

Guide to the Hal Belfer Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Belfer, Hal, 1922-1999
Title:	Hal Belfer Papers
ID:	MS-00575
Date [inclusive]:	1935-2004
Physical Description:	14.15 Cubic Feet (22 boxes)
Physical Description:	15.17 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Hal Belfer Papers chronicle the professional career of producer, choreographer, and writer Harold (Hal) Belfer (1935-2004) and consist of general materials regarding his work in Hollywood, California and Las Vegas, Nevada. One of the scrapbooks contains photographs of famous personalities from his early work in movies and theater. Also included are newspaper clippings, scripts, sheet music, arrangements, and photocopies of "Fabulous Las Vegas" and "Ken's Spotlight on Las Vegas," where Belfer had made notations.

Preferred Citation

Hal Belfer Papers, 1935-2004. MS-00575. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Harold (Hal) Belfer worked as a writer, producer, and choreographer for over fifty years. Born on February 16, 1922 in Los Angeles, California, Belfer's mother enrolled him in his first dance class at the age of three. Belfer began as a tap dancer and gradually expanded his entertainment career, eventually receiving more than two-hundred motion picture and television credits for choreography, producing, directing, and staging.

In 1953, Belfer received a call to help produce the Lena Horne Show in Las Vegas, Nevada. He stayed in Las Vegas and became entertainment director for both the Flamingo Las Vegas and the Riviera Hotel & Casino before returning to California to be a personal manager for various celebrity entertainers. Belfer worked on movies with Elvis Presley and staged dance numbers for the television shows "Saturday Night Review" and "Colgate Comedy Hour." He produced the first live Liberace television show from Las Vegas.

Belfer was a member of the Director's Guild of America and the Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Sciences, and was also a World War II Army veteran. Hal Belfer returned to Las Vegas in the 1970s and continued to work until he passed away on March 7, 1999.

Source:

"Producer, Choreographer Belfer Dies." *Las Vegas Sun*. March 9, 1999. Accessed April 17, 2019. <https://lasvegassun.com/news/1999/mar/09/producer-choreographer-belfer-dies/>.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Hal Belfer Papers chronicle the professional career of producer, choreographer, and writer Harold (Hal) Belfer (1935-2004) and consist of general materials regarding his work in Hollywood, California and Las Vegas, Nevada. One of the scrapbooks contains photographs of famous personalities from his early work in movies and theater. Also included are newspaper clippings, scripts, sheet music, arrangements, and photocopies of "Fabulous Las Vegas" and "Ken's Spotlight on Las Vegas," where Belfer had made notations.

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Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Material was donated in 2011 by Larry Billman; accession number 2011-04.

Processing Note

Material was processed by Joyce Moore in 2015. In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Jimmy Chang revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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Names and Subjects

- Entertainment -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Entertainers
- Performing arts
- scores
- Music (Arrangement)
- Entertainment
- Riviera Hotel & Casino (Las Vegas Strip, Nev.)
- Flamingo Hotel & Casino (Las Vegas, Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Correspondence, program ideas, and other material	
Bob Sidney folio, 1957-2001	box 01

Correspondence, Senorial Nightclub, Mexico City, Mexico, 1962	box 01
"Francis" Army stage show, 1950	box 01
"Kissin' Cousins" stage mat, undated	box 01
Las Vegas hotels and history newspaper and magazine clippings, 1960-2004	box 01
Las Vegas shows newspaper and magazine clippings, 1952-2003 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 01
"Lucky Penny: a treatment", undated	box 01
"Operation Carrot Top" program idea, undated	box 01
Personal file: credits, articles, correspondence, and interview, 1953-1997	box 01
"The World Beneath the Sea," series idea, 1969 December 12	box 01
"Fabulous Las Vegas," annotated photocopies, 1950s-1970s Physical Description: 4 Files	box 02
"Ken's Spotlight on Las Vegas," annotated photocopies, 1959-1961	box 02
"Comancheros" movie sketches, 1961 July	oversized box 10
"Hal Belfer: Winner of the Fred Astaire R.K.O. Dance Contest" trophy, 1935	box 19
"Directors Guild of America, Inc. Annual Awards Dinner" paperweight, 1990 March 10	box 19
Scrapbooks	
Photograph collection, 1940-2000	box 03
France and Germany Tour, 1950	box 03
Riviera Hotel & Casino publicity and clippings, 1955	box 03
Flamingo Las Vegas publicity and clippings, 1956-1957	box 03
Scripts	
Batman Show, 1966 June 26	box 04
The Saturday Night Review, weekly television show, 1954 June 12-September 18 Physical Description: 15 Files	box 04
Unnamed scripts, undated	box 04
Sheet music, arrangements, and music books	
"Act of Collegiate", "Rythmatic," "Sleep," and "Apache", undated	box 05
"Cashing in on Love", undated	box 05
"A Christmas Package", undated	box 05
"Don't Let it Bother You", undated	

	box 05
"Hi-Hat and Basin Street Blues", undated	box 05
"Jack Benny Overture", undated	box 05
"Jan Murray Show", undated	box 05
"Judy Garland Show," Flamingo Las Vegas, 1957 May 02	box 05
"Lena Horne Show Finale," piano music sheet sections, Sands Hotel and Casino, 1995	box 05
"Liberace Show," Riviera Hotel & Casino, 1955 April-May	box 05
"Louis Prima Show," Cal-Neva, Lake Tahoe, Nevada, 1958	box 05
"Mickey Rooney and Kitty Kallen Show," Riviera Hotel & Casino, undated	box 05
Various Belfer songs, undated	box 05
"Mills Brothers Show," Flamingo Las Vegas, 1957 May 23	box 05
"Opening introduction for Nita Cruz," piano music sheet sections, 1965	box 05
"Pearl Bailey Show", 1956 September 13	box 06
"Take a Number from One to Ten", undated	box 06
"Take Me Out to the Ballgame," Lake Tahoe, Nevada, 1953	box 06
"Tea for Two," "Rhapsody in Blue," "Kitten on the Keys", undated	box 06
"Serenade for a Wealthy Woman", undated	box 06
"Tony Martin Casbah Overture", 1956 December 27	box 06
"Tony Martin," lead sheets, undated	box 06
"Tony Martin," Riviera Hotel & Casino, 1967 February	box 06
"Tony Martin, Days of Wine and Roses," all music sheet sections, undated	box 06
"Tony Martin Overture", undated	box 06
"Tony Martin, Slightly out of Tune," all music sheet sections, undated	box 06
"Top Hat Finale", 1956 July	box 06
"You're the Top", undated	box 06
"Dinah Shore Show," Flamingo Las Vegas, 1957 February 14	oversized box 07
"Circus," parts 1 through 4, undated	oversized box 08
"Enchanted Forest", undated	oversized box 08
"Hot Igloo opening," Flamingo Las Vegas, 1956 August 16	oversized box 09
"Liberace opening sequence," Riviera Hotel & Casino, 1955	

oversized
box 09

"Take it Sahib and Jao Cow", 1946	oversized box 09
"Tony Martin Show," Flamingo Hotel, 1956 December 21	oversized box 09
"All Hands on Deck", 1960 November 23	box 11
"Cheatin Heart", 1964 April	box 11
"Whole World in His Arms", 1952	box 11
"Take Me to Town", undated	box 11
"State Fair", 1961 August	box 11
"South See Sinner", undated	box 11
"Sally and St. Ann", undated	box 11
"One Sunday Afternoon", 1948	box 11
"My Wild Irish Rose", 1947	box 11
Various motion picture material, 1947	box 11
"Mr. Novak, 'Faculty Follies'", 1964	box 11
"Mr. Novak, television", 1964-1965	box 11
Various film songs, undated	box 11
"The Milkman", undated	box 12
"Meet Danny Wilson", undated	box 12
"Manhattan Angel", 1948	box 12
"Lost in Alaska", undated	box 12
"I'd Rather be Rich", undated	box 12
"Building a Railroad, 'Hootenanny Hoot'", 1963	box 12
"Cleo's Dance", undated	box 12
"Double Crossbones", undated	box 12
"The Desert Hawk", undated	box 12
"Dora Hall Show, 'Once upon a Tour'", undated	box 12
"Comin' Round the Mountain", 1951	box 12
"Colgate Comedy Hour, 'Birth of the Blues'", 1952	box 12
"Buccaneer Girl", undated	box 12
"Bronco Busters", 1952	box 12
"Music for Ed Ames", 1967	

box 12

Sheet music beginning with "A", undated	box 20
Sheet music beginning with "B", undated Physical Description: 2 Files	box 20
Sheet music beginning with "C", undated	box 20
Sheet music beginning with "D", undated	box 20
Sheet music beginning with "E", undated	box 21
Sheet music beginning with "F", undated	box 21
Sheet music beginning with "G", undated	box 21
Sheet music beginning with "H", undated	box 21
Sheet music beginning with "I", undated Physical Description: 3 Files	box 21 box 22
Sheet music beginning with "J-K", undated	box 22
Sheet music beginning with "L", undated	box 12
Sheet music beginning with "N", undated	box 12
Sheet music beginning with "O", undated	box 12
Sheet music beginning with "M", undated Physical Description: 2 Files	box 13
Sheet music beginning with "P-Q", undated	box 13
Sheet music beginning with "S", undated Physical Description: 2 Files	box 13
Sheet music beginning with "T", undated	box 13
Sheet music beginning with "U-W", undated	box 14
Sheet music beginning with "X-Z", undated	box 14
Music books, undated	box 14 box 15 box 16 box 17
<i>The Ultimate Fake Book</i> , volumes 1-2, undated Physical Description: 2 Items	box 18