



Smithsonian  
*National Museum of American History*  
*Kenneth E. Behring Center*

Jean Bartel Miss America  
1943 Photographs, 1943-1944

NMAH.AC.0902

Kiley Orchard

2008

Archives Center, National Museum of American History  
P.O. Box 37012  
Suite 1100, MRC 601  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012  
archivescenter@si.edu  
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Arrangement.....	3
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects .....	3
Container Listing .....	4
Series 1: Miss America Competition, 1943.....	4
Series 2: Miss America Reign, 1943-1944.....	5
Series 3: Post Miss America, 1954, 1970, undated.....	7

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Jean Bartel Miss America 1943 Photographs
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.0902
<b>Date:</b>	1943-1970, undated
<b>Extent:</b>	0.66 Cubic feet (2 boxes)
<b>Source:</b>	Sports, Entertainment and Leisure, Division of, NMAH, SI Bartel, Jean
<b>Language:</b>	English  Collection is in English.
<b>Summary:</b>	Photographs of Jean Bartel during the Miss America Pageant in 1943 and her activities during her reign.

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Jean Bartel donated this collection in 2005.

### Separated Materials

Bartel donated her Miss America crown to the Museum's Division of Culture and the Arts. See accession number: 2005.3069.

### Processing Information

Processed by Ramona Williamson (volunteer), Kiley Orchard (intern), 2008; supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist, 2008.

### Preferred Citation

Jean Bartel Miss America 1943 Photographs, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

### Restrictions

The collection is open for research use. Researchers must handle unprotected photographs with gloves.

### Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Reproduction permission from Archives Center: fees for

commercial use. All duplication requests must be reviewed and approved by Archives Center staff.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Jean Bartel was born in Los Angeles, California, in 1924. She was strongly encouraged by her parents to follow her dream of performing on Broadway. Bartel entered the Miss America Pageant in 1943 after she learned that the financial backer of Oklahoma, Horace Schmidlapp, was going to be a pageant judge. For the talent portion of the competition, she sang Cole Porter's *Night and Day* and won the title of Miss America.

During her reign as Miss America, Bartel was given many opportunities to combine her love for singing and traveling. Her talent was often used to entertain American troops. Bartel also was involved in a bond-selling tour and was honored by the United States Treasury Department as the individual who sold the most Series E Bonds that year. Women purchased most of the two and one half million dollars of these bonds.

After she relinquished the title, Bartel performed for radio and television traveling to South America, the Middle East, Europe, Canada, and in every state except Maine. Bartel was the first Miss America to star in a Broadway musical, *Of Thee I Sing*, in 1952.

Bartel met William J. Hogue while she was working for Japanese television and he was a consultant for the Mitsubishi Company. They were married in Kyoto, Japan, in 1970. Bartel continued to perform on the stage. She also worked for American television appearing in programs including *The Red Skelton Show*, *The Danny Thomas Show*, *Perry Mason*, *Robert Montgomery Theatre*, *The Ed Wynn Show*, *Stop the Music*, *The Milton Berle Show*, and *Broadway TV Theatre*. She also did television work in Paris, Cannes, London, Beirut, Athens, Rio de Janeiro, San Paulo, Hong Kong, Tokyo, and Scandinavia. Bartel received a special showing of *It's a Woman's World* at the Montreux International Television Festival in Switzerland in which she was the host and star. Other television and feature film work included *The Rockford Files* and *The Debtors*.

In 2001, Bartel lost her husband of thirty-one years. Bartel currently owns Jean Bartel and Associates, an international travel consultation firm. She resides in Los Angeles, California and continues to be active in church work, the Academy of Television Arts and Science, the Hollywood Radio and Television Society and in supporting the Veteran's Cemetery. Scope and Content: This collection primarily documents Bartel's reign as Miss America from 1943-1944. There are some photographs of the Miss America pageant including images of other contestants and Atlantic City, New Jersey. In addition, there are a few photographs of Bartel after her reign ended.

---

## Scope and Contents

Series 1, Miss America Competition, 1943, consists of photographs taken during the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The photographs are arranged by the activity during the competition.

Series 2, Miss America Reign, 1943-1944, consists of photographs taken during the year Bartel served as Miss America and highlights her travels around the country. Notably featured is New York, where Bartel visited Leon and Eddie's nightclub, the Waldorf Astoria, Madison Square Garden, Stage Door Canteen, and the Empire State Building. Also included is a signed note from Eddie Davis, owner of Leon and Eddie's. Bartel is photographed visiting with various people and participating in a variety of

events. The series ends as she crowns Miss America 1944, Venus Ramey. The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Series 3, Post Miss America, 1954, 1970, undated, includes photographs taken after Bartel's reign as Miss America. The photographs mostly document her professional career as an actress. There is one photograph of her wedding in 1970. The materials are arranged in chronological order.

---

## Arrangement

The collection is arranged in three series.

Series 1: Miss America Competition

Series 2: Miss America Reign

Series 3: Post Miss America

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Beauty contestants  
Beauty contests -- United States

Types of Materials:

Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints -- Silver gelatin -- 1940-1950

Names:

Sports, Entertainment and Leisure, Division of, NMAH, SI

---

## Container Listing

### Series 1: Miss America Competition, 1943

Box 1	Swimsuits
Box 1	Evening gowns
Box 1	Talent
Box 1	Finalists in ethnic costumes
Box 1	Runway walk
Box 1	Newly crowned
Box 1	Court of Honor

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 2: Miss America Reign, 1943-1944

Box 1                    New York, New York  
Box 1                    Bridgeport, Connecticut  
Box 2                    Boston, Massachusetts  
Box 2                    Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Box 2                    Washington, D.C.  
Box 2                    Richmond, Virginia  
Box 2                    Louisville, Kentucky  
Box 2                    Indianapolis, Indiana  
Box 2                    Ohio  
Box 2                    Buffalo, New York  
Box 2                    Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Box 2                    Saint Paul, Minnesota  
Box 2                    New Orleans, Louisiana  
Box 2                    Kansas City

[Image\(s\)](#)

Miss America with Kansas City Office Staff of / Lever Brothers Co. / Nov. 16, 1943 [in negative] [black and white photoprint], 1943  
*1 Item (8" x 10".)*

[Image\(s\): Miss America with Kansas City Office Staff of / Lever Brothers Co. / Nov. 16, 1943 \[in negative\] \[black and white photoprint\].](#)

Anderson, Photographer

Jean Bartel, Miss America 1943, during her reign; Anderson, photographer, based in Kansas City.

Unrestricted research use on site by appointment. Photographs must be handled with cotton gloves unless protected by sleeves.

Silver gelatin on paper.

Local Numbers

AC0902-0000001.tif (AC Scan)

In Box 1, Folder 39.

Names:                Bartel, Jean  
                              Lever Brothers Company

Topic: Beauty contestants  
Beauty contests -- United States  
Offices  
Women employees

Place: Kansas City (Mo.)  
Missouri -- 20th century

Genre/  
Form: Photographs -- 1940-1950 -- Black-and-white photoprints  
-- Silver gelatin

Box 2 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Box 2 Lincoln, Nebraska

Box 2 Salt Lake City, Utah

Box 2 Los Angeles, California

Box 2 Atlantic City, New Jersey

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*



### Series 3: Post Miss America, 1954, 1970, undated

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| Box 2 | Image from <i>Glamourama</i> , 1954 September 3  |
| Box 2 | Image from performance of <i>Sally</i> , Los Angeles Philharmonic Auditorium,<br>undated |
|       | Bartel with Yves Montand   |
| Box 2 | Wedding, Japan, 1970   |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)