Oregon Shakespeare Festival

ARCHIVES DIVISION

Education Department Records, 1947-2011

Collection Number M0020

Collection Number: M0020

Title: Education Department Records

Dates: 1947-2011

Creator: Oregon Shakespeare Festival Education department and William Patton, OSF's General Manager/Executive Director from 1953-1999.

Summary/Abstract: The Oregon Shakespeare Festival Education department records date from 1947 through 2011 and offer valuable documentation of the department's programming and structural evolution. Materials include correspondence, study guides, teaching guides and resource kits, course readings, annual reports, statistical reports, brochures, calendars, photographs and news clippings.

Quantity/Physical Description: Approximately 11 cubic feet (31 boxes)

Repository: Oregon Shakespeare Festival Archives; Ashland OR

Restrictions on Access: Several boxes in the collection are restricted because they contain materials with sensitive personal information. Please contact Archives staff for assistance where restrictions have been noted.

Restrictions on Use: Copyright restrictions apply. Curriculum created by the Oregon Shakespeare Festival Education department is copyrighted material and reproduction is prohibited. Unpublished documents are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Preferred Citation: [Box Number, Folder Number], M0020 Education Department Records, Oregon Shakespeare Festival Archives, Ashland, OR 97520

Acquisition: Transfer, presumably in a number of installments. No documentation exists for these transactions, with the exception of one box received from the Education department on December 19, 2011.

Other Finding Aid: There is a folder-level spreadsheet inventory of the collection. Please note that the spreadsheet does not account for all folder rearrangement that may have occurred during basic processing. The collection is ultimately considered processed at the box level.

Related Material: Boxes 178-185 of the Photograph Collection (P0001) contain photos of a variety of Education department activities. The Audio Collection (A0002) contains recordings of 60-minute play adaptations for radio created between 1959 and 1974 for promotional and educational purposes. Additionally, recordings of all radio broadcasts associated with the Information and Education department of 1974-1985 are found in the Audio collection. Video recordings of School Visit Program performances are part of the Film and Video Collection (V0002). Many Education department brochures, newsletters and other publications are part of

the Publications Collection (M0009). The Audience Collection (M0019) may contain materials of the same provenance as the Education Records during the years 1974 and 1985 when Public Relations and Education were a combined department.

Some of these related materials may have originally been part of the Education records, but were separated and integrated into the above collections during the formative years of the Archives.

Note: It is likely that some Education department records may be found in the Audience Collection (M00019), particularly during the years 1974 and 1985 when the Public Relations and Education departments were combined under the leadership of Margaret Rubin as Director of Information and Education.

Processing Information: Basic processing at the box level completed in 2012.

Processed by: Processing Archivist Gwyn Hervochon, 2012

Arrangement: The collection is arranged in three series:

Series I:	General Education, 1948-2010
Series II:	Education Programs, 1973-2007
Series III:	Publications, 1947-2011

Series are arranged alphabetically and then chronologically within.

Historical Note: Education has played an important role in the life of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival throughout its history. Programming has evolved as the organization has grown, while remaining committed to enhancing the theatre-goers' experience and engaging young audiences.

Initially an educator by profession, Angus Bowmer arrived in Ashland in 1931 to teach English and Public Speaking at Southern Oregon Normal School before founding the Festival in 1935. Educational programming was formally introduced in the 1949 Festival season in collaboration with the school, by then known as Southern Oregon College (SOC). Announced as the "Shakespearean Festival and Summer School," the Festival's program offered 10 courses for credit at SOC, which were taught by Angus Bowmer, Festival Costume Designer Douglas Russell, Festival Director James Sandoe, Festival Art Director Otto Wilda, and Dr. Margery Bailey who also played the Nurse in that season's production of *Romeo and Juliet*. A professor of English at Stanford University and an instructor to Angus himself, Margery Bailey became "Director of the Educational Division of the Oregon Shakespearean Festival" in 1953, and extended course credit opportunities to Stanford students. After several seasons of consideration, the program became officially known as the "Institute of Renaissance Studies" (IRS) in the 1956 season.

As the educational wing of the Festival with a scholarly bent, the IRS featured short courses, lectures, readings, concerts, and exhibits focused on the plays of the season. The programming sought to illuminate Shakespeare's works through an understanding of his contemporary views and artistic values. Students attended rehearsals and performances using the plays in production

as a "laboratory" for course content. Participation was open to all Festival company members and audiences, either for college credit or audit. Coursework was supported by the Institute's library collection of Renaissance and late-medieval books, manuscripts, and prints, primarily collected and purchased by Bailey herself.

Margery Bailey held her position as executive director of the Institute until her death in June of 1963. Her work was carried on and continued to develop through the efforts of her successors: Delora Cunningham from 1963 until 1972, Homer Swander from 1973 until 1980, and Ed Brubaker from 1980 until 1988. Although the IRS was no longer associated with Stanford after 1965, opportunities for course credit expanded throughout the following decades to include the University of Oregon, Washington State University, San Francisco State College and California State College at Hayward. Under Homer Swander's leadership, IRS programming developed an emphasis on teaching, and Ed Brubaker created the first program aimed at general audiences during his tenure as IRS director.

While the Institute of Renaissance Studies continued with programming tailored to university students and adults, Angus Bowmer addressed the increasingly obvious need to attract younger audiences to the Festival. The completion of the indoor Angus Bowmer Theatre in 1971 and the subsequent expansion of the Festival season allowed Bowmer and his staff to develop programming aimed at middle school and high school students throughout the year. With financial assistance from state and federal grant money, Bowmer established the School Visit Program in 1969 and the Festival's Education department in 1970. Forbes W. Rogers was hired as OSF's first Education Coordinator, responsible for overseeing school visits and programming for school groups attending plays in the Angus Bowmer Theatre.

The Education department experienced several structural changes as it expanded rapidly in the 1970s and 1980s. With Forbes Rogers' departure in 1973, the Education and Public Relations departments were combined from 1974 through 1985 under the leadership of Margaret Rubin as the Director of Information and Education. Rubin simultaneously served as education coordinator from 1974-1980, until relieved of those duties by Paul Barnes. With Barnes' departure in 1987 and at Ed Brubaker's suggestion upon his retirement as Director of the IRS in 1988, all Education department and IRS programs were brought together under a single leadership. In 1989 Joan Langley assumed the position of Director of Education and the OSF Institute, retaining most educational programming previously offered under the separate initiatives. Although the Education department no longer provides college-credit opportunities, it employs 9 full-time staff members who design and implement over 20 different programs for thousands of students and playgoers each season.

Information on current Education department programming may be found on the OSF website: http://www.osfashland.org/education/index.aspx

Scope and Content: The Oregon Shakespeare Festival Education department records date from 1947 through 2011 and offer valuable documentation of the department's programming and structural evolution. The collection contains substantial correspondence between key players in the early years of the department, supplemented by annual brochures and calendars with

programming details. Additional materials include study guides, teaching guides and resource kits, course readings, annual reports, statistical reports, surveys, photographs and news clippings.

The collection is arranged in the following three series:

Series I:	General Education, 1948-2010 (8 boxes)
Series II:	Education Programs, 1973-2007 (10 boxes)
Series III:	Publications, 1947-2011 (13 boxes)

Series I: General Education, 1948-2010

Series I consists of assorted files of the Institute of Renaissance Studies (IRS) and Education department faculty and staff, as well as subject files from the office of General Manager William Patton. The series is predominantly staff correspondence, featuring communication between Patton, IRS founder Margery Bailey, and Festival founder Angus Bowmer.

The Ed Brubaker files document his tenure as IRS director from 1980-1988, and also contain correspondence with fellow Company members from the years 1955-1966 when Brubaker was a stage manager, actor and director with the Festival. Although not directly connected to the Education department, these exchanges offer a rare and friendly insight into the working relationships between Company members of this era in Festival history.

In addition to correspondence, materials include: reports, meeting minutes, programming descriptions and proposals, budgets, photographs, and scattered news clippings.

Series II: Education Programs, 1973-2007

This series contains files arranged according to specific OSF education programs. Materials include statistical reports, tour schedules, correspondence, surveys, news clippings, photographs, and programming handouts and mailings. The bulk of these materials pertain to the School Visit Program which was established by Angus Bowmer in 1969 and remains one of the most extensive and far reaching programs in the department. Other programs featured in the series include:

- *The Bowmer Project for Student Playgoers*—established in 1996, the program provides free tickets to selected classes in the local community. Teachers attend workshops in preparation for teaching the plays, and the students return a month later to attend performances, a back-stage tour, and a post-show discussion with a Company member.
- *The Summer Seminar for High School Juniors*—established in 1981 by Education Coordinator Paul Barnes, the seminar admits 65 theatre students for an intensive two-week program encompassing a variety of disciplines from on-stage technique to theatre management.
- *Shakespeare in the Classroom* (formerly *Shakespeare Athletics)*—A five-day retreat for teachers to explore innovative and engaging ways to introduce students to Shakespeare.

Series III: Publications, 1947-2011

The series primarily consists of materials created by the Education department for distribution to program participants, and additionally contains some materials created for internal and public informational purposes. Features of the series include:

- A variety of IRS publications including brochures, calendars, annual reports, budgets, and scattered articles by Margery Bailey.
- Study Guides prepared by the department's first education coordinator, Forbes W. Rogers.
- A complete run (1954-1963) of *Ashland Studies in Shakespeare*, Margery Bailey's annually self-published volume of articles and prints which supplemented each season's IRS coursework.
- *Suggestions for Teaching*: A compilation of teaching ideas and study questions for each play, mailed to teachers bringing student groups to OSF.

Additional materials include scripts, assorted course handouts, and teacher information kits. Please note that many additional Education department publications such as brochures, newsletters, and posters are part of the Publications Collection, M0009.

Collection Inventory

Series I: General Education Files, 1948-2010

Box	Description
	Correspondence
1	Bailey, Margery, 1948-1963
1	Bowmer, Angus, 1953-1974
1	Cunningham, Delora, 1963-1971 and 1974
2	General IRS, 1970-1980
2	Meldrum, Ron, 1972
2	Rogers, Forbes W., 1973 (contains RESTRICTED material)
2	Stewart, Shannon, 1969-1975
2	Swander, Homer D., 1972-1977, 1980
	Ed Brubaker Files
7	Correspondence, 1980-1988
7	Correspondence w/ OSF Company members, 1955-1966
7	Financial records, 1979 and 1983
7	*Golden Fire*, 50th anniversary book, 1984-1985
8	Institute classes, 1980-1991
8	IRS guest faculty, 1975-1988 (contains RESTRICTED material)
8	Photos, scattered
8	Renaissance Feast, 1974-1988
8	Washington Commission for the Humanities, 1986

Box	Description
	General
3	1970-1987
4	1987-2002 and undated
6	Institute of Renaissance Studies, 1957-1981
5	William Patton's Education Files, 1956-1986

Series II: Education Programs, 1973-2007

Box	Description
9	Assorted Education Programs, 1981-2010
10	Bowmer Project Thank You Letters, 2000-2005
	School Visit Program (SVP)
11	General SVP, 1973-1987 (contains RESTRICTED material)
12	General SVP, 1987-1992 (contains RESTRICTED material)
13	General SVP, 1993-2004
14	News clippings, 1993-2007
14	Photos, circa 1993-1998
13	Publications, 2010 and 2011
13	Publicity and Press Releases, 1984, 1988-1997
15	Statistics, 1980-2001
16	Surveys, 1984-1993
13	Thank-You letters from schools and students, 1987-1990
17	Thank-You letters from schools and students, 1999-2005
18	Summer Seminar, 1981-1999 and undated

Series III: Publications, 1947-2011

Box	Description
	Ashland Studies in Shakespeare
19	1954-1957
20	1958-1961
21	1962-1963
	Institute of Renaissance Studies
22	1947-1968 and undated
23	1969-1981
	Scripts
24	*All's Well that Ends Well* adapted by Hilary Tate, undated
24	*Lady Under Parasol* by Susan Wands, 1984
24	*The Magic Fire* by Lillian Garrett-Groag, 1996
	Study Guides
25	Study Guides A-G, 1970-1975

Box	Description
26	Study Guides H-Q, 1971-1975
27	Study Guides R-Z, 1970-1975
28	Study Guides, 1978-1980
29	*Suggestions for Teaching* and assorted handouts, 1984-2010
	Teacher Information Kits
30	SVP, 1973-1978
31	Workshops and Plays, 1969-1978 and 1984-1985