



Henry Meade Williams Local History Department

PO Box 800, Mission St. & 6th Ave, Carmel CA, 93921

831-624-1615 hml.localhist@gmail.com

F37 - Festival of Firsts Collection

COLLECTION SUMMARY

- Title: Festival of Firsts Collection
- Number: F37
- Creator: Sunset Center
- Format/Extent: CP: 2 boxes
- Span Dates: 1977 - 1997
- Repository: Henry Meade Williams Local History Room
- Physical Location: Vault: CP
- Donor: City of Carmel
- Accessions: 1991-014
- Related Collections:

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

The Festival of Firsts Play Writing Competition was conceived by Mayor Gunnar Norberg in 1976 to recognize and encourage the art of playwriting.

Between June and August each year, the Festival received scripts from all over the nation. The scripts had to be original, unproduced, full-length stage plays. Each play was read and evaluated, then selected plays received further readings and an extremely competitive evaluation. A play was then selected as the year's winner and usually afforded a production with a prize of \$1,000. Selected runners-up received a stage reading as part of the Festival's activities.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection contains programs and scripts for plays that won the Festival of Firsts Playwriting competition from 1977 to 1997.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Access: Materials are open for research.

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Preferred Citation: Festival of Firsts Collection, Henry Meade Williams Local History Room, Harrison Memorial Library, Carmel, CA

Arrangement Notes:

Updates: Revised 7/1/2013 and Inventoried 3/16/2020 by Katie O'Connell. Edited and checked against physical holdings by Michael Martinus 3/2025.

INVENTORY

Collected Papers

- Box 1
 - Folder 1: Guidelines, list of winners
 - Folder 2: Programs, Scripts for the following plays:
 - "Scenes and Revelations"
 - "Rich Man From America"
 - "Birdseed, Wolfgang, and Whales"
 - "The Sin of River Sweet"
 - "Wintertime"
 - "Two for the Show"
 - "The Bookworm"
- Box 2
 - Scripts of the following plays:
 - "Mother's Day"
 - "A Tale of Two Cities"
 - "Sanctuary"
 - "The Zamboni Situation"
 - "The Far End of the Earth"
 - "Slow Fugue Before Dying"

SUBJECTS

Genre

- Theater Programs
- Scripts



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Titles

- Scenes and Revelations
- Rich Man From America
- Birdseed, Wolfgang, and Whales
- Sin of River Sweet, The
- Wintertime
- Two for the Show
- Bookworm, The
- Mother's Day
- Tale of Two Cities, A
- Sanctuary
- Zamboni Situation, The
- Far End of the Earth, The
- Slow Fugue Before Dying

Organizations

- Festival of Firsts (Carmel, Calif.)
- Festival of Firsts Play Writing Competition, The (Carmel, Calif.)

Geographic Locations

- Carmel, Calif.