



Guide to the Julia Lynn Morris and James Stanford Papers

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1df6k>

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Morris, Julia Lynn
Creator:	Stanford, James, 1948-
Title:	Julia Lynn Morris and James Stanford Papers
ID:	MS-01043
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1990 to 2024
Physical Description:	1.67 Cubic Feet (3 boxes)
Physical Description:	1.50 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Julia Lynn Morris and James Stanford Papers (approximately 1990-2024) contain materials from Lynn and James's varied careers in Las Vegas, Nevada. The collection includes correspondence, newspaper clippings, videos, photographs, and ephemera from the Las Vegas arts scene, the Contemporary Arts Collective, Arts Factory, and other projects related to the couple.

Preferred Citation

Julia Lynn Morris and James Stanford Papers, approximately 1990-2024. MS-01043. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1df6k>

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Biographical Note

Julia Lynn Morris was born in Pocatello, Idaho, to Bruce and Nickie Morris, but moved to Las Vegas, Nevada when she was just six months old in 1952. She graduated from Western High School in 1969 and received a BFA in Art History from UNLV in 1973. It was there that she met her future husband, James Stanford. The couple married in 1984 and spent forty years together.

Morris owned and managed Bonanza Gifts, The World's Largest Gift Shop on the corner of the Las Vegas Boulevard and Sahara, for forty years. Morris and Stanford became an influential duo as they collaborated in the development of the downtown Arts District. As trailblazers of the Las

Vegas Arts District, they relocated the Contemporary Arts Center, the first art gallery, to downtown Las Vegas. They went on to create Smallworks Gallery and Lost Vegas, where they launched many local artists' art careers while exhibiting world-renowned artists inside the Arts Factory. They financially supported the CAC, the Stanford Elementary School, and other philanthropic organizations. Lynn Morris passed away after a decades-long battle with cancer on December 1, 2023.

James Stanford is a contemporary artist, photographer, and book publisher. He is known for his work inspired by vintage and historical Las Vegas marquees and neon signage. Stanford graduated from Las Vegas High School in 1966, and received a BFA in Painting from UNLV in 1971. He later returned to UNLV as an instructor in the Fine Arts Department.

Sources:

"Julia Lynn Morris, August 2, 1952-December 1, 2023: obituary," 2023 December, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*.

"James Stanford," Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Stanford

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Scope and Contents Note

Julia Lynn Morris and James Stanford Papers (approximately 1990-2024) contain materials from Lynn and James's varied careers in Las Vegas, Nevada. The collection includes correspondence, newspaper clippings, videos, photographs, and ephemera from the Las Vegas arts scene, the Contemporary Arts Collective, Arts Factory, and other projects related to the couple.

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Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Where use copies do not exist, production of use copies is required before access will be granted; this may delay research requests. Advanced notice is required.

Publication Rights

This material is made available to facilitate private study, scholarship, or research. James Stanford transferred all right, title and interest he had in the Julia Lynn Morris and James Stanford Papers (MS-01043) to UNLV. However, the material may be protected by copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity rights, or other interests not owned by UNLV. Users are responsible for determining whether permissions are necessary from rights owners for any intended use and for obtaining all required permissions. Acknowledgement of the UNLV University Libraries is requested. For more information, please see the UNLV Special Collections policies on reproduction and use (https://www.library.unlv.edu/speccol/research_and_services/reproductions) or contact us at special.collections@unlv.edu.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Materials were donated in 2024 by James Stanford; accession number 2024-044.

Additions

Further additions to this collection are anticipated.

Appraisal

Acquired by Visual Materials Curator, Aaron Mayes, as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives holdings in art and visual history of Las Vegas. All material that formed the original gift has been retained.

Processing Information

In 2024, Sarah Jones accessioned the collection, rehoued the material, and transcribed the folder titles into a box-level ArchivesSpace inventory. No further work has been done on the collection.

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Names and Subjects

- Art -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Artists
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Bonanza Gifts
- The Arts Factory
- Smallworks Gallery

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Contemporary Arts Collection "Hot Hot Haute"; Bonanza gifts; Allen and Hanson; Goldwell Open Air Museum; James Stanford correspondence, group shows, solo exhibitions; Nevada Motion Picture division, approximately 1990 to 2024	box 01
Clark County Community College; Contemporary Arts Collective; Arts Factory; Las Vegas art scene (general; Lost Vegas gallery; Smallworks gallery, approximately 1990 to 2024	box 02
"CNNI Art Club" VHS videotape; "Susan Leopold/Smallworks Gallery interview 1998" VHS videotape; Stanford and Associates; UNLV Life is a Luau; UNLV (general); Smallworks Press, approximately 1990 to 2024	box 03