



THE PERFORMANCE OF ARCHIVES

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

PERFORMING ARTS COLLECTIONS HOUSED AT THE UA LIBRARY

For our purposes, performing arts encompasses: music, theatre, dance and film.

Local

National



COLLECTIONS FROM LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Records of the Club Filarmonico Tucsonense

Saturday Morning Music Club Records

Friends of the Temple of Music and Art Records

Holdings of the Southwest Folklore Center

Records of the Opera Guild of Southern Arizona

Records of the Tucson Meet Yourself Festival

Records of the UA Repertory Theater.



COLLECTIONS FROM OUTSIDE THE TUCSON REGION

Peter Wexler Papers

American Vaudeville Museum Collection and associated holdings

Sophie Treadwell Papers

Up With People Archive



HOLDINGS OF THE SOUTHWEST FOLKLORE CENTER



Music of the borderlands r music

Mexican music, including corridos and recordings by Lalo Guerrero and Lydia Mendoza

A collection of plays called “Las Posadas” (Christmas pageant) and material from a local elementary school that had annual performances of this play going back to the mid-20th century

RECORDS OF TUCSON MEET YOURSELF

Photographs of performers and artisans.

Video recordings of performances

Audio recordings of performances

Correspondence, financial records

Years covered: 1974-1994.



TUCSON MEET YOURSELF



**THE PAPERS OF PETER WEXLER—
PAINTER, SCULPTOR, PHOTOGRAPHER, THEATER
DESIGNER AND PRODUCER**



THE PAPERS OF PETER WEXLER

The collection documents Peter Wexler's professional activity from 1965-present. The center of the collection is the Artwork series which consists of large floorplans, elevations, and sketches of scenery for concerts, films, industrial shows, multi-media events, and theatrical productions. The Paper series includes correspondence with clients and vendors, scripts, scores, cue sheets, research materials, reports, proposals, programs, budgets and contracts.



A SAMPLING OF WEXLER'S WORK



THE AMERICAN VAUDEVILLE MUSEUM COLLECTION

This archive was collected by Frank Cullen and Donald McNeilly, founders of the American Vaudeville Museum . The collection consists of materials documenting vaudeville and other entertainment in the United States, particularly in the New York and Boston regions from the 1910s through the 1940s. Primary materials such as photographs, scrapbooks and handwritten stage scripts document the careers of particular performers. There are substantial numbers of sheet music and theatre programs, and a large LP collection. The collection focuses on vaudeville but encompasses other forms and eras of American entertainment as well.



OPERATIC EDITION

I WONDER WHO'S DANCING WITH YOU TO-NIGHT

Fox trot Ballad



As featured by
*Sophie
Tucker*

Lyric by
Mort Dixon
and
Billy Rose
Music by
Ray Henderson

Jerome H. Remick & Co.
New York Detroit

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MADE
IN
U.S.A.

SOPHIE TREADWELL PAPERS



Sophie Treadwell Portrait, ca. 1925
Photo by Bachrach
MS318 Box 21 File 10
8" x 10"
Special Collections
The University of Arizona

SOPHIE TREADWELL PAPERS

Collection includes: personal materials, diaries, correspondence, scrapbooks, plays, novels and photographs relating to Treadwell's career as an American playwright, author, and journalist, from the 1910s through the 1960s.

Notable materials include interviews she conducted with the actress Sarah Bernhardt and Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa.



UP WITH PEOPLE ARCHIVE

Papers, 1950-ongoing (bulk 1970-1990). This collection contains papers related to the organization Up with People. The bulk of the material consists of photographic and audiovisual materials from Up with People performances and events as well as musical arrangements, programs and publications. Also included are organizational records and some memorabilia. A small amount of material is related to Moral Re-
armament and the Oxford Group.



UPCOMING EXHIBIT: CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF TUCSON MEET YOURSELF

I'm a member of the Board of Directors of Tucson Meet Yourself.

I'm working with others from the organization to plan an exhibit that will run from early September to the end of December.

Two programs are planned, one featuring Jim Griffith, founder of the organization and former director of the Southwest Folklore Center.



While the Library's holdings for the festival span only 20 years, the festival itself has been going on for 40. The community of Tucson loves Jim Griffith and attendance at the annual festival continues to grow.

The festival has evolved from becoming an event, to becoming an active folklife organization, with programs held throughout the year. Having a connection to the organization has been a positive thing for the Library.



PROGRAMMING

Housing local collections provides opportunities for community engagement and collaboration. Working with other organizations helps promote the Library and also helps to build its donor base.

Performing arts collections generally have plenty of material that is worth exhibiting. Programming can be fun, provided you develop relationships with current arts organizations, departments on campus and creative artists and are creative about how you put exhibits together.



FUTURE PLANS

Working on acquiring collections of local theater organizations like the Borderlands Theatre, Teatro Libertad, and the papers of a local playwright Sylviana Wood.

Working on acquiring material from Tucson's local community radio station, KXCI. Records of the organization, recordings made in the KXCI studios, station-sponsored posters, etc.

Will curate an exhibit on Teatro Libertad in the Fall. Will also have a program featuring the play, La Vida del Cobre, which was done in 1984 and recorded on video.

