

Dory DeAngelo Papers

This collection contains the personal and research papers of local author and historian Dory DeAngelo.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Dory DeAngelo
Title: Dory DeAngelo Papers
Dates: circa 1950s-2000
Size: 1 box, 15 folders
Location: SC92

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Additional physical form available: Many of the photographs have been digitized.

Acquisition information: Initial gift, July 2003, Dory DeAngelo, Accession #2003-35. Additional material added as donor provides. Also includes photographs from earlier Accession #1998-55.

Citation note: Dory DeAngelo papers (SC92), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Biographical/Historical note

Dory DeAngelo, local author, historian and researcher was born and raised in Kansas City's old Northeast neighborhood. Her family was of Italian heritage. Her early career centered on acting and the theater. In 1953, after attending the University of Kansas City for two years, she moved to New York City to study acting. When she returned to Kansas City, she went to work for KMBC-TV, and shortly thereafter, took a job as assistant to the producer of the Starlight Theater. She remained actively involved in Kansas City theater - working with the Lyric Opera, University of Kansas Playhouse and Mid-America Arts Alliance - to name a few organizations.

She began her writing career in 1962 with her "Aroundabout with Dory DeAngelo" column for *The Squire Newspaper*, which covered a variety of local interest topics. It was during this time that DeAngelo developed a passion for local history and research. She continued to write numerous newspaper articles about Kansas City history, as well as local theater.

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, DeAngelo wrote and published a number of books about Kansas City, including: *Voices Across Time: Profiles of Kansas City's Early Residents* (1987), *Passages Through Time: Stories About Kansas City and Its Northeast Neighborhood* (1992), *Kansas City Style: a Social and Cultural History of Kansas City as Seen Through Its Lost Architecture* (1992, co-authored with Jane Flynn) and *What About Kansas City: a Historical Handbook* (1995). She has also contributed to a number of other books, and has provided background research for a variety of local historic projects. DeAngelo has been on the Special Collections department's researchers list for many years, and

continues to take on research projects, as of the date this collection was processed.

Scope and content note

This collection of personal papers consists primarily of published articles written by DeAngelo for the *Northeast World*, *Kansas City Star*, *KC Life Downtown*, *Labor Times*, *The Squire Newspaper* and other publications. Also included, are newspaper clippings, programs, a CD and fourteen photographs related to local theater productions that she was associated with - as a performer, stage manager, director or in public relations. There are a number of articles in the collection about DeAngelo herself, and her interesting career.

Also included in the collection is a 35.5" x 8.5" framed black and white photograph. This photograph is a panoramic image of the Knights of Columbus band from the May 16-17, 1922 Annual State Convention (Missouri). DeAngelo's uncle, Michael Ingino, is the band leader and is pictured in the photograph. It was donated to Special Collections by DeAngelo in December 1998.

For the most part, the folders and contents have been left in the same order that they were received. Each folder contains a description and/or inventory of the contents provided by DeAngelo. The processor has added one folder of miscellaneous items pertaining to the author taken from the existing library collection.

Many of the newspaper clippings from this collection were photocopied by the processor and added to the department's vertical file collection under the appropriate subject headings. It should also be mentioned that DeAngelo contracted with Missouri Valley Special Collections to take photographs of various Kansas City sites. These photographs are part of the department's P1 Photograph Series and can be accessed through the Local History Web page.

Collection Inventory

Box 1

Folder 1 - Personal Chronology

- Biographical information and work history (1932-1995)
- B&W photograph of Dory DeAngelo

Folder 2 - Published Articles - *Northeast World* (Part 1)

- (44) Articles from the *Northeast World* newspaper (1986-1988), in alphabetical order by subject, beginning with **Badomi, Carl** and ending with **Indian Mound**. The articles focus on people, businesses and events in the Old Northeast community.

Folder 3 - Published Articles - *Northeast World* (Part 2)

- (51) Articles from the *Northeast World* newspaper (1986-1988), in alphabetical order by subject, beginning with **Independence Ave.** and ending with **Winner, Willard**.

Folder 4 - Published Articles - *KC Life Downtown*

- (16) Articles from *KC Life Downtown* (1986-1988), in alphabetical order by subject, beginning with **Brewery History** and ending with **Woolf Brothers**.

Folder 5 - Published Articles - *The Squire Publications*

- (23) "**Aroundabout with Dory DeAngelo**" columns for *The Country Squire / The Squire* newspaper (1962-1964).
- (15) "**Showbiz**" columns for *The Town Squire* magazine (1971-1974). These columns focused on the performing arts scene in Kansas City.
- (16) "**Lifestyle**" columns for *The Town Squire* magazine (1974-1976), featuring prominent women in Kansas City.
- Article for *The Squire* magazine entitled: "How it All Began: The History of Culture in Kansas City", published December 1981.

Folder 6 - Published Articles - *Labor Times*

- (9) Articles for the *Labor Times*, published between Oct. 1994 and June 1994. The articles include information on the history of labor unions in Kansas City and organized strikes.

Folder 7 - Published Articles - *Kansas City Star*

- (14) Articles from the *Kansas City-Jackson County Star*, from 1987-1990. Seven of the articles are part of the **Kansas City History** series, provided courtesy of the Jackson County Historical Society.

Folder 8 - Published Articles - Miscellaneous Publications

- (13) Articles written between 1983-1989 for a variety of local newspapers and magazines, including: *Boulevard* magazine, *Forum* (Kansas City Artists Coalition), *Historic Kansas City Foundation Gazette*, *Kansas City View-Midtown News*, *Kansas City Live*, *KC Jones* newspaper, *Scene* magazine, and *Spirit Festival* magazine.

Folder 9 - Theater Career

- Includes a chronology of DeAngelo's theater career, both as a performer and behind-the-scenes contributor, as well as a list of newspaper articles that mention her role in various stage productions.

Folder 10 - Theater Career - Clippings

- Includes newspaper clippings from the *Kansas City Star* and *Kansas City Times* (1950s-1970s) about local theater productions and news. DeAngelo is mentioned in most of these articles.

Folder 11 - Theater Programs

- A collection of (39) theater program covers (photocopied) from local performances. The programs contain short notes on the front with performance dates and DeAngelo's role (actress, stage manager, etc.). The original programs are located in SC 66.

Folder 12 - Career - Published Articles

- Miscellaneous articles about DeAngelo's career and accomplishments.

Folder 13 - Photographs -University of Kansas City Playhouse, KMBC-TV Noon Show & Circle Theatre

- Includes photographs of performances by Dory DeAngelo
- UKC Playhouse - *Skin of Our Teeth* (2/14/1961); *Goldilocks* (2/20/1962)
- Circle Theatre - *Hay Fever* (rehearsal, 1963)
- KMBC-TV *Noon Show* (1957) - cast photograph; *South Pacific*; *Annie Get Your Gun*

Folder 14 - Photographs - Miscellaneous Theater Productions

- Missouri Repertory Theater - *Our Town* (n.d.)
- Lyric Opera - *Carmen* (1968)
- Coach House Players - *New Girl in Town* (1968) - five photographs.
- University of Kansas City Playhouse - *Cyrano* (1953?) - three photographs

Folder 15 - Photographs, Miscellaneous

Folder primarily Includes 39 photographic reprints of images used in *What About Kansas City! A Historical Handbook* (1997) by Dory DeAngelo. The original images can be found in Missouri Valley Special Collections.

1. Pearl Street bluffs at Third and Walnut Streets, 1868.
2. Divers preparing to go underwater to secure the Hannibal Bridge piers.
3. Westport's first City Hall, located at Broadway and Westport Road.
4. Judge Churchill White's mansion at Independence Boulevard just east of Maple Street
5. The Plaza in the 1930s, current site of the J.C. Nichols Memorial Fountain.
6. Director Cleaveland Hilson and cast members filming *Two Girls and One Bonnet*, 1916.
7. Liberty Memorial Dedication, November 11, 1926.
8. Interior view of the Western Gallery of Art, Kansas City Public Library, Ninth and Locust.
9. Coon-Sanders Band
10. Bicycle-driven float, Priests of Pallas Parade, 1897.
11. Electric Park
12. Flood scene, West Bottoms, 1903.
13. Second Orpheum Theatre, 12th and Baltimore.
14. Kansas City Bicycle Club
15. Kansas City Monarchs baseball team
16. Riverside race track
17. Baseball game at Muehlebach Field
18. Aerial view, 1951 flood scene, West Bottoms
19. Union Station construction
20. Kansas City Cowboys baseball team
21. Portrait of Sally Rand in costume
22. Convention Hall fire, 1900
23. First Livestock Exchange Building, 1880
24. Damage to the Lathrop School after an 1886 tornado.
25. World War I veterans marching though a "Victory Arch" between 10th-11th Grand St.

26. Board of Trade Building at 5th and Delaware
27. OK Creek and building, circa 1885
28. Watts Mill across from Indian Creek
29. Janssen Place entrance
30. Old American Royal building entrance
31. Steamboats docking at the levee at the bottom of Grand Ave.
32. Looking west down the 9th Street Incline.
33. Weidenmann Bros. grocery store, 1904.
34. Engine at Union Depot
35. Osage chief Le Soldat du Chene
36. Hallway of the Annie Chambers house
37. Downtown Kansas City skyline
38. Downtown Kansas City skyline
39. North Terrace Park Colonnade

Folder 16 - DeAngelo & Basile Family History

- Four page history of the DeAngelo (D'Angelo) and Basile families in Kansas City, Mo.

Folder 17 - Walt Bodine Interview

- CD containing a radio interview on KCUR-FM's Walt Bodine Show (5/30/2006)
- "History of Theater in Kansas City"-- notes from the Walt Bodine appearance, including a timeline of theater openings in Kansas City,

Folder 18 - Miscellaneous Items (added by processor)

- Contains items pertaining to Dory DeAngelo and the Kansas City Public Library, including: correspondence, KCPL bookmark, *Northeast News* article and a draft of *A Students Guide to Metropolitan Kansas City History*, written by DeAngelo for a history study project.

Box 2

Abstract of Title: #32437 E33 1/3 Lot 7, Block 8, Belgravia; Union Abstract & Guaranty Co.

The abstract dates to the early 1800s and includes the home of De Angelo's parents, Peter A. and Lena B. D'Angelo, at 4427 Windsor Ave.

Processed by Special Collections Associate Jeremy Drouin, 2003.