Claremont Arts Fair Scrapbook

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Claremont Arts Fair Scrapbook
Dates: 1958 - 1960
Collection Number: 20180.01T
Creator/Collector:
Extent: .21 linear feet (1box) linear feet. Containing brochures, newspapers, photographs, newspaper articles and clippings, and administrative materials.
Repository: Claremont Heritage
Claremont, California 91711
Abstract: A scrapbook collection of items including brochures, newspaper article clippings, photographs, and administrative materials focusing on the annual Claremont Arts Fair. These materials document the events and artists of the 1958, 1959, and 1960 art fairs. Many notable Claremont artists took place in the festivities, either as panel judges or through exhibition of their work including Karl Benjamin, Harrison McIntosh, and Milford Zornes.
Language of Material: English
Access
The collection is open for research use.
Publication Rights
Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder (if applicable).
Preferred Citation
Claremont Arts Fair Scrapbook. Claremont Heritage

Biography/Administrative History
Since the 1930’s, the City of Claremont and Claremont Colleges have been a haven for artists. The transition into art community was due in large part to Millard Sheets, a Pomona native and artist who studied at the Choinard Art Institute in Los Angeles. Returning to Claremont in the 1930s, Sheets joined the faculty at Scripps College in 1936, where he served as Director of Painting until 1955. During his time at Scripps, Sheets was able to bring in several notable artists as professors to the budding Claremont Colleges art program. Artists like Jean Goodwin Ames, Phil Dike, William Manker, Henry Lee McFee, Albert Stewart, and Milford Zornes all served on the faculty during this period, teaching primarily painting and ceramics at Scripps College and the Claremont Graduate School. In addition to the art faculty, public art pieces and murals across the campuses by artists like Ramon Martinez and Jose Clemente Orozco offered inspiration to a new generation of Claremont artists. The Padua Hills Theatre, built in 1930 in the Claremont foothills also encouraged a growing art movement in Claremont. The theatre itself served as home to the Mexican Players performance troupe from 1932 to 1974, drawing audiences to Claremont from around Southern California. In addition to the dining room and theatre, Padua Hills also hosted an art colony where ceramic artists like Harrison McIntosh, Rupert Deese, and Betty Davenport Ford had studios and workshops. Each summer the Padua Hills Art Fiesta brought together local artists for a celebration of art in action. Padua Hills thrived as an artist’s colony and the presence of such a community, coupled with the artistic influence of the Claremont Colleges, created an art mecca in Claremont.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Claremont Arts Fair was an annual festival that showcased local artwork that highlighted Claremont artists. The Claremont Arts Fair Scrapbook Collection features materials collected that highlight the first three annual Claremont Arts Fairs. The collection is primarily made up of newspaper and article clippings that focus on the events held during the weekend, artists who were involved with the exhibitions and programming, and profile and exposé pieces on the prize-winning artists. Among the well-known artists featured in the clippings are Karl Benjamin, Phil Dike, Millard Sheets, Harrison McIntosh, and Milford Zornes. In addition to the articles, the scrapbook collection also features photographs of the art exhibits (primarily in the Claremont Village area), brochures for each three Arts Fair, and administrative documents: letterhead, announcements, and art entry forms. The scope of the collection covers the Claremont Arts Fair from 1958 - 1960. The Claremont Arts Fair continued to run as an annual event throughout the 1960s and 1970s.

Indexing Terms
Artist -- United States
Claremont (Calif.)
Claremont Colleges
Claremont Graduate University
Claremont High School
Pomona College (Claremont, Calif.)
Scripps College (Claremont, Calif.)
Women -- Societies and Clubs
Arthur Ames
Jean Ames
Benjamin Karl
Rex Brandt
Theodore Criley
Paul Darrow
Phil Dike
Robert George
James Grant
Frederick Hammersley
James Hueter
John Hunter
Roger Kuntz
Anthony Ivins
Sue Lautman
Douglas McClelland
Fred McDowell
Harrison McIntosh
Walter Mix
Lindley Mixon
David Scott
Millard Sheets
Paul Soldner
Sueo Serisawa
James Strombotne
Helen Watson
Melvin Wood
Robert E. Wood
R.D. Wright
Jack Zajac
Milford Zornes