

International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit Collection

Records, 1919-1981

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In 1911, the national board of the YWCA established the first International Institute branch in New York City to assist the growing number of immigrant women. Eight years later, in 1919, the Detroit branch opened at Witherell and Adams. In 1935, the Detroit Institute combined with the Women's Industrial Branch of the YWCA with headquarters on East Grand Boulevard. The Detroit Institute's affiliation with the YWCA ended in 1945, when it incorporated as the International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit, an independent, non-profit, non-sectarian agency. In 1951, the International Institute moved to a building it had constructed on Kirby at John R.

The purpose of the International Institute is to promote the welfare, education, and social integration of immigrant and minority peoples, both permanent residents and visitors. Just as the Institute offers services to immigrants and minority groups that help them adjust to American culture and customs, obtain citizenship and employment, and improve community services in ethnic neighborhoods, it also promotes understanding of the histories, folk arts and crafts and contributions of people of different cultural backgrounds among the larger metropolitan community.

The papers of the International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit consist of minutes, correspondence, reports, financial records, clippings, newsletters, pamphlets and other publications reflecting the activities of the Institute during its affiliation with the YWCA and after its incorporation as an independent agency in 1945. During this time, the Institute offered a variety of programs, including language and citizenship classes, dances, concerts, folk festivals, and the Old World Market. The papers also reflect the Institute's work with particular groups like Japanese war brides, war refugees, Polish- and Lebanese-Americans, and others living in established ethnic communities in the Detroit area, its effort to educate metropolitan Detroiters about foreign cultures, and its campaign to fund the construction of the Kirby building.

RESEARCHERS USING THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT COLLECTION ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN A RESTRICTED USE STATEMENT AND MAY NOT CITE ANY NAMES APPEARING IN CASE RECORDS.

PLEASE NOTE: Folders are computer-arranged alphabetically in this finding aid, but may actually be dispersed throughout several boxes in the collection. Note carefully the box number for each folder heading.

Important subjects in the collection:

Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS)
American Council for Nationalities Service
American Federation of International Institutes
Emigration and immigration law--United States

Important subjects (cont'd):

Ethnic art
Ethnic folklore
Ethnic performing arts
Immigrants--Michigan--Detroit
International Seamen's Service
Japanese Americans--Evacuation and relocation, 1942-1945
Michigan Commission on Displaced Persons and Refugees
Michigan Commission on Immigration
Old World Market
Refugees--Vietnam
Social work with immigrants
War brides
World War, 1939-1945--Refugees
Young Women's Christian Association International Institute Branches

Important correspondents in the collection:

Roy Adelberg
Edith Alvord
Robin Bahr
Mary Ball
Judith Brown
Florence Cassidy
Laura Gogola
Edna Jellinek
Margaret Montgomery
Alice Sickels
Brian John Smith
Ben Snyder
Pamela Rosso Stotz
Renee Van Dewater

Non-manuscript material:

A number of photographs, films and scrapbooks have been placed in the Archives Audiovisual Collection and several issues of the International Institute newsletter have been transferred to the Archives Library.

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8-12	ACCESS (Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services), 1977
3-30	ACNS (American Council for Nationalities Service), 1954-69
14-1 thru 2	ACNS; corres., national conventions, 1958-61
3-5 thru 8	ACNS; <i>Interpreter Releases</i> , 1961-64
16-22 thru 23	ACNS; <i>Interpreter Releases</i> , 1966-67
17-1 thru 8	ACNS; <i>Interpreter Releases</i> , 1968-73
14-5	ACNS; members list, 1956-66
13-22 thru 23	ACNS; National Convention, 1968
1-9 thru 11	ACNS; National Convention, Regional Conferences, 1962-68
9-12	ACNS; press releases, 1957-60
14-20	ACNS; newsletters, 1958-59
20-24	ACNS; orientation manual, 1963
12-28	Acquisitions Committee, 1960-66
22-6	Administrative material, misc., 1963-80
7-9	Advertising Committee, 1955
12-27	Advisory Committee, 1962-70
7-12 thru 15	AFII (American Federation of International Institutes); conventions, 1948-57
22-7	AFII; Board of Directors minutes, 1953-58
9-7	AFII; Board of Directors minutes, corres., convention material, 1948-50
7-20	AFII; Committee on Membership, Standards, and Eligibility, 1958
7-21	AFII; Committee on Uniform Reports, 1954-56
7-16	AFII; Common Council for American Unity corres., 1945-53
20-5	AFII; corres., 1949
7-17 thru 18	AFII; corres., 1951-53
14-6	AFII; corres., 1954-58
9-8	AFII; corres., bulletins, 1944-47
7-19	AFII; Fund Raising Committee report for National Budget Review Committee, 1954
7-22	AFII; national office study questionnaire, 1953-54
8-37 thru 38	AFII; newsletters, 1953-57
13-28	AFII; reports, 1955, 1957
9-6	AFII; "Special Information Bulletin," "National Office News," 1944-50
5-22	African Americans, 1946-63
1-1	African puppetry, 1979
6-38	Africans, 1959-64
13-15	Agency Project Committee, 1959-62
8-27	Albanian community, 1977
6-65	Alvord, Edith; correspondence, programs, 1941-45

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14-13 thru 14	American Immigration and Citizenship Conference, 1968-70
6-37	American Indians, 1948-64
20-22	American Indians, 1979-80
8-18	American Youth Hostels, 1976
7-10	Americanism; Governor's Americanization Commission (Michigan), 1950
3-15	Americanization Committee of Detroit; annual reports, 1927-30
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12-9	Anniversary Ball, 1970
13-17	Annual meeting, 1977
6-69	Annual meeting minutes, 1931-44
3-2	Annual meeting programs, 1946-60
12-20 thru 21	Annual meetings, 1964-78
22-12 thru 15	Annual meetings and reports, 1944-79
7-26 thru 28	Annual meetings and reports, 1945-55
12-17 thru 19	Annual reports, departmental and general, 1960-70
4-25	"Arab World In Perspective," 1978-79
6-35	Argentinians, 1962
18-21	Armenians, 1917-45
18-16	Armenians, 1938-44
3-18	Art Museum project, 1926-27
21-35	Auditor's report, 1973
22-10 thru 11	Auxiliary Committee; meetings, correspondence, 1950-52
6-34	Balkan Folk Ensemble, 1959
6-51	Baltic Nations, 1953-62
13-41	Baseball; Global World Series, 1956
18-17	Belgians, 1941-44
6-49 thru 50	Belgians, 1944-63
20-30	Bilingual education, 1975-76
7-29	Board of Directors; agendas and notices, 1953-55
7-37	Board of Directors; corres., 1945-53
13-31	Board of Directors; corres., 1956-60
13-8	Board of Directors; member list, 1944-69
22-16 thru 25	Board of Directors; minutes, meeting materials, 1944-53
23-1 thru 24	Board of Directors; minutes, meeting materials, 1954-80
22-4	Board of Directors, Members Council, committees; lists, 1944-80
12-25 thru 26	Board of Directors, Members Council, committees; misc., 1958-63, 1977-78
8-8	Board of Directors, Members Council, Nominating Comm.; misc., 1971-79

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7-31	Budget hearings, 1945-58
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7-33	Building foundation stone, 1951
17-11	Building Fund, 1946-49
20-3	Building Fund; campaign, 1946
15-37	Building Fund; campaign, 1946-49
3-1	Building Fund; campaign publicity, 1949
9-9	Building Fund Committee, 1950-52
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9-13 thru 17	Casework Department; monthly statistical reports, 1952-56
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7-24	Casework services analysis, 1953
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6-32	Chileans, 1952
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21-19	Chinese program, "Exploring: The Chinese Way," 1980
4-20	Christmas program, 1977
7-41	Citizenship class, 1954-55
7-40	Citizenship manual, 1953
20-10	Citizenship project, 1945-48
7-39	Citizenship promotion, 1950-55
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21-6	Clippings, misc., 1971-80
12-7	Clippings, newsletters, misc., 1968-75
8-2 thru 4	Clippings, programs, misc., 1958-63
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6-28	Colombians, 1952
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13-5	Committees list, 1975-76
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18-19	Czechoslovaks, 1933-43
10-27	Deportation orders, U.S. Justice Department, 1953-54
14-4	Detroit Adventure, 1959-63
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14-7	Detroit Adventure; corres., 1958-61
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10-33 thru 34	Detroit's 250th Anniversary, 1951
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15-10	Easter radio script, 1949
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6-40	Ethiopians, 1961
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8-14	First Generation Americans, Commission on; report, National Conference on International Institutes, 1930
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15-18	Supper Club, 1957
11-9	Syrian-Lebanese Committee; minutes, corres., 1947
6-24	Syrians, 1946-60
4-27	Talk and Tour program, 1970-72
13-7	Talk and Tour program, 1971-74
20-15	Talk and Tour program; corres., 1975-76
15-8	Theater, 1947-57
1-8	Transition Committee; minutes, corres., 1944-45
1-12	Travelers Aid Society of Metropolitan Chicago; annual report, 1967
4-18	UCS (United Community Services), 1973-78
1-7	UCS Citizens' Survey Follow-Up Committee, 1953-54
12-2	UCS; funds, 1967-68
1-4	UCS Group Work and Recreation Comm.; progress report to, 1953-55
11-30	UCS; reports, 1953
18-14	Ukrainian, 1933-45
1-30	Ukrainian Bandurists Chorus, 1954-57
22-9	Ukrainian Bandurists Chorus, Friends of, 1953
13-29	Ukrainians, 1960-62
4-19	United Foundation, 1978
21-21	United Foundation Capital Fund Drive, 1965
11-28	United Foundation Torch Drive, 1952
13-30	United Nations, American Association for the, 1947-58
4-23	United Nations pamphlets, n.d.
6-57	Uruguayans, 1953

Box-folder	Folder heading
6-56	Venezuelans, 1952-60
8-33 thru 36	Vietnamese; clippings, corres., 1975-78
8-31 thru 32	Vietnamese resettlement, 1975
14-11	Vocational Service, 1953
14-3	Vocational Services project, 1950-54
11-29	Vocational Services project, 1952-54
1-6	Vocational Services project; reports, 1953-55
10-14 thru 16	Volunteer Committee, 1950-59
13-4	Volunteers, 1961-75
4-22	Volunteers, 1972-78
7-11	Volunteers of International Institute; meeting proceedings, 1951
20-6	War brides, 1945-47
8-11	Welfare and immigrants, 1977
6-55	Welsh, 1960-63
6-54	Wends, 1951
6-53	West Indians, 1957
1-29	Women immigrants; <i>Quarterly Bulletin for International Institutes, Foreign Communities Departments, and Others Working with Women and Girls of Foreign Background</i> , 1936
3-29	Women's Americanization Committee of Detroit; minutes, 1917
9-11	Woodall information dinner, 1952
13-26	World Study Council of Detroit, 1945-46
15-14	World War II internees, 1952
8-21	Your Heritage House, 1975
5-13	Yugoslavia, n.d,
7-3	YWCA, 1944
3-23	YWCA International Center Branch; reports, 1940
6-63	YWCA International Center Branch; survey, 1936
1-25	YWCA International Center Branch; calendar of events, 1944
1-26	YWCA International Center Branch; survey, 1936
6-68	YWCA National Board; bulletins, 1924
7-1	YWCA National Board; questionnaire, 1943-45
3-31	YWCA National Office; news packets for International Institutes, 1931-34
10-4 thru 5	YWCA; reports, budget, 1944-45

International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit Records, Part 2

.25 linear feet (1 MB)

1945-1980

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Jennifer Meekhof on May 22, 2012.

Accession Number: UR001004_Det

Creator: International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Collection is open for research.

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Notes: Citation style: “International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit Records, Part 2, Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

Related Material: International Institute Collections at the Walter P. Reuther Library

PLEASE NOTE: Folders in this collection are not necessarily arranged in any particular order. The box folder listing provides an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout the collection.

Abstract

Part two of the International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit Records consists of the bulletin, "International Institute News." The bulletin was published several times a year.

Important Subjects:

Immigrants--United States--History

International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit

Arrangement

Folders are listed by their location within each box. They are not necessarily arranged, so any given subject may be dispersed throughout the entire collection. Box numbering continues Part One.

Box 26

1. International Institute News, 1945-49
2. International Institute News, 1950-59
3. International Institute News, 1960-66, 1969
4. International Institute News, 1970-80