Women's Committee of the Grossmont Community Concert Association records

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2019
Descriptive Summary

Title: Women's Committee of the Grossmont Community Concert Association records

Dates: 1957-2016

Collection Number: LMHS.0001

Creator/Collector: Women’s Committee of the Grossmont Community Concert Association

Music Scholarship Council (2008-)

Extent: 9 cubic feet (4 record cartons, 1 document box, and 12 scrapbook boxes)

Repository: La Mesa Historical Society

La Mesa, California 91944

Abstract: The records of the Women’s Committee of the Grossmont Community Concert Association include organizational papers and meeting minutes, newspaper clippings, event programs, scrapbooks and photographs, and membership roster booklets.

Language of Material: English

Access

Some financial files may contain restricted information. Membership rosters may contain restricted address and contact information. Some scrapbook volumes were disbound and require careful handling. The 1979-1983 scrapbook in Box 9 experience some exposure to mold and was digitized, disbound, and cleaned.

Preferred Citation

Women’s Committee of the Grossmont Community Concert Association records. La Mesa Historical Society

Acquisition Information

Collection comprised of donations from Anita Reith and Shirley Stowers.

Biography/Administrative History

The Women’s Committee of the Grossmont Community Concert Association was founded in 1957 as a support organization for the Grossmont Community Concert Association. Their first meeting was held in the home of Bertha Starr and the first President was Henrietta Harelson. There were nineteen charter members. The original purpose of the organization was to 1. Support GCCA and to encourage and build a cultural climate for fine arts in East County, especially music; 2. To build an auditorium; and 3. To give scholarships to deserving music students. Organization members would meet at the home of community group organizers in Lemon Grove, La Mesa, El Cajon, Fletcher Hills and Del Cerro to enjoy musical performances. The group also sponsored concerts at the Grossmont High School gymnasium. On September 8, 1977, the group achieved their goal of bringing an auditorium to East County with the opening of the East County Performing Arts Center (ECPAC). The following year, they established the Virginia and Susan Hawk Vocal Scholarships. In 1979, an Instrumental Scholarship was also added. Further fund-raising efforts led to the purchase of a concert grand piano for the ECPAC in 1982. Fundraising for the various scholarship programs continued through the next several decades. In 2007, the Women’s Committee celebrated 50 years of continued support for the music and performance in East County. The organization changed its name to the Music Scholarship Council – GCCA in 2008. The GCCA was dropped in 2016 when the Grossmont Community Concert Association disbanded. In 2011, membership in the Music Scholarship Council was opened to men.

Scope and Content of Collection

The records of the Women’s Committee of the Grossmont Community Concert Association consist of multiple accruals from various Women’s Committee members. Materials cover the administrative history of the organization and document membership and committee activities. Special projects include fundraising efforts to support construction of an auditorium in El Cajon, the purchase of a concert grand piano, and funding of several scholarship programs. This collection is arranged in three series: I. Organizational records, 1957-2011; II. Publicity and printed materials, 1957-2016; III. Scrapbooks, 1957-2014.

Boxlist