

**MG 165 - Shoestring / A.K.A. Gallery fonds****Accessions:** 1996-056, 1997-20**Dates:** [197-]-1996.**Extent:** 4.07 m of textual records.

Organizational history: In 1971 Shoestring founders Dorothy Boerma, Lorna Cutting, Ann Newdigate Mills, Jo Shepherd and Betty Warnock “to come to terms with the lack of local exhibition space, the lack of communication with their fellow artists and the public and the lack of sales opportunity” rented two rooms above the Sally Shop on Second Avenue in Saskatoon and started their own gallery. It was operated as a cooperative, with all decisions being made by the group itself.

Incorporated as a non-profit society in 1973, the gallery subsisted on grants from the Saskatchewan Arts Board, Canada Council, Department of Culture and Youth, Saskatchewan Sport Trust, etc. as well as membership dues and commissions on artists sales. It is interesting to note that the gallery did not hire any staff until 1978.

By 1981 there were a number of successful commercial galleries in Saskatoon. This led to the original mandate losing its validity and perpetual financial problems. In 1982 the Canada Council provided ongoing financial support for the gallery to be operated as “an alternative artist-run centre”. To better reflect this new direction, the name was changed to A.K.A. Gallery.

Arrangement: The fonds consists of 14 series of operational records:	Pages
I. Membership Records. - [197-]-1985.	2
II. Minutes. - 1972-1987.	2
III. History. - [197-]-1996.	2
IV. Committees. - 1979-1992.	2-3
V. Newsletter. - 1982-1983.	3
VI. Day Books. - 1975-1982.	3
VII. Subject Files. - [197-]-1990.	2-4
VIII. Grants. - 1972-1989.	4-5
IX. Finances. - 1975-1990.	5-6
X. Exhibitions. - 1973-1991.	6-7
XI. Extension Activities. - [197-]-1990.	7-8
XII. Publicity. - [197-]-1990.	8
XIII. ANNPAC. - 1982-1992.	9
XIV. CARFAC. - 1980-1993.	9

Restrictions: Files containing personal information is restricted per privacy legislation. Please contact the archivist.

Edited for formatting by Amy Putnam, 2018.

Box 1

I. Membership Records. - [197-]-1985. - 19 cm (15 folders). – RESTRICTED.

This series of files contains resumes or curriculum vitae for various artist members.

1. Applications. - [197-].
2. Applications, A-Z. - 1973-1979.
3. Memberships Cancelled. - 1974-1982.
4. New Applications. - 1978-1982.
5. Rejected Applications. - 1977-1981.
6. Memberships. - 1982-1985.
7. Correspondence. - 1973-1984. - 7 cm (5 folders).
8. Membership Lists. - 1972-1985.
9. Member Biographies, A-W. - 1972-1981.
10. Member Biographies. [198-]. - 3 cm (2 folders).

Box 2

II. Minutes. - 1972-1987. - 10 cm (5 folders).

This series consists of agendas, minutes, reports, etc., of annual, general and board meetings.

1. Annual, general and board meetings.

III. History. - [197-] - 1996.

This series contains various versions of the growth and development of the gallery.

IV. Committees. - 1979-1992. - 18 cm (16 folders).

This series consists of agendas, minutes, reports, etc., of the meetings of various gallery committees.

1. General. - 1985, 1987. - 6 cm (3 folders).
2. Fund-raising. -1979-1987.

Box 3

3. Lottery Steering. - 1992.
4. Membership. - 1982.
5. Miscellaneous. - [197-].
6. Program. - 1985-1987.
7. Shows. - 1975-1979.
8. Visual Arts. - 1986-1990. - 7 cm (6 folders).
9. Visual Arts - Proposals not accepted. - 1986-1988. – **RESTRICTED.**

V. Newsletter. - 1982-1983.

This series is comprised of copies of the gallery's newsletter.

VI. Day Books. - 1975-1982. - 22 cm (9 folders).

These books contain instructions to "sitters" looking after the gallery and record activities undertaken, names of visitors, orders and requests for items, sales, etc.

Note: there is a folder of "inserts" from the 1977 book.

Box 4

VII. Subject Files. - [197-]-1990 - 38 cm (40 folders).

This series consists of correspondence, minutes, reports, financial and employment documents, performance proposals - some of which include photographic images - , resumes and biographical sketches, records relating to property management and other societies and organizations, publicity materials, etc.

1. Arts Alliance. - 1991-1992.

Box 5

2. Candance Network. - 1987-1988.
3. Bylaws (Gallery). - [197-]-1972.
4. Canada Council - Visiting Artists. - 1984-1990.
5. *Canadian Art*. - 1984.
6. City (Saskatoon) Cultural Policy. - 1984-1986.
7. CUPE (Canadian Union of Public Employees). - 1986-1989.
8. Dance Applications. - 1987. (2 folders).
9. *Folio* - Publicity Releases. - 1980-1985.
10. *Freelance* - Publicity Releases. 1983-1884.
11. Harris Weaving - Insurance. - 1980-1981. – **RESTRICTED.**
12. Independence. - 1987-1989. – **RESTRICTED.**
13. Insurance. - 1974-1980. – **RESTRICTED.**
14. Inventory. - 1981. – **RESTRICTED.**
15. Job Applications. - 1978. – **RESTRICTED.**
16. Job Contracts. - 1978. – **RESTRICTED.**
17. Job Descriptions. - 1984.
18. Klombies. - 1973-1978.
19. Neutral Grounds. - 1982-1985.

Box 6

20. NOOZ Questionnaire - Replies. - 1984.
21. Performance Proposals. - 1986-1987.

22. Performance Proposals - Rejected. - 1988.
23. Political Action. - 1982-1984.
24. Miscellaneous Publicity Releases. - 1982-1985.
25. Radio / Television Publicity Releases. - 1982-1984.
26. *StarPhoenix* Publicity Releases. - 1982-1984.
27. Saskatchewan Alliance of the Arts. - 1984-1988. (2 folders).
28. Saskatchewan Museums Association. - 1982-1987.
29. Slide Library. - 1979-1980.
30. Slide List. - 1977-1979.
31. *The Societies Act*. - 1973-1982.
Includes official certificate of registration.
32. Procedures Guide for Staff. - [197-].
33. Staff Contracts. - 1984-1986. – **RESTRICTED**.
34. Staff Information. - 1978. – **RESTRICTED**.
35. Sundog Fair. - 1986.
36. Treasury Dept. / City Taxes. - 1971-1975.
37. Volunteers' Log Sheets. - 1987. – **RESTRICTED**.
38. Women Artists Society. - 1980-1984.

Box 7

VIII. Grants. - 1972-1989. - 38 cm (39 folders).

This series contains applications and accounts pertaining to operating and special expenses.

1. Funding Proposal. - 1978.
2. Saskatoon.
 - a) Grant-in-Aid. - 1978-1979.
 - b) CIP (Community Initiatives Program). -1989.
 - c) TIP (Trust Initiatives Program). - 1989.
 - d) Special Program of Cultural Initiatives. - 1985.
3. Celebrate Saskatchewan. -1980.
4. Department of Culture and Recreation. - 1986-1988.
5. Department of Culture and Youth.
 - a) Information. - 1972-1977.
 - b) Grants. - 1973-1985. - 3.5 cm (3 folders).
6. Saskatchewan Arts Board.
 - a) Grants. - 1972-1989. - 7 cm (5 folders).
 - b) "Prairie Suite". - 1977.
 - c) Human Resources. - 1988.

Box 8

7. Sask Sport. - 1975-1983. - 2 cm (2 folders).

8. Canada Council.
 - a) Communications Fund. - 1984-1988.
 - b) Correspondence. - 1973-1977.
 - c) Grants. - 1981-1985, 1988. - 4 cm (6 folders).
 - d) "Prairie Suite". - 1977-1979.
 - e) "Independence". -1988.
 - f) Report. - 1988.
 - g) Professional Development. - 1988.
 - h) Visiting Artists. - 1981-1985, 1988-1989 - 2.5 cm (2 folders).
9. Summer Employment Program. - 1987-1988. – **RESTRICTED.**
10. Winter Employment Program. - 1985-1987.
11. Miscellaneous.
 - a) Grant Information. - 1978-1979.
 - b) Grants. - 1985-1988.

IX. Finances. - 1975-1990. - 57 cm (39 folders).

This series contains a variety of documents pertaining to the financial operations and activities of the gallery.

1. Bank Reconciliations. - 1975-1986.
2. Billing Letters. - 1977-1980.

Box 9

3. Cancelled Cheques. - 1979. – **RESTRICTED.**
4. Cancelled Cheques. - 1980. – **RESTRICTED.**
For "Contemporary Art of Saskatchewan Indians".
5. Cash Journals. - 1975-1979. - 3 cm (2 folders). – **RESTRICTED.**
6. Donations (Laskin). - 1980-1981. – **RESTRICTED.**
7. Financial Binder. - 1987-1990. – **RESTRICTED.**
Includes payroll, bank reconciliation and other reports and documents.
8. Financial Statements. - 1971-1986. - 3 cm (2 folders).
Includes audited and unaudited statements.
9. General Ledger. - 1971-1975, 1983-1990. – **RESTRICTED.**

Box 10 (1985-1987)

Box 11 (1988-1990)

Box 12

10. Member Accounts. - 1974-1983.

Box 13

11. Income Statement. - 1974.
12. Payroll / Equipment Records. - 1985-1989.
13. Artists' Sales.
 - a) Receipt Books. - 1972-1974, 1978-1979, 1982-1983, 1988. - 7 cm (3 folders).
 - b) Auction. - 1979.
 - c) Correspondence. - 1972-1980.
 - d) Potash Corporation. - 1978.
 - e) Sales Journals. - 1975-1982. - 6 cm (4 folders).
 - f) Sales Sheets. - 1971-1974. - 3 cm (3 folders).
 - g) Allan Sapp. - 1972-1974.

Box 14

14. Revenue Canada. - 1976-1981.

X. Exhibitions. - 1973-1991. - 79 cm (58 folders). – RESTRICTED.

This series consists of correspondence, curriculum vitae and resumes, project proposals, publicity and promotional material, slides and photographs of individuals and groups as well as works of art, etc. in connection with a variety of exhibitions, performances and workshops at the gallery. Many Canadian and international artists, performers, writers, etc. are represented.

Files containing personal information (CV's, resume's, etc) must be vetted by an archivist prior to release.

1. Exhibitions. - 1973-1980. - 13 cm (10 folders).
2. "Moving Collective". - 1985.
3. "In Progress". - 1985.
4. Dorgan / Mitchell. - 1986.
5. "First Draft". - 1986.
6. Maguire - Dance. - 1986.
7. Lyons - Workshop. - 1986.
8. "Piece de Resistance". - 1986.
9. Exhibitions. - 1987. - 3.5 cm (3 folders).

Box 15 (May-Au 1977.)

10. "Dance Music". - 1987.
11. "Duodenum". - 1987.
12. "Danse Exchange". - 1987.
13. "5 Minute Performance". 1987.
14. "26 and Under". - 1987.
15. Exhibitions. - 1988. - 11 cm (7 folders).

Box 16 (No 1988)

16. "Farm Show" - 1988. - 8.5 cm (5 folders).
17. Grant Guy. - 1988.
18. Clifton Joseph. - 1988.
19. "Saskatchewan Performance Collaboration". - 1988.
20. Exhibitions. - 1989. - 4 cm (3 folders).
21. Program Outlines. - 1989.
22. Visual Arts. - 1989.
 - a) Submissions.
 - b) Committee.

Box 17

23. "Eastern Edge Exchange". - 1989.
24. Proposals Rejected. - 1989. - 2 cm (2 folders).
25. Exhibitions. - 1990. - 4.5 cm (3 folders).
26. Project Outlines. - 1990.
27. Proposals Rejected. - 1990. - 2.5 cm (2 folders).
28. "Feminist Video Project". - 1990. - 2.5 cm (2 folders).
29. Exhibition - Popoff. - 1991.

Box 18

XI. Extension Activities. - [197-]-1990. - 25 cm. (32 folders). – RESTRICTED.

Similar to the Exhibition series, this series consists of correspondence, curriculum vitae and resumes, project proposals, publicity and promotional material, slides and photographs of individuals and groups as well as works of art, etc. in connection with a variety of exhibitions, performances and workshops at the gallery. Many Canadian and international artists, performers, writers, etc. are represented.

Files containing personal information (CV's, resume's, etc) must be vetted by an archivist prior to release.

1. Miscellaneous. - [197-]-1978.
2. Dunlop Gallery Exchange Show. - 1976.
3. Correspondence with Artists. - 1977-1978.
4. Travelling Shows. - 1977-1979.
5. Shoestring Exhibition Charts. - 1978-1982.
6. Billboards. - 1979.
7. "Brown Bag Series". - 1979-1980.
8. Education Programme. - 1979-1982. - 3 cm (2 folders).

9. "Prairie Suite". - 1979.
10. Monthly Group Shows. - 1979-1981.
11. Culture Talks. - 1979-1980.
12. Extension Programme. - 1980.
13. Judy Chicago. - 1980.
14. Paper Conservation Workshop. - 1980.
15. Travelling Exhibit Itinerary. - 1980.
16. Canada Council Readings. - 1980, 1985-1987. - 3 cm (2 folders).
17. Float - Pioneer Parade. - 1981-1982.
18. "Vaerkstedet Vaerst". - 1984.
19. Colette Urban. - 1985.
20. Steve Tittle. - 1985.
21. Performance Proposals. - 1985-1986.
22. "2nd New Writers' Night". - 1986.

Box 19

23. "Audio Audience". - 1987.
24. Jiles / Simmie. - 1987.
25. "Critical Writing". - 1987.
26. Dance.
 - a) Lavoie. - 1987.
 - b) Lechay. - 1988.
 - c) General. - 1988.
 - d) Dance Saskatchewan. - 1988.
27. Readings - Saskatoon Writers. - 1988.

XII. Publicity. - [197-]-1990.

This series consists of press releases, news clippings, programmes, posters, announcements, etc., pertaining to various activities undertaken by the gallery.

1. Shoestring Show Announcements. - [197-]-1990.
2. Clippings. - [197-]-1978. - 2 cm (2 folders).
3. Mail-outs. - 1977-1981.
4. Donated Public Service Announcements. - 1986-1987.

Box 20

5. Posters. - [197-]-1989.
6. Scrapbooks. - 1972-1982.

Box 21

7. Guest Books. - 1972-1984. - 7 cm (4 folders).

XIII. ANNPAC (Association of National Non-Profit Artist Run Centres). - 1982-1992 - 39 cm (20 folders).

This series contains agendas and minutes, memoranda and correspondence, reports, etc., pertaining to the activities of the association.

1. General. - 1982-1989, 1992. - 38 cm (18 folders).

Box 22 (1985-86 pt.2)

Box 23 (1988-89 pt. 3)

2. Regional Representative. - 1986-1987.
3. Information Book. - 1987.

XIV. CARFAC (Canadian Artists Representation / Le Front des Artistes Canadiens). - 1980-1993. - 11 cm (7 folders).

This series consists primarily of publications produced and distributed by the organization.

1. *CARFAC Bulletin*. - 1990-1993.
2. *CARFAC News*. - 1980-1987. - 2.5 cm (2 folders).
3. *CARFAC Newsletter*. - 1986-1993.
4. *Art Action*. - 1988-1992.
5. *Arterra*. - 1986-1988.
6. Miscellaneous. - 1983-1993.