



Guide to the Betty Henderson Professional Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Henderson, Betty, 1923-1985
Title:	Betty Henderson Professional Papers
ID:	MS-00253
Date [inclusive]:	1963-1985
Physical Description:	3.14 Cubic Feet (3 boxes)
Physical Description:	2.59 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Betty Henderson Professional Papers (1963-1985) are comprised of materials produced by Betty Henderson in her capacity as a private music teacher in Las Vegas, Nevada and as a member of the Nevada Music Teachers Association (NMTA). The collection includes scrapbooks of concert programs and NMTA events, materials from Henderson's experiences in Europe as a People-to-People ambassador with the Music Teachers National Association, and recordings on reel-to-reel tapes of concerts Henderson performed in or judged.

Preferred Citation

Betty Henderson Professional Papers, 1963-1985. MS-00253. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Betty Henderson was a private music teacher in Las Vegas, Nevada and dedicated member of the Nevada Music Teachers Association. She was born on January 23, 1923 in Portland, Indiana. She wanted to pursue a career in music and enrolled at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, but was forced to drop out after she started to become deaf. She married Charles B. Henderson, a civil engineer, in 1948 and moved to Las Vegas, Nevada. She had many different jobs in the city including secretary and company auditor.

After a surgery in 1953, she regained her hearing and pursued a career as a private piano teacher. She attended the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and studied music and music theory. Henderson also earned certificates in piano instruction, performance, and music education. She was a well-known and respected member of the Nevada Music Teachers Association (NMTA). At several points in her career, she held elected positions in the organization, including Treasurer, Secretary, and President. She also held leadership positions in the Southwest Division of the Music Teachers National Association and was also the State President of the Nevada Federation of Gardening Clubs, Inc. In 1974 and 1975, Betty Henderson traveled to Eastern Europe as an ambassador for People-to-People. During both of these trips, she traveled with other music teachers to a number of countries, including those within the Soviet Union. She is most known for her original composition "Mesa in the Desert," a piece commissioned by the NMTA in 1979. At the end of her career in 1984, Betty Henderson was awarded the first Distinguished Service Award from the Nevada Music Teachers Association. She died in August 1985.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Betty Henderson Professional Papers (1963-1985) are comprised of materials produced by Betty Henderson in her capacity as a private music teacher in Las Vegas, Nevada and as a member of the Nevada Music Teachers Association (NMTA). The collection includes scrapbooks of concert programs and NMTA events, materials from Henderson's experiences in Europe as a People-to-People ambassador with the Music Teachers National Association, and recordings on reel-to-reel tapes of concerts Henderson performed in or judged.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged in chronological order.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research with the following exception: advanced notice must be given to access the reel-to-reel tapes.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1984 by Betty L. Henderson; accession number 85-123.

Processing Note

Materials were inventoried by Franklin Howard in 2015. In 2017, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Angela Moor rehoused and arranged the materials, and revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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Names and Subjects

- Music industry -- Nevada -- Twentieth century
- Musicians -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- Biography
- Women composers -- Las Vegas -- Nevada
- Music -- Instruction and study
- Nevada Music Teachers Association

Technical Requirements

Some materials require a reel-to-reel audio player to access.

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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Newsletters, Nevada Music Teachers Association, 1973-1985 Physical Description: 02 Files	box 01
Music Activities of Betty Henderson and Music Teachers Association, Scrapbook, Volume I, 1963-1976 Physical Description: 03 Files	box 01
Music Activities of Betty Henderson and Music Teachers Association, Scrapbook, Volume II, 1977-1982 Physical Description: 02 Files	box 01
Music Activities of Betty Henderson and Music Teachers Association, Scrapbook, Volume III, 1983-1985	box 01
"Mesa in the Desert" Scenes, colored slides of 5 acres owned by Henderson, south of Las Vegas on West Sunset Road, 1978 Physical Description: 32 Photographic Slides	box 01
"Mesa in the Desert" Suite for Flute and Piano composed by Betty Henderson, 1979	box 01
Music extra clippings, 1973-1980	box 01
People to People Tours, 1974-1975 Physical Description: 02 Files	box 01
Certificates, 1986	box 01
Piano Notes, undated	box 01
Danserye by Walter J. Blanton music, 1984	box 01
People to People Tour Scrapbook, 1974 Physical Description: 02 Files	box 02
People to People nametags, undated	box 02
Betty Henderson Diplomas and Certificates, 1970-1979	box 02
Plaques and Awards, 1974, 1984	box 02
Sound Recordings	
Reel-to Reel-tapes, 1963-1984 Physical Description: 32 Reels	box 03
Cassette recording of "Danserye" by the New World Brass, 1984 Physical Description: 01 Cassettes	box 03
CD recordings of Betty Henderson performing, 1963-1978	box 03

Physical Description: 04 Optical Discs