

# Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra Scrapbooks

The Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra scrapbooks detail the history of the city's orchestra from the Philharmonic's beginning in 1933 up to the 1965-66 season. The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings and photographs which detail the activities of the group including the conductors, guest artists, etc.

## Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Women's Committee, 1940s-

**Title:** Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra scrapbooks

**Dates:** 1933-1966

**Size:** 36 scrapbooks, 16 boxes

**Location:** SC71

## Administrative Information

**Restrictions on access:** Unrestricted access.

**Additional physical form available:** Also available on microfilm. Photographs digitized.

**Acquisition information:** Gift, 1992, Accession #92-39 (Scrapbooks #16.1, 18, 19-26 (1953-54, 1955-56 to 1965-66). Provenance for total collection unknown.

**Custodial history:** The provenance of the collection is difficult to totally establish. Some scrapbooks were already here and part of the Kansas City Public Library's classed holdings. Found in one of these scrapbooks was a notation indicating it was given to the Kansas City Museum, so at some point the Museum may have had some of the scrapbooks in their possession. A notation was also found that the Philharmonic Library was deposited at the Kansas City Public Library in 1953. All the scrapbooks found in Special Collections in 1998 were brought together to form this artificial collection and were placed at that time in a strictly chronological arrangement.

**Citation note:** Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra scrapbooks (SC71), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

## Collection Description

### **Biographical/historical note**

The Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra was established in 1933 with the help of the Chamber of Commerce after earlier attempts for an orchestra for the city had not endured. Chamber president Conrad Mann was an early supporter of the orchestra and provided the impetus to get the group performing. The first chair of the Board of Trustees was Powell Groner. Beginning performances were held in Convention Hall. Later the orchestra's home for many years was the Music Hall located in Municipal Auditorium.

Concerts were given in Kansas City as well as in states and cities in the Midwest region. This orchestra was the predecessor to the later Kansas City Symphony. There were three conductors during the time span of this collection. They were:

Karl Krueger, 1933-43 (See Scrapbook #9); Efrem Kurtz, 1943-47; and Hans Schwieger, 1948-70. The orchestra existed until 1982.

### Scope and content note

This fine arts collection which chronicles the history of the Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra consists of 36 scrapbooks which begin with the emergence of the orchestra in 1933 and end with the 1965-66 season. The years represented are continuous except for missing the seasons of 1962-63 and 1963-64. Some scrapbook years overlap. The collection consists of scrapbooks only and all the collection has been microfilmed and is available for use in that format.

Seventeen of the scrapbooks have been photocopied and the originals discarded. The photocopies were microfilmed and not the deteriorating originals. Eighteen scrapbooks were not photocopied and the originals were microfilmed and have been retained in the collection.

Authorship of the scrapbooks is not always known. Starting in the early 1940s, it becomes apparent that members of the Women's Committee of the Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra assembled the scrapbooks. According to a history found in #26, this group was formed in 1935. Usually the historian's name is found in the scrapbook front/back and some of the items included pertain to that group.

The scrapbooks contain a variety of contents arranged primarily by orchestra seasons and in chronological order. The beginning smaller scrapbooks contain mostly press releases. Items found most commonly later are newspaper clippings with citations, magazine clippings with citations (*The Independent* and the *Kansas City Musical Bulletin* primarily), orchestra programs, invitations, brochures/publicity items, and ephemera. Also included are 41 photographs primarily of the orchestra, conductors, national performers and presidents of the Women's Committee. These photographs were removed after microfilming and have been placed in a separate box (Box # 7). Other items were also removed then and have been placed in acid free folders with the scrapbooks.

The publication coverage for the orchestra is not just local but includes press notices of orchestra performances in surrounding states as Kansas, Iowa, Illinois and cities as Quincy, Illinois; Topeka, Kansas; Lawrence, Kansas; Concordia, Kansas, etc. A clipping service was utilized for some of the years. This newspaper coverage goes beyond regional to national for some years including coverage from such places as Kentucky, South Dakota, Los Angeles, Wisconsin, Oregon, Chicago, etc. Magazine clippings also include national titles, primarily music journals, especially in the earlier scrapbooks.

Press coverage also extends to orchestra personnel, groups and events connected to the orchestra, fund raising events and other things. This coverage includes the Jewell Ball. An added feature in the Women's Committee scrapbooks is the artwork included with the majority of their scrapbooks. This includes color illustrations done in chalk and/or ink. Most of the time the illustrator's name is included in the scrapbook.

### Arrangement note

Arranged in chronological order.

## Collection Inventory

### Scrapbook #1 – 1933, 1934-35

- Located in Box #1 and on Reel #1 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11" (original)
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, program sheets, and programs

### Scrapbook #2 - 1934-35

- Located in Box #1 and on Reel #1 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11" (original)
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Scrapbook, Season 1934-35"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, programs

### Scrapbook #3 - 1935-36

- Located in Box #1 and on Reel #1 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11" (original)
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Karl Krueger, Conductor, Season 1935-1936"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, brochures, programs

### Scrapbook #4 - 1936-37

- Located in Box #1 and on Reel #1 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11" (original)
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Karl Krueger, Conductor, Season 1936-37"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, brochures, programs, pressbook

### Scrapbook #5 - 1937-38

- Located in Box #2 and on Reel #1 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11" (original)
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Karl Krueger, Conductor, 1937-38 Season"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, newsletters, programs, miscellaneous ephemera

### Scrapbook #6 - 1938-39

- Located in Box #2 and on Reel #1 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11" (original)
- Title: No title
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, programs from Europe (Krueger conducting), miscellaneous ephemera

**Scrapbook #7 - 1939-40**

- Located in Box #2 and on Reel #1 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11" (original)
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Karl Krueger, Conductor, Season 1939-40"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, newsletter

**Scrapbook #7.5 - 1939-43**

- Located in Box #8 and on Reel #1 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook retained
- Size: 11" x 16"
- Title: "Women's Committee of the Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, circulars, photographs, playbills, ephemera

**Scrapbook #8 - 1940-41**

- Located in Box #3 and on Reel #2 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11"
- Title: "Orchestra"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, programs

**Scrapbook #9 - 1941-42**

- Located in Box #3 and on Reel #2 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11"
- Title: "1941-1942 Karl Krueger"
- Contents: Women's Committee publications, newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, pamphlets, ephemera, circulars, radio script, programs

**Scrapbook #9.1 - 1943-44**

- Located in Box # 8 and on Reel #2 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14 ½"
- Title: No title
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, programs, playbills, ephemera

**Scrapbook #10 - 1944-45**

- Located in Box #4 and on Reel #2 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11"
- Title: No title
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, invitation

**Scrapbook #10.1 - 1944-45**

- Located in Box #8 and on Reel #2 of microfilm

- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14 ½"
- Title: "Philharmonic Orchestra, Season 1944-45, Compiled by Mrs. Philip S. Elliott, Historian, V.III"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, photographs, programs, brochures, playbills, invitations, magazine articles, promotional material, newsletters

#### **Scrapbook #11 - 1945-46**

- Located in Box #4 and on Reel #2 of microfilm
- Photocopied, originals discarded
- Size: 8 ½" x 11"
- Title: "Press Book, 1945-46 Season, Kansas City Philharmonic"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings

#### **Scrapbook #11.1 - 1945-46**

- Located in Box #9 and on Reel #3 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 15"
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Women's Committee, Season 1945-1946, Compiled by Mrs. Philip S. Elliott-Historian, Volume IV"
- Contents: Playbills, brochures, newspaper clippings, ephemera, magazine clippings, letters(circulars), invitations, photographs, newsletters
- Note: Front cover contains a personal card of Henry Haskell, which is written on: " Dear Marie: Thank you for letting me see the very nice scrapbook-Henry Haskell."

#### **Scrapbook #11.2 - 1946-47**

- Located in Box #9 and on Reel #3 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 15"
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Women's Committee, 1946-47, Vol. V" Caroline C. Van Antwerp.
- Contents: Programs, flyers, magazine clippings, newsletters, women's committee yearbook, newspaper clippings, ephemera, playbills, invitations, brochures
- Note: First of the Women's Committee Scrapbooks to have art work on the pages.

#### **Scrapbook #11.3 - 1947-48**

- Located in Box #10 and on Reel #3 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 15 ½"
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Women's Committee, 1947-1948, Volume VI"
- Contents: Magazine clippings, women's committee yearbook, brochures, newsletters, circulars, newspaper clippings, ephemera, programs, invitations
- Note: Back cover of notebook says "Historian Mrs. Sam E. Roberts, Illustrator Mary Lou Ulery." Artwork is especially noteworthy.

**Scrapbook #11.4 - 1948-49**

- Located in Box #10 and on Reel #3 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 16"
- Title: "The Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Women's Committee, 1948-1949, Volume VII"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, artwork, ephemera, mailers, menu, brochures, programs, invitations, correspondence, membership card, membership button, newsletter
- Note: This scrapbook contains beautiful artwork. It was accessioned by the Library on 3/25/50, Acc.#6387. Back page: Compiled by Mrs. Sam E. Roberts, Historian; Illustrated by Mary Susan Culver.

**Scrapbook #12 - 1949-50**

- Located in Box #4 and on Reel # 4 of microfilm
- Photocopies of original only
- Size: 8 ½" x 11"
- Title: No title
- Contents: Newspaper Clippings, magazine clippings, invitation
- Note: The smaller size scrapbooks appear to contain primarily press releases.

**Scrapbook #12.1 - 1949-50**

- Located in Box #11 and on Reel #4 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14"
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic, Women's Committee, 1949-1950"
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, brochures, flyers, envelopes and mailers, programs, invitations, postcards used for promotional and notifying, magazine clippings, newsletter, press releases, menu, women's committee yearbook
- Note: Inside cover says "Kansas City Museum, Presented by: Mrs. Sam E. Roberts for K.C. Philharmonic". Back page says "Historian Mary F. Roberts (Mrs. Sam E.), Illustrated by: Vicki Tutt, Anne Reitz – Southwest 1949-50"

**Scrapbook #13 - 1950-51**

- Located in Box #4 and on Reel #4 of microfilm
- Photocopies only
- Size: 8 ½" x 11"
- Title: No title
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, invitation

**Scrapbook #14 - 1951-52**

- Located in Box #5 and on Reel #4 of microfilm
- Photocopies only
- Size: 8 ½" x 11"
- Title: No title
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings

**Scrapbook #15 - 1952-53**

- Located in Box #5 and on Reel #4 of microfilm
- Photocopies only
- Size: 8 ½" x 11"
- Title: No title
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings

**Scrapbook #16 - 1953**

- Located in Box #5 and on Reel #4 of microfilm
- Photocopies only
- Size: 8 ½" x 11"
- Title: No title
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings

**Scrapbook #16.1 – 1953-54**

- Located in Box #11 and on Reel #4 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14"
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Press Notices, 1953-1954" (On Cover) "Historian's Book, 1953-1954, Compiled for the Women's Committee of Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Under the direction of Mrs. E. Kemper Carter, Historian. Art Work – Mrs. Orb S. Stoner" (Inside cover)
- Contents: Photograph, newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, programs (in part)
- Note: Accession #92-39. A 7 ringed scrapbook with a white cover and gold lettering.

**Scrapbook #17 - 1954-55**

- Located in Box #12 and on Reel #5 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14"
- Title: No title
- Contents: Brochures, circulars/mailers, postcards sent out to inform, newspaper clippings, invitations, magazine clippings, ephemera, programs, letters/correspondence, playbills.

**Scrapbook #18 - 1955-56**

- Located in Box #12 and on Reel #5 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 11 ½" x 13 ½"
- Title: "The Kansas City Philharmonic, 1955-1956" – Outside cover, lower right "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, Press Notices, 1955-1956, Mrs. Arnold V. Arms, Historian" – Inside cover
- Note: Accession #92-39. Includes artwork.

**Scrapbook #18.1 - 1955-56**

- Located in Box #6 and on Reel #5 of microfilm
- Photocopies only

- Size: 8 ½" x 11" (Original scrapbook was large, oversize and largest in collection)
- Title: No title
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, flyers, brochure, letters, postcard, pamphlet
- Note: Some original non-newspaper clippings material has been retained and filed with the photocopies. Luce Press Clipping Bureau, New York, New York clipping service clips were included in scrapbook.

#### **Scrapbook #19 - 1956-57**

- Located in Box #13 and on Reel #6 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14"
- Title: Outer cover "Kansas City Philharmonic-Press Notes-1956-1957"
- Inner page title: "The Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, 1956-57, Diana Hearne James"
- Contents: Photographs, partial programs, newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, programs
- Note: Accession #92-39. Scrapbook contains no artwork.

#### **Scrapbook #20 - 1957-58**

- Located in Box #13 and on Reel #6 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12 x 14"
- Title: Outer cover "The Kansas City Philharmonic, 1957-1958"
- Inner page title: "Kansas city Philharmonic Orchestra Press Notices"
- Contents: Photographs, programs, magazine clippings, newspaper clippings, Invitations
- Note: Accession #92-39; scrapbook has some artwork; Jack Benny program appears to have an autograph of Mr. Benny on the back side.

#### **Scrapbook #21 - 1958-59**

- Located in Box #14 and on Reel #6 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14"
- Title: "The Philharmonic Season, 1958-'59"
- Contents: Programs, newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, invitations, postcard mailing, circular, conference publications(Association of Women's Committees for Symphony Orchestras)
- Notes: Accession #92-39, some artwork in scrapbook

#### **Scrapbook #22 - 1959-1960**

- Located in Box #14 and on Reel #6 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14"
- Title: "Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra-Philharmonic Concerts 27th Season...1959-60 Season... "
- Contents: Newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, invitations, membership card, circulars, program pieces, brochure, letters
- Note: Accession #92-39, no artwork in scrapbook.



**Scrapbook #23 - 1960-61**

- Located in Box #15 and on Reel #7 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 15"
- Title: "The Philharmonic Season, April 1960 to April 1961"
- Contents: Flyers, photograph, program cutouts, circulars/mailers, newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, ephemera, programs, brochure
- Note: Accession #92-39, has artwork in scrapbook

**Scrapbook #24 - 1961-62**

- Located in Box #15 and on Reel #7 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14"
- Title: "Philharmonic Orchestra, 1961-1962"
- Contents: Photographs, business reply envelopes, program pieces, membership lists, newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, programs, brochure, fold outs, ephemera, invitations, award certificate, reports
- Note: Accession #92-39, has some artwork in scrapbook

**Scrapbook #25 - 1964-65**

- Located in Box #16 and on Reel #7 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14"
- Title: No title
- Contents: Yearbook/membership directory for Women's Committee(1962-63), advertising pieces, magazine clippings, newspaper clippings, newsletters(Tune Up), circulars, invitations, ephemera, programs, form letters, president's annual report
- Note: Accession #92-39, scrapbook contains artwork

**Scrapbook #26 - 1965-66**

- Located in Box #16 and on Reel #7 of microfilm
- Original scrapbook
- Size: 12" x 14"
- Title: No Title
- Contents: Magazine clippings, newspaper clippings, invitations, brochures, newsletters (Fan Fare), fold-outs, letters sent as mailers, president's annual report (1965-66), typed history of Philharmonic and Women's Division by Mrs. Charles Bush, programs
- Note: Accession #92-39

**Photograph Inventory - Box 7**

- Full view of orchestra on stage, Karl Krueger conductor. Found in scrapbook #7.5, 1939-43
- Portrait of Karl Krueger. Found in scrapbook #7.5, 1939-43
- Portrait of Powell Groner, President of the Board of Trustees. Found in scrapbook #7.5, 1939-43
- Interior view, Municipal Auditorium, Music Hall, looking toward stage. Found in scrapbook #7.5, 1939-43

- Exterior corner view of Municipal Auditorium, looking southwest with automobiles on the street. Found in scrapbook #7.5, 1939-43
- Portrait of Mrs. B.C. Christopher, Jr., President-Women's Committee, 1940-41. Found in scrapbook #7.5, 1939-43
- View of the orchestra with an inset of Karl Kreuger, 1939-40 season. Found in scrapbook #7.5, 1939-43
- Publicity portrait of soprano Helen Traubel. Found in scrapbook #10.1, 1944-45
- Publicity portrait of Gregor Piatigorsky with cello. Found in scrapbook #10.1, 1944-45
- Publicity portrait of Robert and Gaby Casadesus. Found in scrapbook #10.1, 1944-45
- Publicity portrait of Nathan Milstein. Found in scrapbook #10.1, 1944-45
- Publicity portrait of Bruna Castagna. Found in scrapbook #10.1, 1944-45
- Publicity portrait of William Kapell. Found in scrapbook #10.1, 1944-45
- Publicity photograph of Artur Rubinstein. Found in scrapbook #10.1, 1944-45
- Publicity photograph of Jascha Heifetz. Found in scrapbook #10.1, 1944-45
- Interior view, probably Women's Committee Christmas luncheon event. Found in scrapbook #10.1, 1944-45
- Publicity portrait of Eleanor Steber. Found in scrapbook #11.1, 1945-46
- Publicity photograph of Bidu Sayao. Found in scrapbook #11.1, 1945-46
- Publicity portrait of Patricia Travers, violinist. Found in scrapbook #11.1, 1945-46
- Publicity seated portrait of Alexander Kipnis, baritone. Found in scrapbook #11.1, 1945-46
- Publicity photograph of Claudio Arrau, pianist. Found in scrapbook #11.1, 1945-46
- Publicity portrait of Artur Schnabel, pianist. Found in scrapbook #11.1, 1945-46
- Publicity portrait of William Kapell, pianist. Found in scrapbook #11.1, 1945-46
- Publicity portrait of Albert Spalding, violinist. Found in scrapbook #11.1, 1945-46
- Interior view, conductor Hans Schwieger seated on a couch in tuxedo. Found in scrapbook #16.1, 1953-54
- Portrait of Hans Schwieger. Found in scrapbook #18, 1955-56
- Portrait of Lewis Kitchen, President Kansas City Philharmonic. Found in scrapbook #18, 1955-56.
- Portrait of Mrs. Burnham Hockaday, President Women's Committee. Found in scrapbook #18, 1955-56
- Portrait of Hans Schwieger. Found in scrapbook #19, 1956-57
- View of Philharmonic on stage performing. Found in scrapbook #19, 1956-57
- Portrait of C.Y. Thomas, President Kansas City Philharmonic. Found in scrapbook #19, 1956-57
- Portrait of Mrs. Burnham Hockaday, President Women's Committee. Found in scrapbook #19, 1956-57
- Group of 10 women identified as officers of the Women's Committee. Found in scrapbook #19, 1956-57
- Portrait of Paul Wilson, President Kansas City Philharmonic. Found in scrapbook #20, 1957-58
- Portrait of Mrs. Burnham Hockaday, President Women's Committee. Found in scrapbook #20, 1957-58
- Photo of Mrs. Harry F. Montgomery, Chairman of Women's Committee, 1960-61. Found in Scrapbook #23, 1960-61
- Photo of Mrs. Harry F. Montgomery, similar to photo #36. Found in scrapbook #24, 1961-62

- Portrait of Hans Schwieger, cut in a pattern. Found in scrapbook #24, 1961-62
- Small cropped photo of Mrs. Montgomery seated at a table. Found in scrapbook #24, 1961-62.
- Unidentified snapshot photo of a young woman holding a bouquet of roses standing outside by building. Found loose in scrapbook #24, 1961-62
- Unidentified view of three women seated/standing outside with one woman holding and looking at what appears to be a check. Posed in front of a columned building possibly a house. Found in scrapbook #26, 1965-66

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman and Library Assistant Adrian Knotek, 1990-2000.