
Guide to the Asian American Women Artists Association (AAWAA) archives CEMA 189

Finding aid prepared by Salvador Güereña and Zachary Liebhaber, 2019.

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Title: Asian American Women Artists Association (AAWAA) archives

Identifier/Call Number: CEMA 189

Contributing Institution: UC Santa Barbara Library, Department of Special Research Collections

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 5 linear feet(5 cartons)

Creator: Asian American Women Artists Association

Date (inclusive): approximately 1994-2014

Abstract: Materials generated by the the San Francisco-based Asian American Woman Artists Association (AAWAA) in the course of its activities from approximately 1994 to 2014.

Physical Location: Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research. Portions of this collection are unprocessed and may contain restricted materials. Please contact the Department of Special Research Collections in advance to request access.

Use Restrictions

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donation, 2017.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of Item], Asian American Women Artists Association (AAWAA) archives, CEMA 189. Department of Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Historical Note

The Asian American Women Artists Association (AAWAA) is a San Francisco-based non-profit organization with a national reach. AAWAA is dedicated to the visibility, historical documentation and well-being of Asian Pacific American (APA) women in the arts. AAWAA works to get cross cultural/generational stories seen and heard as it historically documents visual imagery and information by and about APA women in the arts.

AAWAA addresses equality by increasing leadership, advocacy and social activism through art. The organization's work emphasizes the arts, social justice, women and community advocacy and healing. Its members represent a wide range in ethnicity including Chinese, Filipina, Thai, Japanese, Korean, Hapa, and Vietnamese women artists.

In addition to exhibitions, its programs include A Place of Her Own, a culturally driven arts and healing residency and an emerging curators program that cultivates curators and provides innovative exhibition opportunities. AAWAA publications, such as Cheers to Muses: Contemporary Works by Asian American Women are used in academic curricula by Ethnic and Women's Studies departments.

The archives of the Asian American Women Artists Association (AAWAA) were established in CEMA in 2017.

Scope and Content

This collection contain files related to the administrative and operational activities of the San Francisco-based Asian American Women Artists Association (AAWAA), including exhibit materials and programs, curatorial statements, submissions, promotional items and photograph albums, clippings and other press items, awards and artifacts, and audio recordings. Files date from approximately 1994 to 2014.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Asian American Women Artists

Administrative records

Artifacts (object genre)

Audiovisual materials

Clippings (information artifacts)

Photograph albums

Programs (documents)

Promotional materials

box 1 **Administrative / Operational files**
box 2 **Cheers to Muses records and other items**
box 3 **Programs**

Access Restrictions

Materials in this box are unprocessed. Please contact the Department of Special Research Collections in advance to request access.

box 4 **Administrative/Operational files**
box 5 **Administrative/Operational and artist files**
item V12369/VHS **Somar Gallery "99 "We Hold Up 1/2 the Sky" 1999**
item V12370/VHS **Channel [?] "They Hold Up 1/2 the Sky" undated**
item V12371/VHS **Cynthia on Ch 20 News Segment Somar Show (short) 1999 June 10**