Guide to the Delaware Dance Marathon scrapbook PA Mss 127

Finding aid prepared by Wyatt Young and Zachary Liebhaber, 2017.

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2017 May 30
Title: Delaware Dance Marathon scrapbook
Identifier/Call Number: PA Mss 127
Contributing Institution: UC Santa Barbara Library, Department of Special Research Collections
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 1.17 linear feet (1 flat box)
Date: 1932, 1997
Abstract: Scrapbook documenting the Delaware (Shellpot Park) Dance Marathon of 1932. The scrapbook contains photographs, clippings, and contestant histories. The scrapbook is accompanied by a clipping of a 1997 article from the New York Times, entitled “Stepping into the past with a quickstep.”
Physical Location: Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library
Access Restrictions
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of Item], Delaware Dance Marathon scrapbook, PA Mss 127. Department of Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.
Acquisition Information
Library purchase, 2015.
Scope and Content
This scrapbook documents the Shellpot Park Marathon Dance that occurred in the state of Delaware during 1932. This particular dance marathon began with nine couples, and went on for over 60 days while being followed closely by the local newspapers. Inside of this scrapbook are a myriad of photographs, clippings, and histories of the dance contestants that participated in these events. This collection provides insight into the dance marathon craze of pre-War America and would be useful to scholars of 20th century U.S. culture. The contents of this collection are mostly contained within a well-preserved scrapbook assembled by R. Fred Mitchell, who was the manager of the Shellpot Park Marathon Dance event and offers a rare pictorial history.

The scrapbook is accompanied by a clipping of a 1997 article from the New York Times, entitled “Stepping into the past with a quickstep.”
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Dance marathons -- United States -- History
United States -- Social life and customs -- 1918-1945
Scrapbooks

Flat-box 1
Scrapbook circa 1932
NY Times clipping, “Stepping into the past with a quickstep” 1997 April 20