



## Guide to the Charles Vanda Photograph Collection

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This finding aid was created by UNLV Special Collections and Archives staff. This copy was published on March 29, 2022. Please contact [special.collections@unlv.edu](mailto:special.collections@unlv.edu) for questions regarding this collection.

Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1qd5n>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Vanda, Charles
<b>Title:</b>	Charles Vanda Photograph Collection
<b>ID:</b>	PH-00227
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	approximately 1960 to 1988
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.13 Cubic Feet (2 hanging folders and 1 shared box of negatives)
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.30 Linear Feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Charles Vanda Photograph Collection, approximately 1960 to 1988, contains black-and-white and color photographic prints with some corresponding negatives of Charles Vanda with colleagues and friends from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). The images depict Vanda at UNLV sporting events, graduation ceremonies, and other campus events. Also included are some images from fellow musicians, entertainers, and producers associated with Vanda.

### Preferred Citation

Charles Vanda Photograph Collection, approximately 1960-1988. PH-00227. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Biographical Note

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Charles Vanda (1903-1988) was a writer, director, and producer of television and radio programs. Born June 6, 1903 in New York City, New York, Vanda began his professional career as a press agent in the 1920s. In 1935, Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) Radio New York appointed him to oversee all Hollywood, California radio originations. During World War Two, Vanda served in Army Intelligence; he is credited with co-authoring the plan to create the Armed Forces Radio Services (AFRS). In 1942, he directed the first five episodes of the AFRS program, *Jubilee*, which

was designed to present African American artists and their music to armed forces personnel of the United States and allied nations around the world.

In 1946, Charles Vanda moved to Los Angeles, California and began writing and directing television programming, including *Abbott and Costello* and *Rogues Gallery*. During this period he also served as the president of the Directors Guild of America (DGA) in Hollywood. In the mid-1950s, Vanda worked for Philadelphia's WCAU-TV, where he produced live series; he returned to California in 1958 as the J. Walter Thompson Company's agency producer for the Jack Benny, George Gobel, and *Milton Berle Music Hall* shows.

Retiring in 1966, Charles Vanda moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, where he served as an adviser for the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), director of the Western Alliance of Arts Administrators, and executive producer of the St. Jude's Ranch for Children's annual event *Night of Stars*. In 1975, then University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) president, Donald Baepler asked Vanda to serve as director of Concert Hall Programming; here he developed and directed programming for the long-running and highly successful Master Series of classical music at the Artemus Ham Performing Arts Center. In 1980, Marjorie Barrick asked Vanda to select the speakers for the newly endowed Barrick Lecture series at the university; using his connections and talents, he brought figures including Walter Cronkite, James Kenneth Galbraith, Jeanne Kirkpatrick, and Carl Sagan to the campus. Charles Vanda died on June 5, 1988 and was interred in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Sources:

"Charles Vanda Is Dead; Television Writer, 84," *The New York Times Archive*, accessed February 14, 2019, <http://www.nytimes.com/1988/06/07/obituaries/charles-vanda-is-dead-television-writer-84.html>

"Charles Vanda; Ex-CBS Program Chief," *Los Angeles Times*, accessed February 14, 2019, [http://articles.latimes.com/1988-06-11/news/mn-4160\\_1\\_charles-vanda](http://articles.latimes.com/1988-06-11/news/mn-4160_1_charles-vanda)

"Charles Vanda Honorary Concert," University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Performing Arts Center, accessed February 14, 2019, <http://www.unlv.edu/pac/master-series>

"Barrick Lecture Series," University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Performing Arts Center, accessed February 14, 2019, <https://www.unlv.edu/pac/barrick>

Eugene Moehring, *The University of Nevada, Las Vegas: A History*, (Reno, University of Nevada Press, 2007), 127-129.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Charles Vanda Photograph Collection, approximately 1960 to 1988, contains black-and-white and color photographic prints with some corresponding negatives of Charles Vanda with colleagues and friends from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). The images depict Vanda

at UNLV sporting events, graduation ceremonies, and other campus events. Also included are some images from fellow musicians, entertainers, and producers associated with Vanda.

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## Arrangement

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Materials remain as they were received.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

Collection is open for research.

### Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections and Archives website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish. Some transcripts do not exist in final form, therefore any editing marks in a transcript (deletions, additions, corrections) are to be quoted as marked.

### Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1988; accession number 88-142.

### Processing Note

In 2020, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, James Howard wrote the finding aid and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Collection

The following resource may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

Charles Vanda Collection, 1955-1987. MS-00299. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Names and Subjects

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- photographs
- Symphony orchestras
- Television programs
- University of Nevada Las Vegas. Performing Arts

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Containers
Photographic prints and negatives, approximately 1960 to 1988 (0227_0001-0227_0060)	folder 01  box SH-028