

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the Upstate Artists Guild Collection

Collection Summary

Collection Title: Upstate Artists Guild Collection

Call Number: MG229

Creator: Lauren Whitehead

Inclusive Dates: July 2004-March 2012

Bulk Dates: 2004-2012

Abstract: The collection contains minutes from organization meetings, newspaper clippings, show announcements, call for art posters, prints, photographs, both business related and personal correspondence including thank you notes and holiday greeting cards, newsletters from the organization, archive draft ideas, ledgers, ballots, material regarding the annual “Art on Lark” and “1st Friday” festivals, and fundraiser advertisements in various forms including posters and post cards. Also included are various business documents in relation to the Albany Institute including Deed of Gift paperwork, Bylaws, and Application for Tax Exemption.

Quantity: 2 manuscript boxes

Administrative Information

Custodial History:

Preferred Citation: Upstate Artists Guild. Albany Institute of History & Art Library, Albany, New York.

Acquisition Information:

Accession #: LIB 2012.39

Accession Date: May 8th, 2012

Processing Information:

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Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: None

Restrictions on Use: Permission to publish material must be obtained in writing prior to publication from the Chief Librarian & Archivist, Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210.

Index Term

Persons

Adams, Deb	Collen, Colie	Hales, Christine
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Barone, Ryan	Corrigan, Caroline	Heller, Ginny
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Benz, Victoria	D'Ambrose, Thomas	Hopson, Holland
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Zitomer, Margye
Zunon, Elizabeth M.
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Organizations

Upstate Artist's Guild- Albany, NY
Albany Pro Musica—Albany, NY
Lark Street Business Improvement District—Albany, NY
Equinox Inc.; Community Services Agency—Albany, NY

Subjects

Guilds—Craft Guilds
Art—exhibitions; art previews; sidewalk art exhibitions
Art Festivals—festivals
Nonprofit Organizations—nonprofit organization

Places

Albany—New York—United States

Document Types

Brochures
Clippings
Correspondence
Letters
Meeting Minutes

Photographs
Signs

Titles
None

Biography/History of

The collection deals with press and materials surrounding events and shows sponsored and put on by the Upstate Artists Guild as well as the running of the organization itself. Currently located at 247 Lark Street Albany, NY, this nonprofit organization has had a strong presence in the Capital District's art culture since early 2004 when it was known as Art4Central. Pioneered by Nina Stanley, the organization was formed on the mission of promoting art education and culture in the Albany area. The organization's space itself is used primarily for meetings, exhibitions, lectures and art instructional classes. The original founders of the Upstate Artists Guild; Nina Stanley, Robyn Diaz, Christa Dijkstra, Colin Wilkinson, Jason Cosco, Tommy Watkins, Rebecca Schoonmaker, Curtis Canham, and Chris Norton, all remain involved in various functions within the organization. Two of the Guild's crowning achievements have been Art on Lark and 1st Friday. The UAG has lent itself largely to both of these annual festivals, 1st Friday being the sole creation of the Guild. The aim of 1st Friday is to increase art awareness in the community and showcase the talents of local artists and venues in the Albany area.

Scope and Contents of the Records/Papers/Collection

This collection has been housed in 2 boxes, with 23 total folders. It has been organized by the nature of items. For instance, 7 folders contain minutes from United Artists Guild Board Meetings ranging from 2005-2011. The other folders are broken down into newspaper clippings from various dates, brochures and pamphlets, show announcements in card and poster form, fundraising and events advertisements in poster and card form, newsletters from UAG and other organizations, press and literature regarding the guild and more generally art practices, photographs and prints by various artists, business documents including an archive proposal, and ledgers and ballots from board elections. There are two folders, which cover individually material from the Art on Lark festival and from 1st Friday events. These include press, signs and advertisements relevant to each event. The collection includes many posters. These have been separated into three categories; call for art posters, fundraising event posters, and exhibit advertisement posters. Also included are correspondence related documents. These have been separated into 2 folders. One contains personal correspondence including thank you notes, Christmas cards and various postcards. The other contains business related correspondence including letters from the city of Albany, landlords and the press. There is one folder of general miscellaneous items that were donated with the collection but do not relate to any category previously listed. Of the newspaper clippings, there are some which have been laminated and photocopied and some that are in their original form. Multiple copies of certain materials exist as well.

Organization of the Records/Papers/Collection

This collection has been organized based on item type. The two exceptions are the folders that deal exclusively with the Art on Lark festival and the 1st Friday event, which contain varying types of materials related to each subject.

Related Material

None

Separated Materials

None

Other Finding Aids

None

Detailed Description of the Records/Papers/Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Series # Series Title

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	1	Exhibition Announcement Cards/July 2007-Oct. 2011—16 items Exhibition Announcement Posters/2008-2012—30 items
	2	Fundraiser and Event Advertisements, card form/ June 2008-Feb. 2012—10 items
	2	Fundraiser and Event Advertisements, poster form/ 2007-2009—17 items
	3	Posters/ directions for silent auctions, gallery shows, movie showings, poetry readings, Back in the Black Gala, concerts; 2007-Feb. 2012—15 items

- 4 Correspondence (personal)/ Christmas cards, postcards, thank you notes; 2008-2010—8 items
- 5 Calls for Art/ poster form; 2008-2011—4 items
- 6 Miscellaneous business files/ screenshots of email lists, documents, UAG Bylaws, paperwork for exhibition creation, art acquisition, AIHIA Deed of Gift paperwork, Application for Recognition of Exemption (form 1023-1024)—2006, 2007
- 7 Minutes/UAG Board and members, discussion of late rent, possibility of eviction—Feb.- Dec. 2011
- 8 Minutes/ UAG Board and members—Jan. 2010
- 9 Minutes/ UAG Board and members, discussion of People's Choice Show and Annual Summer Barbeque—Jan.- July 2009
- 10 Minutes/ UAG Board and members, discussion of Strawberry Fest Art Show attendance—Jan. -Nov. 2008
- 11 Minutes/ UAG Board and members, discussion of achieving nonprofit status—Jan. -Dec. 2007
- 12 Minutes/ UAG Board and members, discussion of student show, workspace, Jan.-Dec. 2006
- 13 Brochures/ 9 Call for Art (2006-2011), Albany All Star Roller Derby (March 2012), Back in the Black Gala—13 items
- 14 Photographs/ 4 of quilts, 3 sculpture (graphite on Bristol board), one of coasters, 5 of various paintings—13 items
- 15 Prints/ all computer paper copies, varying artists, 2007-2010—51 items
- 16 Press and literature/ Times Union articles relating to UAG (2006, 2008) both by Thomas Dalton, articles on art from *ArtCalender* on financial management for artists, business planning, etc. (April 2005 and Jan. 2006)—13 items

- 17 Correspondence (business)/ cover letters and resumes, proposals for exhibitions, gallery usage, Albany-Colonie Chamber of Commerce recognition of business, letters regarding Larkfest and Tulip Festival Storefront Competition, Landlord's Notice to Vacate (2011)—14 items
- 2 18 Business related documents/ ballots for elections, Lark Street sponsorship package, Proposal for UAG Archives, Community Energy package, instructions for exhibit installations, resume (various dates)—28 items
- 19 First Friday materials/ schedules, maps, fundraiser information, posters, statistics (various dates)—24 items
- 20 Art on Lark materials/ brochure, Press Conference Agenda, sign up sheets, map (2009, 2010, 2011)—10 items
- 21 Newsletters/ "Lark Street Bid; Neighborhood News", *Home and Style*, UAG newsletters (2009-Jan. 2011), *Downtown Digest*, vol. 13, 3 (Fall 2008)—16 items
- 22 General Miscellaneous/ exhibit sign, wooden for Amy E. Naples show, advertisement for Icon Writing Classes, schedule for Troy Night Out (Oct. 2008)—8 items
- 23 Newspaper clippings/ (1) "Anniversary of First Friday", *Times Union* (Sept. 2008), 4 pages, laminated article, photos, schedule of events; (2) "Albany Pro Musica Annual Gala", *Times Union* (March 2012), full page spread, photos; (3) "UAG Presents 1st Friday: Albany, Celebrating the arts of New York's Capital Monthly since 2006", *Metroland* (Jan. 2012), advertisement, map—11 copies; (4) "UAG First Annual Gala", *Metroland*, article (Feb. 2012); (5) "It's a wonderful UAG", by Steve Barnes, *Times Union* (Dec. 2011), full page spread, pictorial; (6) "Happy Anniversary 1st Friday", by John Alund, *Metroland* (Sept. 2011), advertisement for 5 year celebration of First Friday; (7) "Some call it garbage, others call it art", by Elyse Beaudoin, *Metroland* (July 2011), article and large photo; (8) "Art on Lark", *Metroland* (May 2006), advertisements, list of entertainment and events—2 copies; (9) "First Friday's Feast of Art" by Danielle Furfaro, *Times Union* (Nov. 2006), article; (10) "12 art openings, 2 bands, 1 night", *Metroland* (Nov. 2006), article regarding First Friday; (11) "Art Beat" section article by Shawn Stone and advertisement for "Pretty Girls and Robots" show, *Metroland* (May 2006); (12) "Open House at Central Avenue Art Space" by Joseph Dalton, *Times Union* (July 2004), article; (13) "Forum Follows Function" by Josh Potter, *Metroland* (Jan. 2009); (14) "Friday Night Lights" by Kathryn Lurie, *Metroland* (March-

April 2007) article and photos; (15) Reader's Picks Edition of *Metroland* (March 2007); (16) "Annual Manual" edition of *Metroland* (2007), lists UAG under Galleries and Museums