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National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Lenora Slaughter Papers

NMAH.AC.1227

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Lenora Slaughter Papers
Date:	1935-1967
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1227
Creator:	Slaughter, Lenora, 1906-2001 (Creator)
Extent:	6 Cubic feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The collection consists of Lenora Slaughter's personal papers dating from 1935-2001. Materials primarily document her reign as director of the pageant, post-retirement activities, and other beauty pageants.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection purchased from David Slaughter, great nephew of Lenora Slaughter, in 2011.

Related Materials

Materials in the Archives Center

Miss America 1951 Papers (NMAH.AC.0888)

Jean Bartel Miss America 1943 Photographs (NMAH.AC.0902)

Processing Information

Collection processed by Sarah Gediman, intern, 2019; Julia Gibson, intern, 2019; Savannah Hildre, intern, 2019; Lauren Janik, intern, 2019; supervised by Vanessa Broussard- Simmons, archivist, 2019.

Preferred Citation

Archives Center, Lenora Slaughter Papers, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Scope and Contents

Collection documents Lenora Slaughter's reign as director of the Miss America pageant. It consists of official pageant materials, such as programs, photographs, internal memos, correspondence, manuals, scholarship information, newspaper clippings, publications, and a reel of film. There is a small amount of information relating to her private life and post-retirement activities. Materials relating to other pageants can also be found among these materials.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into five series.

Series 1, Personal Papers, 1936-1967, undated

Series 2, Professional Materials, 1935-1995, undated

Series 3, Miss America Pageant, 1945-1996, undated

Series 4, Photographs, 1951, undated

Series 5, Bradford Frapart Papers, 1954-1969

Container Listing

Series 1: Personal Papers, 1936-1996, undated

Scope and Contents: Consists primarily of materials relating to Slaughter's marriage in 1948 to Bradford Fradart. Such materials include a wedding album, photographs, and congratulatory cards. Other materials relate to her family and comprise of genealogical information, newspaper clippings, scrapbook, and a photograph of the family home. In addition, information about Slaughter's graduation from Hamilton College is found among these materials. The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 9, Folder 1	Scrapbook, 1936-1948
Box 11, Folder 1	Wedding album, 1948
Box 1, Folder 1	Wedding photographs, 1948
Box 1, Folder 2	Photographs of Slaughter family, 1954
Box 1, Folder 5	Hamilton College, graduation, 1958
Box 1, Folder 6	Famous Writers Magazine, 1967
Box 1, Folder 8	Bert Parks file, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Newspaper clippings relating to Slaughter family, undated
Box 1, Folder 7	Photograph of house, 66 Prospect Street, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Photograph of Leonard S. Slaughter and Bradford Fradart, undated
Box 1, Folder 4	William Homer Turner file, undated

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Series 2: Professional Materials, 1935-1995, undated

Scope and Contents: Documents Slaughter's professional activities. The series is divided into two subseries. Subseries 2.1 are materials recognizing her achievements and awards dating from 1946-1980. Subseries 2.2 is correspondence dating from 1935-1995.

Subseries 2.1: Recognition and Awards, 1946-1980, undated

Scope and Contents: Includes primarily awards recognizing Slaughter's work. Newspaper clippings and a biography provide context for her achievements. The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 1, Folder 16	Redbook Magazine, 1946
Box 1, Folder 11	Public Service Award program, 1960
Box 1, Folder 12	She-Shell Award, 1964
Box 1, Folder 14	American Women in Radio and Television, Incorporated, 1980
Box 1, Folder 13	Newspaper clippings, undated
Box 1, Folder 15	Biography, undated
Box 1, Folder 10	Awards, undated

Box 9, Folder 2 Scrapbook, This is Your Life, Lenora Slaughter, undated

Subseries 2.2: Correspondence, Telegrams and Greeting Cards, 1935-1995, undated

Scope and Contents: Includes both incoming and outgoing communication in the form of correspondence, memos and telegrams. Most deal with Slaughter's work as pageant director. There is communication with major corporations, such as Pepsi, Cadillac Motors, and Toni, whom she solicited as sponsors. Others are with dozens of Miss Americas, from both during and after her reign as director. Correspondence with political figures whose participation in publicity activities she sought, include Vice President Richard Nixon and Senator Barry Goldwater. There are a few greeting cards and a list of her contacts. The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 1, Folder 17	Correspondence, 1935-1948
Box 1, Folder 18	Scrapbook of correspondence from former Miss America contestants, 1938
Box 1, Folder 19	Greeting cards, 1949-1980
Box 1, Folder 20	Correspondence, 1951-1956
Box 1, Folder 21	Telegrams, 1959

Box 1, Folder 22	Correspondence, 1960-1967
Box 1, Folder 23	Correspondence, 1970-1979
Box 1, Folder 24	Correspondence, 1980-1995
Box 1, Folder 25	List of contacts, undated

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Series 3: Miss America Pageant, 1945-1996, undated

Scope and Contents: Documents the activities of the Miss America Pageant. The series is divided into three subseries. Subseries 3.1 is the programs of the pageants dating from 1961-1995. Subseries 3.2 includes office files dating from 1945-1996. Subseries 3.3 are books relating to the Miss America experience published from 1959-1992.

Subseries 3.1: Programs, 1961-1995

Scope and Contents: The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 1, Folder 26	Miss America Pageant, 1961
Box 1, Folder 27	Miss America Pageant, 1967
Box 1, Folder 28	Miss America Pageant, 1968
Box 2, Folder 1	Miss America Pageant, 1969
Box 2, Folder 2	Miss America Pageant, 1970
Box 2, Folder 3	Miss America Pageant, 1971
Box 2, Folder 4	Miss America Pageant, 1972
Box 2, Folder 5	Miss America Pageant, 1973
Box 2, Folder 6	Miss America Pageant, 1975
Box 2, Folder 7	Miss America Pageant, 1976
Box 2, Folder 8	Miss America Pageant, 1977
Box 2, Folder 9	Miss America Pageant, 1978
Box 2, Folder 10	Miss America Pageant, 1979
Box 2, Folder 11	Miss America Pageant, 1980
Box 2, Folder 12	Miss America Pageant, 1981
Box 2, Folder 13	Miss America Pageant, 1982
Box 2, Folder 14	Miss America Pageant, 1983
Box 2, Folder 15	Miss America Pageant, 1983
Box 2, Folder 16	Miss America Pageant, 1984

Box 2, Folder 17	Miss America Pageant, 1991
Box 3, Folder 1	Miss America Pageant, 1992
Box 3, Folder 2	Miss America Pageant, 1992
Box 3, Folder 3	Miss America Pageant, 1993
Box 3, Folder 4	Miss America Pageant, 1993
Box 3, Folder 5	Miss America Pageant Year in Review 1993, 1994
Box 3, Folder 6	Miss America Pageant Year in Review 1994, 1995

Subseries 3.2: Office Files, 1945-1996, undated

Scope and Contents: Consists of magazine articles, reports, state pageant directory, and contestant biographies documenting the pageant and public relations activities of the Miss Americas --most of which Miss Slaughter arranged and organized. Of special interest are pageant production manuals, such as a 1962 staging manual, a 1966 television production manual, a manual on "How to direct and produce a preliminary pageant," an official press guide, and the 1995 videotape Miss America "Beyond the Crown". In addition, Philco Television promoted the 1962 Miss American Pageant which is captured on 16mm black and white motion picture film. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 5, Folder 3	Forty year report of scholarship foundation, 1945
Box 10, Folder 1	Family dinner, 1959
Box 5, Folder 4	Staging manual, 1962
Box 5, Folder 5	The Magic of Miss America, program, 1962
Reel 1227.1	Philco television promotion, 1962 1 Film reel (16mm black and white silent and sound motion picture film, 350 ft. No reference copy available.) Language: English. Notes: The beginning of the film is silent documentation of the 1962 Miss Arizona Pageant and includes footage of the swimsuit and evening gown portion of the competition as well as the crowning of the new Miss Arizona. The second section of the film has sound and appears to be a Philco Television Promotional film highlighting Philco's involvement with the Miss America Pageant. Lenora Slaughter, the Miss America Pageant Executive Director, speaks about the partnership with Philco Television.
Box 5, Folder 6	The Miss America Girl, 1965
Box 5, Folder 7	Television program, 1966

Box 5, Folder 8	Report to committee, 1967
Box 5, Folder 9	Television program and production operations manual, 1967
Box 6, Folder 11	Campaign manual, 1967
Box 5, Folder 10	Who's Who in Pageants, 1979
Box 5, Folder 11	Directory, 1979
Box 5, Folder 12	Ladies Home Journal, 1980
Box 5, Folder 15	Contestant biographies, 1982
Box 5, Folder 16	Contestant biographies, 1984
Box 6, Folder 7	I'm Every Woman, 1996
Box 7, Folder 4	Scholarship foundation, undated
Box 7, Folder 3	Scholarship foundation, undated
Box 7, Folder 2	Twenty Years of Scholarships, publication, undated
Box 6, Folder 12	Official press guide, undated
Box 10, Folder 2	Ideal, publication, 1995
Box 6, Folder 10	Beyond the Crown, 1995 1 Videocassettes (VHS)

Subseries 3.3: Books, 1959-1992

Scope and Contents: Includes novels, instructional material, biographies of contestants, and the history of the Miss America pageant. The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 3, Folder 7	Miss America by Daniel Stern, 1959 Notes: A novel
Box 3, Folder 8	How to Win a Beauty Contest by Jacque Mercer, 1960
Box 3, Folder 9	How to Win a Beauty Contest by Jacque Mercer, 1960
Box 3, Folder 10	Look Your Best by Candy Jones, 1964
Box 4, Folder 1	Dear Vonda Kay by Vonda Kay Van Dyke, 1967
Box 4, Folder 2	There She Is: The Life and Times of Miss America by Frank Deford, 1971

Box 4, Folder 3	Miss America 1945: Bess Myerson's Own Story by Susan Dworkin, 1987
Box 4, Folder 4	The Compulsive Woman by Sandra Simpson LeSound, 1987
Box 5, Folder 1	Miss American In Pursuit of the Crown by Ann-Marie Bivans, 1991
Box 5, Folder 2	The Not-So-Compulsive Woman, Sandra Simpson LeSound, 1992

Subseries 3.4: Other Beauty Contests, 1959-1995, 1980-1996, undated

Scope and Contents: Consists of information relating to other beauty pageants including Miss Oklahoma, Miss Arkansas, Miss Arizona Pageant, Miss Michigan Scholarship Project, and the Eddie Corcoran Beauty Pageant. The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 5, Folder 13	Miss Oklahoma, 1980
Box 7, Folder 1	Who's Who in Pageants, 1980
Box 5, Folder 14	Miss Arkansas, 1981
Box 6, Folder 1	Miss Arizona, 1993
Box 6, Folder 2	Miss Michigan, scholarship project, 1993
Box 6, Folder 3	Miss Arizona, program, 1994
Box 6, Folder 4	Miss Arizona, newsletter, 1994
Box 6, Folder 5	Miss Michigan, scholarship program, 1994
Box 6, Folder 6	Miss Arizona, program, 1995
Box 6, Folder 8	Miss Arizona State University (ASU), scholarship project, 1996
Box 6, Folder 9	Eddie Corcoran Beauty Pageant, undated
Box 10, Folder 4	Miss Texas, magazine, undated

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Series 5: Photographs, 1951, undated

Scope and Contents: Includes both personal and work-related photograph albums, snapshots and photographs. Personal photographs primarily document travel, including camping in a travel trailer; Christmas parties and birthday celebrations and retirement. Many photographs include political figures; for example, there is one of her with President and Mrs. George Bush. Several hundred official photographs document both the pageants held in Atlantic City but also the subsequent publicity activities in which Miss Americas engaged during their year-long reigns. Most of the photographs are in black and white, and are all captioned on the back by Miss Slaughter. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 7, Folder 10	Album, 1951
Box 7, Folder 5	Album, undated
Box 7, Folder 6	Album, undated
Box 7, Folder 7	Album, undated Image(s): Photograph album
Box 7, Folder 8	Album, undated
Box 7, Folder 9	Miss America Pageant, undated
Box 7, Folder 11	Friends, undated
Box 8, Folder 1	Album, undated
Box 8, Folder 2	Album, undated
Box 8, Folder 3	Album, undated
Box 8, Folder 4	Album, undated
Box 8, Folder 5	Album, undated
Box 10, Folder 5	Slaughter and contestants, undated
Box 7, Folder 14	Photographs, undated
Box 7, Folder 15	Unidentified photograph, undated
Box 10, Folder 6	Unidentified photograph, undated
Box 7, Folder 16	Slaughter with other people, undated

Box 7, Folder 17

Colonial Costumes Ball, Hundred CWB Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania?,
undated

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Series 6: Bradford Frapart Papers, 1954-1969

Scope and Contents: Consists of the personal papers of Slaughter's husband. The papers include honorary memberships and awards, and a notary license. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 7, Folder 12 Honorary memberships, 1954

Box 10, Folder 8 Honorary citizen certificate, 1962

Box 10, Folder 7 Banana Festival certificate, 1964

Box 7, Folder 13 Notary license, 1969

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