March 2012


Hope College

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**H88-0378.** Music Department.
Records, 1928-[ongoing]. 12.25 linear ft. **PARTIALLY RESTRICTED**

**Abstract**

The Hope College Music Department Collection includes programs for the various music groups, student performers, faculty, and guest artists; news articles reviewing most performances; calendars indicating dates and times for some performances; and minutes that document activities in the department from 1946 to the present. Discussed in the minutes are curriculum issues, student concerns, faculty and student recruitment, and arrangements for presenting various concerts on campus. Also included are Chapel Choir scrapbooks from 1955-1986, as well as a few other scrapbooks. Other topics include Christmas Vespers, the Musical Showcase, the Concerto/Aria Competition, Tulip Time, Opera Workshop, various summer camps, the National School Orchestra Association, and the National Association of Schools of Music.

**Accession No:** H88-0378  
**Provenance:** Hope College Music Department  
**Donor:** Hope College Music Department  
**Photographs:** 641 images (Boxes 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, and oversized)  
**Processed by:** Ryan E. Kreider, October 1993, Michael Douma, June 2001 and June 2002, Jessica Bodtke, July 2005

**History**

The orchestra, band and glee clubs were initially the most prominent musical organizations at Hope College. The orchestra gained greater stature in the 1940s with Morrette Rider serving as conductor. Rider remained in that position through the spring of 1967, when he was succeeded by Robert Ritsema. Another prominent leader of the music department was Robert Cavanaugh, who directed the Chapel Choir from 1952-1973. Among his accomplishments were many Chapel Choir Midwest tours, as well as a White House visit during the Nixon administration. Perhaps the most important aspect of the Hope College music program, however, has been the student and faculty recitals that continue as a strong tradition.

**Scope and Content**

This collection consists of minutes, scrapbooks, programs, newspaper clippings, photographs, and correspondence of the Hope College Music Department. Subjects include NSOA (National School Orchestra Association), NASM (National Association of Schools of Music), recitals, choir trips, and music department facilities. Notable figures include Robert Snow, John Nykerk, Roger Rietberg, Wynand Wichers, and Robert Cavanaugh.
Container List

Box 1

Administrative materials
  Administration Usage Hours, 1995-1996
  Analysis of Music Alumni Survey, Michael J Leland, Frost Center, n.d.
  Annual Report, 1985-1993
  Archives Records Transfer, 1994
  Budget/Financial Information, 1985-1990
  Departmental Review, 1987
  Enrollment Report, 1987-1994
  Handbook, Music Department, 1966
  Long-Range Planning, 1990
  Minutes, Music Department Faculty Meetings, 1946-[ongoing] (10 folders)
  Report, 1964
  Self-Study, 1980, 1982
  Staff Retreat (correspondence, Holiday Inn), 1989-1991
  Steering Committee Report, 1989
  Student employment, 1991, 1993
  Summary of Music Department Opinions, May 1971
Brochures
  Music at Hope College, 1916, n.d. (pre-1987)
  The Music of Hope College, ca. 1966
Canning, Thomas, Music composed by/for Hope College (correspondence), 1957-1959
Correspondence
  Off-campus, 1968-1994
  On-campus, 1959-1995
Curriculum
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  Course Descriptions, 1989
  Curriculum Committee Minutes, 1987 (review of Music Dept.)
  Music Education Curriculum, n.d.
  Preliminary Application of Intention to Major in Music, n.d.
  Recital Policies, 1966-1995
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  Jazz Ensemble, 1974-[ongoing]
  Orchestra, 1921-[ongoing] (3 folders)
  Symphonette, 1953-[ongoing] (3 folders)

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Ensembles, Instrumental, 1954
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  Chapel Choir, 1970-[ongoing] (4 images)
  Chapel Choir, correspondence, 1952-1972
  College Chorus, 1902-[ongoing]
  Collegium Musicum, 1969-[ongoing]
  Combined Choirs (combined concerts), 1970-[ongoing]
  Glee Clubs (men’s and women’s), 1896-1954
  Glee Clubs, correspondence, 1946-1953
  Madrigal singers, 1948-1950
  Messiah Chorus and Orchestra, 1943-1974
  Motet Choir, 1967-1968
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  Women’s Chamber Choir, 2004-[ongoing]
  Women’s Chorus, 1958-[ongoing]

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  Fine Arts Festival, 1950-1966
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  Faculty, 1922-[ongoing] (6 folders)
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Annual Reports, 1958-1965
Application for Associate Membership, Correspondence, 1959-1969
Visitor’s Report and Response, 1959

National School Orchestra Association (NSOA)
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Oral History Project
  Interview with Jantina Holleman, August 20, 2002 (hard copy, floppy disk and
    audio cassette)
  Interview with Carlyle Neckers, June 13, 2002 (hard copy, floppy disk and
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  1957 (6 images)
  1959 (5 images)
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LP Record, Christmas Vespers, Volume II, 1984
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