertainer Liberace. Materials from the Liberace Foundation, various fan clubs, and the Liberace Museum in Las Vegas comprise the bulk of the collection. There are also several pieces of ephemera in the collection, including items purchased from the Liberace Museum. Additionally, there are several Las Vegas souvenir sound recordings included in the collection.

Preferred Citation Note

Biographical Note

Famed Las Vegas, Nevada pianist and entertainer Liberace (1919-1987) was born Wladziu Valentino Liberace in West Allis, Wisconsin. A gifted pianist, Liberace began his career in the 1930s and reached impressive levels of success from the 1950s through the 1970s. Often nicknamed "Mr. Showmanship," he was the highest-paid entertainer on the Las Vegas Strip for several years during the height of his popularity. In addition to his music, he was known for his distinctive showmanship and flair. He continued to entertain audiences until 1987, when he passed away in Palm Springs from AIDS-related complications.

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Scope and Contents Note

Liberace Fan Memorabilia Collection (1944-2004) consists of fliers, brochures, news clippings, and ephemera chronicling the life and career of famed Las Vegas, Nevada entertainer Liberace. Materials from the Liberace Foundation, various fan clubs, and the Liberace Museum in Las Vegas comprise the bulk of the collection. There are also several pieces of ephemera in the collection, including items purchased from the Liberace Museum. Additionally, there are several Las Vegas souvenir sound recordings included in the collection.

Arrangement

Materials remain in original order.

Administrative Information

Access
Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See Reproductions and Use on the UNLV Special Collections website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

Acquisition Note
Materials were donated in 2012 by Karl B. Johnson; accession number 2012-025.

Processing Note
Material was processed by Joyce Moore in 2012. In 2014, as part of a legacy finding aid project, Ian M. Baldwin revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. Subsequently, Ian M. Baldwin entered information into ArchivesSpace.
Names and Subjects

- Las Vegas (Nev.) --History
- Entertainers
- Liberace
- Johnson, Karl B.

Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Containers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liberace flyers and brochures, undated</td>
<td>box 01 folder 01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberace event invitations, 1988-2004</td>
<td>box 01 folder 02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberace Club of Wichita materials, 1961-1962</td>
<td>box 01 folder 03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberace memorial card and ephemera, 1987</td>
<td>box 01 folder 04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberace postcards, 1957-1996</td>
<td>box 01 folder 05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberace photographs, undated</td>
<td>box 01 folder 06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ephemera, undated</td>
<td>box 01 folder 07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspaper articles, 1953-1999</td>
<td>box 01 folder 08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas souvenir sound recordings, 1960</td>
<td>box 01 folder 09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show tickets, 1944-1977</td>
<td>box 01 folder 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christie's auction book: Liberace estate, 1988</td>
<td>box 02 folder 01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberace show programs, 1963-1984</td>
<td>box 02 folder 02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Western High School Music Department&quot;: long-playing record, undated</td>
<td>box 03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Night-Club Music: Las Vegas and Country Western&quot;: long-playing record, undated</td>
<td>box 03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Las Vegas Youth Band&quot;: long-playing record, 1967 April 23</td>
<td>box 03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Las Vegas Youth Band&quot;: long-playing record, 1968 March 17</td>
<td>box 03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"How to Beat the Dealer": long-playing record, undated

box 03