

Guide to Dance Department and Dance Uptown Records BC13.14

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 14, 2025.
Description is written in: English.
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Barnard Archives and Special Collections

3009 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

archives@barnard.edu

URL: <http://archives.barnard.edu/>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Historical Background	4
Collection Scope and Content Summary	4
Collection Arrangement	5
Administrative Information	5
Related Materials	6
Controlled Access Headings	7
Collection Inventory	7
Dance Department Records	7
Administrative Records	7
Performance Promotional Materials	8
Janet Soares Teaching Records, 1975-1985	8
Performance Moving Images, 2011-2014	8
Department Performance Posters, 1983-2003	8
Dance Uptown Records	9
Administrative Records	9
Performance Programs, Flyers, Press Releases, and Reviews	9
Photographs, 1967-1972	9

Summary Information

Repository:	Barnard Archives and Special Collections
Source:	Barnard College. Department of Dance
Creator:	Barnard College. Department of Dance
Title:	Dance Department
ID:	BC13.14
ID [aspace_uri]:	/repositories/2/resources/334
Date [inclusive]:	1945-2014
Physical Description:	9.06 Linear Feet 22 document boxes; 3 flat files containing 32 oversized folders
Physical Description:	80 Gigabytes 23 digital video recordings and 93 images (.jpg)
Physical Location:	This collection is located in the Barnard Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library. To use this collection, please contact the Barnard Archives and Special Collections at 212.854.4079 or archives@barnard.edu.
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection consists of records from the Barnard College Dance Department. Materials documenting the Dance Department include minutes of faculty meetings, budgets and annual reports, course outlines, plans, policies, performance programs, and moving images of performances. Materials related to the founding, development, and performances of Dance Uptown include - but are not limited to - programs, flyers, posters, creative statements, budget materials, grant materials, correspondence, and meeting minutes.

Preferred Citation

Dance Department and Dance Uptown Records, 1945-2014; Box and Folder; Barnard Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library, Barnard College.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Historical Background

In 1898, before the establishment of the Athletics Association in 1901 or the Physical Education Department in 1904, a dancing class was started by members of the Barnard community. Dance was integrated into the Greek Games when they started in 1903 as part of the competition, with students choreographing and participating in their own pieces. When the Physical Education Department was established, dance was included among its many athletic activities. In 1967, Kenneth James, Director of the Minor Latham Playhouse, asked Janet Soares to create performance opportunities at Barnard for the experimental dancers and musicians concentrated around Judson Church and Dance Theatre Workshop in lower Manhattan. The first Dance Uptown was presented that fall. The final concert was held in 1985. Over 90 choreographers had works presented through this series, which attained international attention and historical significance. In 1972, the Program in the Arts was established and Barnard students were able to major in dance as a concentration within the department. Students worked with choreographers invited to Barnard and presented their own works. With the termination of Program in the Arts in 1988, Dance was recognized as a major.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Scope and Content Summary

The Dance Department records includes both the administrative records of the Dance Department and documentation of the Dance Uptown dance series. Departmental records include correspondence; minutes from meetings of the faculty; performance programs and newsletters for student concerts, showcases, the Dance Theater Workshop, Orchesis, and Spring and Winter Festivals; course outlines; master-class information, Janet Soares' teaching materials; departmental policies; digital images of Dance department events, and moving images of performances.

Also included is a collection of American and international folk dance steps with lyrics, written on index cards. Dance Uptown records include programs; reviews; creative manifestos; annual reports; publicity; budget and grant materials; photographs; and performance posters. In 2012, programs once collated with a VHS media collection were separated and added to this collection. Born digital images transferred off disks include photography from Dance Department events and performances.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Arrangement

The records are arranged in two series, each further arranged into subseries. The paper materials are arranged in original order. The transferred computer disks in subseries 1.6, as part of the processing work done by Archives staff, were intellectually rearranged within this finding aid under "Digital photographs." Additionally, some high-level physical rearrangement happened to allow the digital materials to be easily integrated into a single system of arrangement. The digital photographs, at the highest directory level, were placed into a new folder with a new file name.

The series and subseries arrangement of the records is as follows:

Series 1, Dance Department Records, 1945-2014

Subseries 1.1, Administrative Records, 1945-1997

Subseries 1.2, Janet Soars' Teaching Records, 1970s-1980s

Subseries 1.3, Performance Programs, Flyers, and Newsletters, 1970-2005

Subseries 1.4, Performance Moving Images, 2011-2014

Subseries 1.5, Performance Posters, 1983-2002

Subseries 1.6, Digital photographs, 2006-2010

Series 2, Dance Uptown Records, 1967-1991

Subseries 2.1, Administrative Records, 1967-1993

Subseries 2.2, Performance Programs, Press Releases, and Reviews, 1967-1989

Subseries 2.3, Photographs, 1967-1972

Subseries 2.4, Performance Posters, 1967-1991

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Barnard Archives and Special Collections

3009 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

archives@barnard.edu

URL: <http://archives.barnard.edu/>

Revision Description

Updated the extent updated extent 2019 2023

Access

Some items in boxes 6, 7, 10, and 19 are restricted as they pertain to private student, faculty, and staff information.

Accruals

Accruals are expected.

Acquisition Information

Transferred from the Dance Department, former Media Services Department, Office of Communications records, and IMATS.

Processing History

Finding aid written by Johana Godfrey BC '13 in August 2011. Accruals to the collection described by Jacqueline Rider, 2012. Finding aid updated by Shannon O'Neill in 2015 and Olivia Newsome in 2023.

Publication Rights

Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from the Barnard Archives and Special Collections. The Barnard Archives and Special Collections approves permission to publish that which it physically owns; the responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

Reproductions Restrictions

Photocopies or scans may be made for research purposes.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

Additional photographs of Dance Department performances are in BC17 Photographs collection found here: <https://collections.barnard.edu/public/repositories/2/resources/321>

Additional videos of Dance Department performances are in BC18 Moving Images collection found here: <https://collections.barnard.edu/public/repositories/2/resources/95>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Barnard College
- Universities and colleges -- Departments
- Modern dance -- study and teaching (higher) -- New York (State) -- New York
- Folk dancing -- Handbooks, manuals, etc.
- Dance
- Choreography -- History -- 20th century -- Sources
- Barnard College. Dance Uptown, 1967-1989.
- Barnard College -- Faculty
- Barnard College -- Alumni and alumnae
- Mitchell, Arthur, 1934-
- Soares, Janet Mansfield
- Barnard College. Department of Dance
- McIntyre, Dianne

Collection Inventory

Dance Department Records, 1945-2014

Administrative Records, 1945-2008

Title/Description	Instances
Departmental History, Course Offerings, Committee on Instruction Course Plans, Policies, Statistics, Black Chamber Dance Series, Black Choreographer's Symposium, 1945-1986	box 7
Faculty Meeting Minutes, Departmental Programs, 1989-1997	box 8
Note Cards w/ Dance Steps and Lyrics, undated	box 9
Department Office Files, 1976-2008	box 23

Scope and Contents

This box includes meeting minutes, department newsletters, budgets, memoranda, syllabi, and annual reports.

Performance Promotional Materials, 1970-2011

Title/Description	Instances
Performance Programs, Flyers, and Newsletters, 1970 - 2004, undated	box 1-4
Performance Programs, Flyers, and Newsletters from Media Collection, 1974-2011	box 11-15

Janet Soares Teaching Records, 1975-1985

box 16

Performance Moving Images, 2011-2014

Scope and Content Summary

The moving images subseries is currently comprised of 23 digital moving images with a composite file size of 80 GB. Please contact the Archives for a list of the recordings.

Department Performance Posters, 1983-2003

map-case
Drawer 6

Digital photographs, 2006-2010

Barnard Dance Performance, 2006-04-07

Creator - pht: Cervantes, Julieta

Digital Object: [Barnard Dance Performance, 2006-04-07](#)

Scope and Contents

Dance performance photographs

Twyla Tharp's Eight Jelly Rolls, 2007-02

Creator - pht: Bondareff, Diane

Digital Object: [Twyla Tharp's Eight Jelly Rolls, 2007-02](#)

Scope and Contents

Photoshoot of Barnard dancers

Spring Dance Show, 2010-05-04

Digital Object: [Spring Dance Show, 2010-05-04](#)

Scope and Contents

Images of dancers performing on the lawn.
Choreographed by Caitlin Trainor

Barnard Dances at Miller Theater, 2010-04-22

Digital Object: [Barnard Dances at Miller Theater, 2010-04-22](#)

Scope and Contents

Images of dancers from 4 separate dance pieces.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Dance Uptown Records , 1967-1991

Physical Description: 6.59 Linear Feet 8 boxes, 9 oversized folders

Administrative Records

Title/Description	Instances
Correspondence, Choreographer Lists, Budgets, Planning Materials, 1967-1989	box 6
Budget Receipts, 1968	box 10
Budgets, 1973-74, 1989; Receipts, 1972-1973; Clippings, 1975, Press Materials, 1973; Correspondence, 1979; Performer Bios, 1989	box 17
Choreographer Lists, 1975; Budgets, 1971-1975; Grants, 1974-1976; Events, 1975-1977; Clippings, 1973; Ads, 1974-1975	box 18
Correspondence, Budgets, Planning Materials, Final Reports, Press Clippings, 1973-1977	box 19

Performance Programs, Flyers, Press Releases, and Reviews

Title/Description	Instances
Programs, 1967-1968; Reviews, 1969 and 1971; Press Releases, 1972; Flyers, 1971	box 10
Reviews, 1974; Programs, 1967-1977	box 17
Reviews, 1975; Press Release, 1989; Flyers, 1974	box 18
Series 1-18, 1967-1977; Black Chamber Dance Concert, 1969; Dance Umbrella, 1977; Showtime Five, 1979; Retrospective Concert, 1989; Untiled Dances, 1967-1991	box 5

Photographs, 1967-1972

box 10

Performance Posters, 1967-1991

map-case
4-5

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)