

ALBANY INSTITUTE  
OF HISTORY & ART  
A Guide to the  
Albany Civic Theater Papers

<b>Collection Summary</b>
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**Collection Title:** Albany Civic Theater Papers

**Call Number:** MG 200

**Creator:** Virginia Farrell Mahigian

**Inclusive Dates:** 1955-2008

**Bulk Dates:** 1955-1956

**Abstract:** Programs, Committee Meeting Minutes, and Education material related to the Albany Civic Theater

**Quantity:** 1 box containing 12 folders

<b>Administrative Information</b>
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**Custodial History:** The Albany Civic Theater Papers were donated as a gift by Virginia Farrell Mahigian

**Preferred Citation:** Albany Civic Theater Papers, MG 200, Albany Institute of History & Art Library, New York.

**Acquisition Information:**

Accession #: LIB 2009.343

Accession Date: March 31, 2010

**Processing Information:**

Processed by Janine Moon; completed on February 9, 2010.

<b>Restrictions</b>
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**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.

<b>Index Term</b>
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**Persons**

Hartt, Elfreida (10/10/1916-07/17/2003)

Wallenstein, Sally

Wheeler, Robert G.

**Organizations**

Albany Civic Theater

**Subjects**

Theater

**Places**

New York State Capitol (Albany, N.Y.)

**Document Types**

Programs

Committee Meeting Minutes

Letters

Signs

Newspaper Article

<b>Biography/History of</b>
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Below is a brief history of the Albany Civic Theater;

Albany Civic Theater started in February of 1955 because The Playhouse, a professional theater on Lodge Street, closed. Blithe Spirit, directed by Marion Karczmar aired nine months after the group's first meeting.

After Sally Wallenstein, of the Albany Dramatic Group, and Martha J. Downey, of The Ilium Players of Troy, met in downtown Albany on Lodge Street, the two groups united to and formed the Albany Civic Theater

In 1957, A.C.T. moved to 115 Beaver Street and began using the second-floor space for storage and rehearsals. The second floor was renovated into a theater with 125 seats.

<b>Scope and Contents of the Records/Papers/Collection</b>
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12 folders related to the Albany Civic Theater. The first 6 folders contain information pertaining to plays performed by the A.C.T. The last 6 folders contain documents relating to the administration and business of running the A.C.T.

<b>Organization of the Records/Papers/Collection</b>
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The programs and the administration papers are organized chronologically by year.

<b>Related Material</b>
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GD 77-06 Albany Theater Collection, 1884-1908  
 MS 93-010 Albany Proctor Theater Scrapbook  
 MS 2160 Harmanus Bleecker Hall Programs

**Separated Materials**

None

<b>Other Finding Aids</b>
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None

<b>Detailed Description of the Records/Papers/Collection</b>
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The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

**Series #** MG 200 . **Series Title** Albany Civic Theater Papers

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	1	Newspaper Article "Season in the Sun," 1958
1	2	<i>Light Up The Sky</i> performed in 1955
1	3	<i>Blithe Spirit</i> performed in 1955
1	4	<i>Uncle Harry</i> performed in 1955
1	5	Other Programs From The Albany Civic Theater
1	6	Flyers and Signs Advertising Shows by the Albany Civic Theater
1	7	Correspondences for the Years 1955-1956
1	8	Committee Meeting Papers for the Years 1955-1956
1	9	Board Meeting Dates for the Year 1956
1	10	Education Programs for the Years 1955-1956
1	11	Business Cards and Receipts
1	12	Wooden Stamp with the Albany Civil Theater Seal