

UNIVERSITY *of* PENNSYLVANIA



The University Archives
and Records Center

A Guide to the
University of Pennsylvania Glee Club Records
1862-2010 (bulk 1960-1990)

5.0 Cubic feet

UPS 67.1

Prepared by Timothy H. Horning
November 2013

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PROVENANCE

The University of Pennsylvania Glee Club records were donated to the University Archives by Bruce Montgomery and by the University of Pennsylvania Glee Club (accession numbers 2005: 43, 2005: 113, 2012: 19).

ARRANGEMENT

The University of Pennsylvania Glee Club records are organized into five series, Award of Merit, General File, Photographs, Seasons, and Audio/Visual Material, which are arranged alphabetically or chronologically where appropriate.

HISTORICAL NOTE

In 1862, eight University of Pennsylvania undergraduate students founded the University of Pennsylvania Glee Club, the first performing arts group at the university. More men were added along the way, and their first performance, in College Hall on the Ninth Street Campus, was very

well received. The Glee Club continued to gain popularity during the decades following. By the close of the nineteenth century, it had become a regular fixture at sporting games and rallies, alumni events, and chapel services, and performed traditional songs as well as original songs such as “The Red and Blue,” “Hail! Pennsylvania,” and “Fight On, Pennsylvania,” songs which themselves have become part of University of Pennsylvania tradition.

The Glee Club broke from the traditional notion of what a glee club is during their 1969-1970 season when, for the annual show, they staged an original production called “Handel with Hair,” written by Bruce Montgomery, Glee Club Director from 1956 to 2000. In this show the Glee Club combined their choral ability with theatrical showmanship, singing, dancing, and acting on elaborate sets and backed by a jazz band. The effect of this created something closer to a Broadway musical. Every season thereafter and continuing into the present day, the Glee Club’s annual show has been an original production marked by original music, complicated choreography, and clever, tongue-in-cheek dialogue that played off current events and issues. Bruce Montgomery - a man once described by the Philadelphia Inquirer as “the University of Pennsylvania’s musical Renaissance man” – wrote and arranged these shows until he retired in 2000. Under the direction of current Glee Club Director C. Erik Nordgren, the Glee Club has continued to stage an original show every season, typically premiering it in February. These shows, much like their original songs of the nineteenth century, have become part of university tradition.

In 1959, the Glee Club embarked on its first international tour when it traveled to Puerto Rico. Since that time the Glee Club has embarked on several international tours, performing in over forty countries on five continents. They have performed in places as diverse as Taiwan and Bulgaria, and have performed for heads of state and schoolchildren alike. Domestically, they have performed in almost fifty states.

The University of Pennsylvania Glee Club celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2012. Its status as one of the most lauded, recognizable and well-traveled of the University of Pennsylvania’s student groups remains.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records of the University of Pennsylvania Glee Club document several decades’ worth of this all-male singing group’s activities both on and off campus. The majority of the materials date from during the tenure of Bruce Montgomery, Glee Club Director 1956-2000.

The series Award of Merit documents the process by which the Glee Club chose an individual to receive a specially engraved medallion and personalized citation in recognition of their contributions to the field of music. The award ceremony typically took place at a formal banquet held on campus. Recipients included Leopold Stokowski, Eugene Ormandy, Marian Anderson, and Arthur Fiedler. The series largely consists of correspondence between Bruce Montgomery, director of the Glee Club, and the award's recipient and university administration, as well as with caterers, photographers, and other persons whose skills were required to plan and execute a large banquet.

The General File series contains correspondence, news bureau releases, material generated by the Glee Club Graduate Club, and documentation pertaining to international and domestic tours as well as special one-off events.

The Photographs series visually documents the activities of the Glee Club and includes photographs from the Award of Merit banquets, formal and informal group photographs of members, and photographs from their annual shows.

The Glee Club operated in seasons that corresponded to the academic year. The Seasons series documents the planning that went into every season, starting with auditions in September through to final performances in the spring. The documentation of this work exists in the form of correspondence, clippings, itineraries, promotional material, and scores. This series also contains programs from most of the seasons.

CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS

Personal Name(s)

- Montgomery, Bruce, 1927-2008

Subject(s)

- Glee clubs--Pennsylvania--Philadelphia.
- Musical groups--Pennsylvania--Philadelphia.

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INVENTORY

AWARD OF MERIT	Box	Folder
Thompson, Randall 1964	1	1
Shaw, Robert 1965	1	2
Bartholomew, Marshall 1966	1	3
Dawson, William L. 1967	1	4
Stokowski, Leopold 1968	1	5
Brown, Elaine 1969	1	6
Copland, Aaron 1970	1	7
Hurok, Sol 1971	1	8
Ormandy, Eugene 1972	1	9
Anderson, Marian 1973	1	10
Barber, Samuel 1974	1	11
Ives, Burl 1975	1	12
Fiedler, Arthur 1976	1	13
Stevens, Rise 1977	1	14
DePaur, Leonard 1978	1	15

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Hume, Paul 1979	1	16
Merrill, Robert 1981	1	17
Perisichetti, Vincent 1984	1	18
Harnick, Sheldon 1992	1	19
Morris, James 1997	1	20
Miscellaneous 1980-1982	1	21
GENERAL FILE		
125th Anniversary 1986-1987	1	22
Afterglow album 1968-1974	1	23
American Field Service Haddonfield, N.J. Chapter 1970-1973	1	24
Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts 1965-1966	1	25
Bills 1964-1974	1	26
Board of Governors Survey 2010	1	27
Board Meeting Minutes 1970-1981	1	28
Brno (Czechoslovakia) Academic Choir 1971-1972	1	29
Buck Hill Farms Company and Inn 1963-1976	1	30
Buttons n.d.	4	59
Cheesai Fund 1966-1980	1	31
Clippings 1930-1977	1	32
Constitution and By-Laws 1978, 1993, n.d.	1	33
Correspondence 1950-1959	1	34
Correspondence 1960-1969 (1)	1	35
Correspondence 1960-1969 (2)	1	36
Correspondence 1970-1979 (1)	1	37

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Correspondence 1970-1979 (2)	1	38
Correspondence 1980-1989	1	39
Correspondence 1990-1999	1	40
Correspondence 2000-2005	1	41
Correspondence n.d.	1	42
Correspondence: American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers 1975-1979	1	43
Correspondence: Women's Colleges 1970-1973	1	44
Dance Steps 1986, n.d.	1	45
Election Procedures 2005	1	46
Endowment Fund n.d.	1	47
Form Letters 1971-2007	1	48
Garrigues Foundation 1983-1991	1	49
Glee Club Graduate Club: Annual Dinner 1977-1982	1	50
Glee Club Graduate Club: Correspondence 1976-1981, 2002	1	51
Glee Club Graduate Club: General 1976-2008	1	52
Glee Club Graduate Club: Newsletter 1966-2008	1	53
Glee Club Graduate Club: Promotional Material 1978-2007	1	54
Glee Club Handbook 2003	1	55
Intercollegiate Musical Council 1970	1	56
Lane, Edward Franklin: Retirement 1983	1	57
Letters of Acceptance 1963-1970, 1988-1999	1	58
Long Island (N.Y.) Performances 1971-1972	2	1
Membership 1981-1984	4	57
Miscellaneous 1962-1993, n.d.	2	2

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Minute Book 1862-1865	4	60
Montgomery, Bruce: 25th Anniversary 1980	2	3
Montgomery, Bruce: 40th Anniversary 1996	2	4
Montgomery, Bruce: Retirement Concert 2000	2	5
Montgomery, Bruce: Memorial 2008	2	6
Morgan State College Cultural Exchange 1968-1970	2	7
News Bureau Releases 1925-1929	2	8
News Bureau Releases 1930-1938	2	9
News Bureau Releases 1954-1958	2	10
News Bureau Releases 1962-1966	2	11
News Bureau Releases 1967-1968	2	12
News Bureau Releases 1969-1970	2	13
Orpheus Club 1979-1984	2	14
Parents' Brunch 1993	2	15
Penn Pipers 1968-2011	2	16
Philadelphia Drug Exchange 1985, 1990	2	17
Philadelphia Eagles 1990	2	18
Philadelphia Phillies 1990	2	19
Posters 1967-1992	OS 3	
Production Notes n.d.	4	58
Programs 1900-1912	4	51
Programs 1930-1939	4	52
Programs 1957-1964	4	53
Programs 1965-1969	4	54

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Programs 1970-1979	4	55
Programs 1987-2012	2	20
Programs n.d.	4	56
Promotional Material 1930-2009, n.d.	2	21
Rosters 1933, 1964-1970	2	22
Script: Dial M for Monty 1995	2	23
Sheet Music 1946-2001	2	24
The Social Organization of the Penn Glee Club: A Field Study 1977	2	25
Special Grants 1983-1984	2	26
Thanksgiving Day Parade 1990	2	27
Thanksgiving Day Parade 1996	2	28
Tour: Asia 2004	2	29
Tour: Europe 1971	2	30
Tour: Latin America 2009	2	31
Tour: Mission to Marrakesh [1973 Summer Tour] 1972-1973	2	32
Tour: South America 1969	2	33
Tour: Spain 1997	2	34
Tour: West Coast United States 2006	2	35
United States Army Band and Chorus 1968	2	36
University of Pennsylvania: 250th Celebration 1990	2	37
University of Pennsylvania: New York and Suburban Area Development Committee, Press Releases 1961	2	38
Upper Darby Forum 1983	2	39
Washington D.C. and Easton, MD Performances 1970-1972	2	40
Wellesley College 1990	2	41

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Williamsport, PA Performances 1983-1987	2	42
Young Audiences, Inc., Philadelphia Chapter 1978-1980	2	43

PHOTOGRAPHS	Box	Folder
Award of Merit 1964-1984, n.d.	2	44
Glee Club Graduate Club n.d.	2	45
Governor Milton Shapp (PA) Event 1971	2	46
Group Photographs 1961-2005, n.d.	2	47
Group Photographs ca. 1900-1928, n.d.	OS 1	
Miscellaneous ca. 1911-1980, n.d.	2	48
Handel with Hair 1970	2	49
See Hear! 1971	2	50
Paint the Red Town 1972	2	51
It's About Time 1973	2	52
Americ-o-Round 1974	2	53
Score! 1975	2	54
Opus 76 1976	2	55
Extravagancelot 1977	2	56
Next Stop - Manhattan! 1979	2	57
Hit High Sea 1980	2	58
Double-Take 1981	2	59
Casino! 1982	2	60
Where'm I Goin'? 1985	2	61
Holmes Sweet Holmes 1986	2	62
Step Right Up! 1991	2	63

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The Canterbury Scales: The Untold Tales of Geoffrey Chaucer 1993	2	64
Philadelphia Phillies Game 2002	2	
Philadelphia Phillies Game 2004	2	66
Miscellaneous Shows n.d.	2	7

SEASONS	Box	Folder
Season 1929-1930	3	1
Season 1954-1955	3	2
Season 1955-1956	3	3
Season 1956-1957	3	4
Season 1957-1958	3	5
Season 1958-1959	3	6
Season 1959-1960	3	7
Season 1960-1961	3	8
Season 1961-1962	3	9
Season 1962-1963	3	10
Season 1963-1964	3	11
Season 1964-1965	3	12
Season 1965-1966	3	13
Season 1966-1967	3	14
Season 1967-1968	3	15
Season 1968-1969	3	16
Season 1969-1970		
Clippings	3	17
Correspondence	3	18

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Miscellaneous	3	19
Programs	3	20
Promotional Material	3	21
Season 1970-1971		
Clippings	3	22
Correspondence	3	23
Miscellaneous	3	24
Programs	3	25
Promotional Material	3	26
Season 1971-1972		
Clippings	3	27
Correspondence	3	28
Miscellaneous	3	29
Programs	3	30
Promotional Material	3	31
Season 1972-1973		
Clippings	3	32
Correspondence	3	33
Miscellaneous	3	34
Programs	3	35
Promotional Material	3	36
Season 1973-1974		
Clippings	3	37
Correspondence	3	38

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Miscellaneous	3	39
Programs	3	40
Promotional Material	3	41
Season 1974-1975		
Clippings	3	42
Correspondence	3	43
Miscellaneous	3	44
Programs	3	45
Promotional Material	3	46
Score	4	38
Season 1975-1976		
Clippings	3	47
Correspondence	3	48
Miscellaneous	3	49
Programs	3	50
Promotional Material	3	51
Score	4	39
Season 1976-1977		
Clippings	3	52
Correspondence	3	53
Miscellaneous	3	54
Programs	3	55
Promotional Material	3	56
Score	4	40

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Season 1977-1978

Clippings	3	57
Correspondence	3	58
Miscellaneous	3	59
Programs	3	60
Promotional Material	3	61

Season 1978-1979

Clippings	3	62
Correspondence	3	63
Miscellaneous	3	64
Programs	3	65
Promotional Material	3	66

Season 1979-1980

Clippings	3	67
Correspondence	3	68
Miscellaneous	3	69
Programs	3	70
Promotional Material	3	71

Season 1980-1981

Clippings	3	72
Correspondence	3	73
Miscellaneous	3	74
Programs	3	75
Promotional Material	3	76

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Score	4	41
Season 1981-1982		
Clippings	3	77
Correspondence	3	78
Programs	3	79
Promotional Material	3	80
Score	4	42
Season 1982-1983		
Clippings	3	81
Correspondence	3	82
Miscellaneous	3	83
Programs	3	84
Promotional Material	3	85
Score	4	42
Season 1983-1984		
Clippings	3	86
Correspondence	3	87
Miscellaneous	3	88
Programs	3	89
Promotional Material	3	90
Season 1984-1985		
Clippings	3	91
Correspondence	3	92
Miscellaneous	3	93

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Programs	3	94
Promotional Material	3	95
Season 1985-1986		
Clippings	4	1
Correspondence	4	2
Miscellaneous	4	3
Programs	4	4
Promotional Material	4	5
Score	4	43
Season 1986-1987		
Correspondence	4	6
Programs	4	7
Score	4	44
Season 1987-1988		
Programs	4	8
Promotional Material	4	9
Score	4	45
Season 1988-1989		
Miscellaneous	4	10
Score	4	46
Season 1989-1990		
Correspondence	4	11
Programs	4	12
Promotional Material	4	13

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Score	4	47
Season 1990-1991		
Miscellaneous	4	14
Programs	4	15
Promotional Material	4	16
Score	4	48
Season 1991-1992		
Miscellaneous	4	17
Programs	4	18
Score	4	49
Season 1992-1993		
Miscellaneous	4	19
Programs	4	20
Score	4	50
Season 1993-1994		
Season 1994-1995		
Season 1996-1997		
Season 1997-1998		
Clippings	4	24
Correspondence	4	25
Miscellaneous	4	26
Programs	4	27
Promotional Material	4	28
Season 1998-1999		

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Miscellaneous	4	29
Programs	4	30
Promotional Material	4	31
Season 1999-2000		
Correspondence	4	32
Miscellaneous	4	33
Programs	4	34
Season 2003-2004		
Season 2009-2010		
Programs	4	36
Promotional Material	4	37

AUDIO RECORDINGS	Box	Folder
Afterglow (LP, two copies) n.d.	OS 2	
Carol Lawrence and the University of Pennsylvania Glee Club (Betamax) 1977	5	
Christmas Concert (audio cassette, 2 copies) 1988	5	
Hail Pennsylvania (compact disk and audio cassette) n.d.	5	
Heaven Help Us (Betamax) 1988 (1)	5	
Heaven Help Us (Betamax) 1988 (2)	5	
Is This For Reel? (VHS) 1989	5	
Next Stop Manhattan (LP) 1979	OS 2	
Penn Band: World Tour (LP) 1986	OS 2	
Time In, Time Out: Act I (Betamax) 1987	5	
Time In, Time Out: Act II (Betamax) 1987	5	

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University of Pennsylvania Band: Cheer, Pennsylvania (LP) 1983 OS 2

University of Pennsylvania Band: University of Pennsylvania Songs
(LP) n.d. OS 2
