



# Smithsonian

*Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage*

## Smithsonian Folklife Festival records: 1967 Festival of American Folklife

CFCH Staff

2017

Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections  
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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	
Administrative Information .....	1
Historical .....	2
Scope and Contents .....	2
Arrangement .....	2
Names and Subjects .....	
Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements .....	2
Container Listing .....	
Series 1: Program Books, Festival Publications, and Ephemera, 1967 .....	7
Series 3: Photographs .....	8
Series 4: Audio, 1967 .....	9
Series 5: Video .....	15

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections
<b>Title:</b>	Smithsonian Folklife Festival records: 1967 Festival of American Folklife
<b>Date:</b>	July 1-4, 1967
<b>Identifier:</b>	CFCH.SFF.1967
<b>Creator:</b>	Smithsonian Institution. Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Cubic foot (approximate)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The Smithsonian Institution Festival of American Folklife, held annually since 1967 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., was renamed the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in 1998. The materials collected here document the planning, production, and execution of the annual Festival, produced by the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage (1999-present) and its predecessor offices (1967-1999). An overview of the entire Festival records group is available here: <a href="#">Smithsonian Folklife Festival records</a> .

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## Administrative Information

### Forms Part Of

Smithsonian Folklife Festival records: 1967 Festival of American Folklife forms part of the [Smithsonian Folklife Festival records](#) .

Smithsonian Folklife Festival records:

- [Smithsonian Folklife Festival records: Papers](#)
- [1967 Festival of American Folklife records - \[Ongoing\]](#)

### Related Archival Materials

Within the Rinzler Archives, related materials may be found in various collections such as the Ralph Rinzler papers and recordings, the Lily Spandorf drawings, the Diana Davies photographs, the Robert Yellin photographs, and the Curatorial Research, Programs, and Projects collection. Additional relevant materials may also be found in the Smithsonian Institution Archives concerning the Division of Performing Arts (1966-1983), Folklife Program (1977-1980), Office of Folklife Programs (1980-1991), Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies (1991-1999), Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage (1999-present), and collaborating Smithsonian units, as well as in the administrative papers of key figures such as the Secretary and respective deputies. Users are encouraged to consult relevant finding aids and to contact Archives staff for further information.

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Folklife Festival records: 1967 Festival of American Folklife, Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections , Smithsonian Institution.

## Restrictions

Access to the Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections is by appointment only. Visit our [website](#) for more information on scheduling a visit or making a digitization request. Researchers interested in accessing born-digital records or audiovisual recordings in this collection must use access copies.

## Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish materials from the collection must be requested from the Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections. Please visit our [website](#) to learn more about submitting a request. The Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections make no guarantees concerning copyright or other intellectual property restrictions. Other usage conditions may apply; please see the Smithsonian's [Terms of Use](#) for more information.

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## Historical

The Festival of American Folklife, held annually since 1967 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., was renamed the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in 1998.

The 1967 Festival of American Folklife was produced by the Smithsonian Division of Performing Arts.

For more information, see [Smithsonian Folklife Festival records](#) .

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## Scope and Contents

This collection documents the planning, production, and execution of the 1967 Festival of American Folklife. Materials may include photographs, audio recordings, motion picture film and video recordings, notes, production drawings, contracts, memoranda, correspondence, informational materials, publications, and ephemera. Such materials were created during the Festival on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., as well as in the featured communities, before or after the Festival itself.

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## Arrangement

Arranged in 5 series.

Missing Title:

- Series 1: Program Books, Festival Publications, and Ephemera
- Series 2: Fieldwork
- Series 3: Photographs
- Series 4: Audio
- Series 5: Video

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## Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements note

The Rinzler Archives is continually engaged in digitization of archival materials to facilitate preservation and ready access by users. However, given the diversity of legacy formats of the originals, some older materials may not be available. Notably, certain older audio recordings cannot be played because of deterioration of the tape stock, and the Archives has no playback equipment for EIAJ-1 videoreels (1/2 inch) or multi-track audio recordings. Where listening or viewing copies are available, this is generally indicated for each item. Users are encouraged to contact

Archives staff to verify that the materials of interest to them are already accessible, or to determine if they can be digitized as needed.

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## Introduction

In 1966, Smithsonian Secretary S. Dillon Ripley engaged James R. Morris to serve as Director of Museum Services, soon to become a new Division of Performing Arts. Ripley charged Morris to develop a full program of performances on the National Mall - sound and light show, readings and concerts, films, live demonstrations, and special exhibitions. Morris, who had previously organized the American Folk Festival in Asheville, North Carolina, in 1963, proposed that the Smithsonian host a folk festival as the centerpiece of the outdoors activities. Through the Asheville festival, Morris had come into contact with key people involved in the Newport Folk Festival, among them Alan Lomax. It was Lomax who suggested that the Smithsonian hire Newport's then-director of field programs, Ralph C. Rinzler, to help plan a Smithsonian festival. The term "folklife", drawn from Scandinavian usage, was chosen over "folk" as the name of the new Festival.

The first Festival of American Folklife was held July 1-4, 1967 in two tents - one for crafts and one for sales - a music stage, and a performance area on the terrace of the Museum of History and Technology (later, the National Museum of American History). Fifty-eight traditional craftspeople and thirty-two musical and dance groups from throughout the United States demonstrated and performed at the first open-air event. Mountain banjo-pickers and ballad singers, Chinese lion dancers, Indian sand painters, basket and rug weavers, New Orleans jazz bands and a Bohemian hammer dulcimer band from east Texas combined with the host of participants from many rural and urban areas of the U.S. The entire event was free to the public, the expense of the production having been borne by the Smithsonian aided by numerous civic and cultural organizations, business enterprises and State Arts Councils.

The 1967 Festival drew a huge crowd - estimated at more than 400,000 - and strong interest from the press, Members of Congress, and Smithsonian leadership. In the Smithsonian's annual report for 1967, Ripley reflected on the success of the Festival:

Within - in the Museum - the tools, the products of craft work, the musical instruments hang suspended in cases, caught in beautifully petrified isolation. Without, for the space of a few hours they came alive in the hands of specialists from all over America.... It was a moving spectacle and one that underscored the principle that a museum, to be a museum in the best sense of the word, must live and breathe both within and without.

The 1967 Festival marked the inception of a fresh attempt at the evaluation, documentation and celebration of a hitherto unrecognized area of vigorous American expression. Concurrent with the first Festival, an American Folklife Conference was organized (with assistance from Henry Glassie) to address topics of American and international folklife studies, the relationship between folklife and history, applied folklife, and folklife in schools, museums, communities, and government agencies.

The Festival was organized by the Division of Performing Arts, under the direction of James R. Morris. Ralph Rinzler was the Applied Folklore Consultant and Festival Artistic Director, and Marian A. Hope was Project Assistant. No program book or schedule was published, but news articles, congressional remarks, letters from the public, and a list of participants were later compiled in lieu of a program book. That document can be viewed in [Series 1](#).

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## Participants

### Crafts:

- Harry Belone, 1912-1986, Navajo sand painter, Arizona
- Herman Benton, 1914-1994, scoop maker, New York
- Mary Bowers, 1922-2002, Seminole patchwork, needlework, Florida
- Marie Z. Chino, 1907-1982, Acoma pottery, New Mexico
- Mildred Cleghorn, 1910-1997, Indian cloth dolls, Oklahoma

- Maisy Coburn, apple face and corncob dolls, Arkansas
- Margaret Coochwyte, 1923-1995, Hopi, coil and yucca leaves basket maker, Arizona
- Victor Coochwyte, 1922-2011, Hopi silversmith, Arizona
- Freedom Quilting Bee, Alabama
- Taft Greer, 1908-1986, weaver, Tennessee
- Joseph Grismayer, 1888-1970, willow basket maker, Pennsylvania
- Dewey Harmon, 1900-1972, whittler, North Carolina
- Bea Hensley, 1919-2013, blacksmith, North Carolina
- Louise Jones, 1910-1973, coil basket making, South Carolina
- Robert Keith, chair maker, North Carolina
- Mrs. Robert Keith, chair maker, North Carolina
- Norman Kennedy, 1934-, carder, spinner, weaver, Massachusetts
- Clifford Lucas, Indian dolls, New Mexico
- Lila Suzanne Marshall, 1908-1994, corn shuck dolls, North Carolina
- Charles Mayac, 1906-1971, ivory carver, Alaska
- Leo J. Meyer, scrimshaw carver, Maryland
- Alice Merryman, 1906-2007, corn shuck dolls, Arkansas
- Norman Miller, 1905-1972, southern pottery, Alabama
- Mrs. Norman Miller, southern pottery, Alabama
- Hazel Miracle, 1915-2001, apple face, corn shuck dolls, Kentucky
- Homer Miracle, 1910-1980, hand-hewn bowls, carver, Kentucky
- Ann Mitchell, corn shuck dolls, Maryland
- Golda Porter, spinner, North Carolina
- Edd Presnell, 1916-1994, dulcimer maker, North Carolina
- Ambrose Roanhorse, 1904-1982, Navajo silversmith, Arizona
- Garnet Claw Roanhorse, 1911-1999, Navajo rug weaver, Arizona
- Georgianne Robinson, 1917-1985, Osage ribbon work, needlework, Oklahoma
- Lou Seshier, 1915-1989, model boat builder, Pennsylvania
- Genevieve Tomey, Osage ribbon work, needlework, Oklahoma
- Elisia Trivett, rug hooker, North Carolina
- Ora Watson, 1909-2004, quilting, North Carolina
- Willard Watson, 1905-1994, toy maker, North Carolina

Music:

- The Baca Family Band, Czech-American polka music, Texas
- Libba Cotten, Country guitarist, North Carolina, Washington, D.C.
- Dejan's Olympia Brass Band, New Orleans marching band, Louisiana
- Jimmie Driftwood, Ozark ballad singer, Arkansas
- First Maryland Regiment Fife and Drum Corps, martial music, Maryland
- John Jackson, Songster and blues singer, Virginia
- Bessie Jones (1902-1984) and the Georgia Sea Island Singers, shouts, jubilees, spirituals, and ring games, Georgia
- Norman Kennedy, Scots ballad singer, Massachusetts
- Clark Kessinger, 1896-1975, mountain fiddler, West Virginia
- Vinice Lejeune (1919-1993) Group, Cajun band, Louisiana
- The McGee Brothers with Sid Harkreader, String band, Tennessee
- Sam McGee, 1894-1975
- Kirk McGee, 1899-1983
- Gene Meade, West Virginia
- The Moving Star Hall Singers, shouts, jubilees, spirituals, and ring games, South Carolina
- Glenn Ohrlin, cowboy singer, Arkansas
- Grace Papakee, 1907-1982, Mesquakie Indian music, Iowa
- John Papakee, 1895-1981, Mesquakie Indian music, Iowa

- Billie Pierce (1907-1974) and De De Pierce (1904-1973) and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band, New Orleans jazz, Louisiana
- Almeda Riddle, Ozark ballad singer, Arkansas
- Scottish Pipe Band, highland marching music, Washington, D.C.
- Wade Ward (1892-1971) and the Buck Mountain Band, mountain string band, Virginia
- Yomo Toro Band, Puerto Rican music, New York
- Ed Young (1910-1972), G.D. Young and Lonnie Young (1903-1976), African American fife and drum group, Mississippi
- Young People's Chorus from the Scripture of Church of Christ, gospel, Virginia

Dance:

- Blue Ridge Mountain Dancers, cloggers, North Carolina
- Chinese Lion Group, Washington, D.C.
- Maurice Flowers, square dance caller, Maryland
- Los Gallegos d'España, Galician dance, New York
- Glinka Dancers, Russian dance group, New Jersey
- Jochim Koyuk, King Island Eskimo dancer, Alaska
- Mrs. Jochim Koyuk, King Island Eskimo dancer, Alaska
- McNeff Dancers, Irish dancing with Ceilidh band, New York
- Henry Paterick, square dance caller, Virginia
- St. Andrews Society Group, Scottish dancing, Washington, D.C.

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## Shared Stewardship of Collections

The Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage acknowledges and respects the right of artists, performers, Folklife Festival participants, community-based scholars, and knowledge-keepers to collaboratively steward representations of themselves and their intangible cultural heritage in media produced, curated, and distributed by the Center. Making this collection accessible to the public is an ongoing process grounded in the Center's commitment to connecting living people and cultures to the materials this collection represents. To view the Center's full shared stewardship policy, which defines our protocols for addressing collections-related inquiries and concerns, please visit <https://doi.org/10.25573/data.21771155>.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Diné (Navajo)
- Folk art
- Folk festivals
- Folk music
- Folklore
- Food habits
- arts and crafts

Cultures:

- Diné (Navajo)

Types of Materials:

- Audiotapes
- Negatives
- Photographic prints
- Plans (drawings)
- Slides (photographs)
- Sound recordings
- Video recordings

Names:

Smithsonian Folklife Festival



## Container Listing

### Series 1: Program Books, Festival Publications, and Ephemera, 1967

[Digital Content: 1967 Festival program report](#)

**General:** No program book or schedule was published for the 1967 Festival, but news articles, congressional remarks, letters from the public, and a list of participants were later compiled into a report, available [here](#).

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 3: Photographs

[Digital Content: Digital Contact Sheet: Festival of American Folklife 1967, Series 2: 1967](#)

[Digital Content: Digital Contact Sheet: Festival of American Folklife 1967, Fieldwork: 1967](#)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 4: Audio, 1967

General: Audio recordings are limited to two evening concerts during the Festival; an evening concert held on July 2 and daily activities were not recorded.

FP-1967-RR-0001: Md. Regiment Fife and Drum, Scottish Pipe Band, Dejean's Olympia Brass Band, 1967 July 1

1 Sound recording (10 inch reel, 1/2 inch tape)

Creator: Smithsonian Institution. Festival of American Folklife (1967)

Artist: Maryland Regiment Fife and Drum

Washington Scottish Pipe Band

Dejan's Olympia Brass Band

Performer: Maryland Regiment Fife and Drum

Washington Scottish Pipe Band

Dejan's Olympia Brass Band

Language: English.

Notes: DPA number 67.101.01

four track

FP-1967-10RR-0001

Recorded in: Washington (D.C.), United States, July 1, 1967.

101 Martial Music / Maryland Regiment Fife and Drum.

102 Highland Marching Music / Washington Scottish Pipe Band.  
Drum, Bagpipe.

103 Marching Band Jazz / Dejan's Olympia Brass Band. English  
language.

Topic: Military music

Fife and drum corps music

Marching bands

Pipe bands

Funeral music

Brass band music

Jazz

Drum

Bagpipe

Military

Brass bands

African Americans

Place: United States

Washington (D.C.)

Maryland

Louisiana

New Orleans (La.)

Culture: British

Americans

Scottish Americans

FP-1967-RR-0002: Dejean's Olympia Brass Band, St. Andrew's Dance Group, 1967  
July 1

1 Sound recording (10 inch reel, 1/2 inch tape)  
 Creator: Smithsonian Institution. Festival of American Folklife (1967)  
 Artist: St. Andrew's Society (New Orleans, La.)  
 Dejan's Olympia Brass Band  
 Performer: St. Andrew's Society (New Orleans, La.)  
 Dejan's Olympia Brass Band  
 Language: English.  
 Notes: DPA number 67.101.02  
 four track  
 FP-1967-10RR-0002  
 Recorded in: Washington (D.C.), United States, July 1, 1967.  
 101 Marching Band Jazz / Dejan's Olympia Brass Band.  
 102 Scottish Dancing / St. Andrew's Society (New Orleans, La.).

Topic: Brass band music  
 Funeral music  
 Jazz  
 Dance  
 African Americans

Place: United States  
 Washington (D.C.)  
 Louisiana  
 New Orleans (La.)  
 Great Britian  
 Scotland

Culture: Americans  
 British  
 Scottish Americans

FP-1967-RR-0003: Dejean's Olympia Brass Band, Wade Ward and Buck Mountain Band, 1967 July 1  
 1 Sound recording (10 inch reel, 1/2 inch tape)  
 Creator: Smithsonian Institution. Festival of American Folklife (1967)  
 Kessinger, Clark  
 Artist: Ward, Wade  
 Dejan's Olympia Brass Band  
 Buck Mountain Band  
 Performer: Ward, Wade  
 Dejan's Olympia Brass Band  
 Buck Mountain Band  
 Language: English.  
 Notes: DPA number 67.101.03  
 four track  
 FP-1967-10RR-0003  
 Recorded in: Washington (D.C.), United States, July 1, 1967.  
 101 Marching Jazz Band / Dejan's Olympia Brass Band.  
 102 Mountain Banjo Picker and String Band / Buck Mountain Band,  
 Wade Ward. Banjo. English language.

Topic: Brass band music

Funeral music  
Jazz  
String band  
Bluegrass music  
Banjo  
Appalachian Region  
African Americans  
Place: Appalachian Region, Southern -- Songs and music  
United States  
Washington (D.C.)  
Louisiana  
New Orleans (La.)  
Virginia  
Culture: Americans  
Anglo-American

FP-1967-RR-0004: Blue Ridge Mountain Dancers, 1967 July 1  
1 Sound recording (10 inch reel, 1/2 inch tape)  
Creator: Smithsonian Institution. Festival of American Folklife (1967)  
Artist: Blue Ridge Mountain Dancers  
Performer: Blue Ridge Mountain Dancers  
Language: English.  
Notes: DPA number 67.101.04  
four track  
FP-1967-10RR-0004  
Recorded in: Washington (D.C.), United States, July 1, 1967.  
Topic: Dance  
Place: United States  
Washington (D.C.)  
North Carolina  
Culture: Americans  
Anglo-American

FP-1967-RR-0005: Scripture Church of Christ; Jimmy Driftwood; King Islanders;  
Glen Ohrlin; Norman Kennedy, 1967 July 3  
1 Sound recording (10 inch reel, 1/2 inch tape)  
Creator: Smithsonian Institution. Festival of American Folklife (1967)  
Artist: Driftwood, Jimmie  
King Island Native Community, Alaska (Association)  
Ohrlin, Glenn, 1926-2015  
Kennedy, Norman, 1934-  
Scripture Church of Christ (Bailey's Crossroads, Va.)  
Performer: Driftwood, Jimmie  
King Island Native Community, Alaska (Association)  
Ohrlin, Glenn, 1926-2015  
Kennedy, Norman, 1934-  
Scripture Church of Christ (Bailey's Crossroads, Va.)  
Language: English.  
Notes: DPA number 67.101.05  
four track

FP-1967-10RR-0005

Recorded in: Washington (D.C.), United States, July 3, 1967.

101 Virginia Gospel / Scripture Church of Christ (Va.).

102 Ozark Ballad Singer / Jimmie Driftwood. English language.

103 King Island Native Community, Alaska (Association).

104 Gol' Darn Wheel / Glenn Ohrlin. English language.

105 Prickly Bush (Maid Freed from the Gallows) r / Norman Kennedy.  
English language.

Topic: Spirituals (Songs)  
Ballads  
Folk songs -- United States  
Country music  
Cowboys -- Songs and music  
British Isles -- Songs and music  
Folk songs -- Arkansas

Place: United States  
Washington (D.C.)  
Virginia  
Massachusetts  
Scotland  
Great Britian  
Arkansas

Culture: Americans  
British  
Anglo-American  
Scottish Americans

FP-1967-RR-0006: Almeda Riddle, Glenn Ohrlin, Norman Kennedy, Antonio Mosquera, 1967 July 3

1 Sound recording (10 inch reel, 1/2 inch tape)

Creator: Smithsonian Institution. Festival of American Folklife (1967)

Artist: Mosquera, Antonio  
Ohrlin, Glenn, 1926-2015  
Kennedy, Norman, 1934-  
Riddle, AlmedaPerformer: Mosquera, Antonio  
Ohrlin, Glenn, 1926-2015  
Kennedy, Norman, 1934-  
Riddle, Almeda

Language: English.

Notes: DPA number 67.101.06

four track

FP-1967-10RR-0006

Hangman (A. Riddle)--Dakota Land (G. Ohrlin)--Gaelic song-Mouth  
music (N. Kennedy)--House Carpenter (A. Riddle); Antonio Mosquera  
(Galician pipers)

Recorded in: Washington (D.C.), United States, July 3, 1967.

104 null / Antonio Mosquera.

	102 Dakota Land Glenn Ohrlin.
	103 Gaelic song/ Mouth music Norman Kennedy. English language.
	101 Hangman (Maid Freed from the Gallows) / Almeda Riddle. English language.
	House Carpenter Almeda Riddle 105
Topic:	Folk songs -- United States Cowboys -- Songs and music Ballads
Place:	British Isles -- Songs and music United States Washington (D.C.) Arkansas Massachusetts Spain Galicia (Spain : Region)
Culture:	Americans British Anglo-American Scottish Americans

FP-1967-RR-0007: D.C. Chinese Dragon Dancers, Jimmy Driftwood, Scripture Church of Christ, 1967 July 3

1 Sound recording (10 inch reel, 1/2 inch tape)

Creator: Smithsonian Institution. Festival of American Folklife (1967)

Artist: Chinese Lion Group (Washington, D.C.)  
Driftwood, Jimmie

Performer: Scripture Church of Christ (Bailey's Crossroads, Va.)

Chinese Lion Group (Washington, D.C.)  
Driftwood, Jimmie

Scripture Church of Christ (Bailey's Crossroads, Va.)

Language: English.

Notes: DPA number 67.101.07

four track

FP-1967-10RR-0007

Recorded in: Washington (D.C.), United States, July 3, 1967.

101 Chinese New Year Pantomime / Chinese Lion Group (Washington, D.C.). Drum.

102 The Soul of Man Jimmie Driftwood. Guitar. English language.

103 Virginia Gospel / Scripture Church of Christ (Va.). English language.

Topic: Celebrations  
Dance  
Ballads  
Folk songs -- United States  
Country music  
Spirituals (Songs)  
Drum  
Guitar

Holidays  
Religion  
Christianity  
Folk songs -- Arkansas  
Place: United States  
Washington (D.C.)  
China  
Virginia  
Culture: Arkansas  
Chinese  
Americans  
Anglo-American

[Return to Table of Contents](#)



## Series 5: Video

[Return to Table of Contents](#)