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


UC SANTA BARBARA

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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 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.
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Immediate Source of Acquisition
Donation, 2017.
Preferred Citation
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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
Asian American Women Artists Association -- Archives

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