Overview of the Collection

Collection Title: Founder's Day Collection
Dates: 1936-1980
Bulk Dates: 1940-1979
Identification: MS-0300
Creator: Founder's Day, 1899-
Physical Description: 1.25 linear ft
Language of Materials: English
Repository: Special Collections & University Archives
5500 Campanile Dr. MC 8050
San Diego, CA, 92182-8050
URL: http://library.sdsu.edu/scua
Email: scref@rohan.sdsu.edu
Phone: 619-594-6791

Biographical Information:
San Diego State University's Founder's Day was an annual event that took place the first day in May. Founder's Day originated as Dedication Day, a celebration commemorating the anniversary of the dedication of the original Normal School building in 1899. Dedication Day was renamed Founder's Day in the 1930s under Walter Hepner's presidency. Founder's Day festivities included an Open House where faculty members would hold meet and greet sessions for students and their families, as well as activities, exhibits and programs sponsored by individual departments.

Dedication of school monuments and landmarks also took place on Founder's Day. In 1937, a statue of an Aztec carved by prominent local sculptor Donal Hord was dedicated on Founder's Day as the new school symbol. In 1941, the Greek, or Open Air Theatre was dedicated. In 1971, the Director of Libraries, Louis A. Kenney, presided over the dedication of the Malcolm A. Love Library and unveiled a portrait of Love by Professor Emeritus Everett Gee Jackson.

Access Terms
This collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Corporate Name:
San Diego State College
San Diego State University -- Anniversaries, etc
San Diego State University -- History -- 20th century -- Sources

Topical Term:
Founders' Day (San Diego State University)

Accruals:
1998, 2003

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Conditions Governing Access:
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**Preferred Citation:**
Identification of item, folder title, box number, Founder's Day Collection, Special Collections and University Archives, Library and Information Access, San Diego State University.

**Related Materials:**
Irving Outcalt Papers

**Scope and Contents**
The *Founder's Day Collection* documents the history of the college's Founder's Day festivities from the school's early years through 1980. The collection dates from 1936-1980, with the bulk of the documents ranging from the 1940s through the 1970s. It consists solely of paper records. The collection documents the annual open house, festivities, and activities associated with SDSU's Founder's Day celebration. Included are Founder's Day programs which document the dedication of the Greek, or Open Air Theatre in 1941, and the Malcolm A. Love Library in 1971. Also included is a schedule of events booklet from the college's 50th Anniversary celebration in 1947. Miscellaneous items such as Founder's Day invitations to students, newspaper clippings from the *Daily Aztec* promoting Founder's Day festivities, and Founder's Day committee meeting minutes are also included in this collection. Materials are organized chronologically.

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