# Table of Contents

Collection Overview........................................................................................................1
Administrative Information .........................................................................................1
Descriptive Entry.........................................................................................................1
Names and Subject Terms ..........................................................................................2
Container Listing.......................................................................................................3
Collection Overview

Repository: Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Creator: Smithsonian Enterprises
Title: Smithsonian Channel Records
Dates: 1997-2010
Quantity: 5 cu. ft. (5 record storage boxes)

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation
Smithsonian Institution Archives, Accession 14-134, Smithsonian Enterprises, Smithsonian Channel Records

Use Restriction
Restricted for 25 years. Boxes 1-3 contain materials restricted indefinitely; see finding aid, until Jan-01-2036; Transferring office; 03/28/2014 memorandum, Toda to Kennard; Contact reference staff for details.

Descriptive Entry

Created in 2006, Smithsonian On Demand was a partnership between Showtime Networks and the Smithsonian Institution to develop, launch, and operate a Smithsonian video programming channel. The partnership’s purpose was to widen and extend the reach of the Smithsonian through unique and original programs that utilized Smithsonian collections, exhibitions, and research. In the partnership, Showtime was the funding and managing partner, while the Smithsonian would provide the content and production assistance. Under the umbrella of Smithsonian Networks, Smithsonian On Demand became Smithsonian Channel in 2007.

This accession consists of records that document the development, creation, and implementation of the Smithsonian Channel. There are records related to the various partnerships the Smithsonian was looking into before going with Showtime Networks. Some of these partnerships included Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and the Starz Encore Entertainment. Also included are records related to the development of programming for the channel as well as records related to the controversy about the Smithsonian and Showtime partnership. People of note in the accession include Gary Beer, CEO, Smithsonian Business Ventures and Secretary Lawrence M. Small. Some records were created when Smithsonian Enterprises was known as Smithsonian Business Ventures.

Materials include correspondence, memoranda, reports, presentations, meeting notes and minutes, contracts, agreements, financial records, program proposals, program reviews, press releases, and clippings. Some materials are in electronic format.
Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
Museums -- Educational aspects.
Museums -- Public relations.
Television programs

Types of Materials:
Clippings
Compact discs
Electronic records
Manuscripts

Names:
Beer, Gary
Public Broadcasting Service (U.S.)
Showtime Networks
Small, Lawrence M.
Smithsonian Business Ventures
Smithsonian Channel
Smithsonian Institution
Smithsonian Networks (Firm)
Smithsonian On Demand
Starz Encore Entertainment (Firm)
Container Listing

Box 1

History

Showtime - Idea bank, 1997
Showtime - Idea Bank, 1998 (2 folders)
Board of Regents - Meetings related to Smithsonian Business Ventures, 1998-2006
SVOD - Miscellaneous programs before SVOD, 1999-2006
Smithsonian Channel - General correspondence, 2000-2002
PBS/WETA partnership, 2000-2006 (3 folders)
RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating
RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating
Media assets audit, 2001-2005 (2 folders)
SVOD - Informational booklet, 2001-2006
Smithsonian Channel - Starz Encore Group - Meeting, September 10, 2002
NBC meeting, September 30, 2002
Smithsonian Channel prospect list, 2002
SVOD - Gary Beer notes, 2002
Smithsonian Channel - Projected financials, 2002
Smithsonian Channel - NBC, 2002
Rights/Clearances, 2002
SVOD - Financials, 2002
Smithsonian Channel - Prospect letters, 2002
Smithsonian Channel - Prospect list, 2002
Smithsonian Live Project, 2002
Smithsonian Channel - Starz Encore Group correspondence, 2002-2003
RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating
SVOD - Starz meeting, February 13, 2003
SVOD - Board of Regents report, April 16, 2003
Box 2

RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating

Waller Capital Corporation - Smithsonian presentation, August 2003

Smithsonian Channel - Business plan, 2003 (includes electronic records)

RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating

Starz Encore Group - General, 2003 (2 folders)

Smithsonian Video on Demand (SVOD) - Background, 2003-2005

RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating

SVOD - Board of Regents communications, 2003-2005

Showtime meeting - New York, January 14, 2004

Showtime meeting - New York, December 15, 2004

RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating

Showtime Networks - General, 2004-2005 (3 folders)

RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating

Showtime conference call, March 11, 2005

RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating

Showtime meeting - New York, June 22, 2005

SVOD - Comcast study, June/August 2005

Media audit summary, August 26, 2005

Showtime meeting in New York, September 13, 2005

Larry Small/Sheila Burke VOD meeting, September 16, 2005

Showtime VOD venture overview - Larry M. Small - Regents meeting, September 19, 2005

Showtime meeting - New York, November 7, 2005

SI Senior Officers meeting on Showtime Joint Venture (JV), November 21, 2005

Meeting with Dave Evans on Showtime Video on Demand (VOD), November 22, 2005

Sheila Burke/Ned Rifkin - Showtime meeting, December 19, 2005

Showtime Networks/VOD - Internal summary memo, 2005
Showtime - Trademark materials, 2005

Box 3

RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating

Correspondence - Yahoo, 2005

Google presentation, 2005

Media audits, 2005

RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating

SVOD - Transition, 2005-2006

SVOD - Implementation, 2005-2006

SVOD - Internal Smithsonian correspondence and memoranda, 2005-2006

SI/Showtime joint venture meeting - Next steps, January 6, 2006

Smithsonian tour - Showtime Networks (SNI), April 24-25, 2006

Regents Pre-meeting on SVOD, May 4, 2006

SVOD - Board of Regents briefing, May 8, 2006

Programming meeting - Secretary Small, July 7, 2006

SVOD - Programming category research - Debriefing presentation, September 21, 2006

SVOD committee - Report to Secretary's extended staff meeting, October 31, 2006

RESTRICTED FOLDER - Non-Circulating

Smithsonian Networks - Logo drafts

Smithsonian Networks - Logo approval, 2006

SVOD internal fees/revenue sharing, 2006

SVOD - Press releases (pre-controversy), 2006

SVOD - Congressional hearings, 2006

SVOD - Letters of opposition, 2006

SVOD - Clarification of language, 2006

SVOD - Levick Strategic Communications, 2006

SVOD - Covington & Burling, 2006

Clippings - SVOD controversy, 2006
Government Accountability Office (GAO) request, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Programs development report, 2006
SVOD - Sponsorships, 2006
Meetings, 2006
SVOD - Information meetings, 2006
Smithsonian Networks presentation, 2006
Smithsonian Networks marketing, 2006
SVOD - Update meeting, June 8, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Correspondence and general information, 2007
Smithsonian Channel - Management committee meeting, June 30, 2010
Smithsonian Channel - Overview booklet, 2010
Notebooks
  Programming
  Program ideas, 2000, 2005-2006 (2 folders)
  SVOD - Mission critical submissions, August 2006
  Program treatments, 2006
  Programs - One-offs, exceptions, 2006
  Externally generated submissions, 2006
  Internally generated submissions, 2006
  Program - Hunt for the Double Eagle, 2006
  Program - American Treasures, 2006
  Programs - National Zoological Park, 2006
  Program - Green, 2009
  Program - Women in Science - Marketing plan, March 2010
  Smithsonian Channel programs, 2010

Box 4

Smithsonian Networks - Mission Critical proposals, 2010
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 2 to 30, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 31 to 60, 2006-2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 61 to 90, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 91 to 120, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 121 to 140, 2007-2008
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 141 to 160, 2008
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 161 to 180, 2008
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 181 to 210, 2008
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 221 to 230, 2008
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 231 to 250, 2008
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 251 to 280, 2008-2009
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 281 to 300, 2009
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 301 to 320, 2009
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 321 to 360, 2009-2010
Smithsonian Networks - Program reviews - 361 to 400, 2010
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - California by Air, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program idea - Barcoding of Life
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Armor in the Attic, episode 1, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Armor in the Attic, episode 2, 2006-2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Armor in the Attic, episode 3, 2007

Box 5

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - America's Treasures, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - American Festivals, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - America: Wild and Wacky, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - America: Wild and Wacky, episode 2, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - America: Wild and Wacky, episode 3, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - America's Greatest Monuments, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - America's Hangar, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Airbus vs. Boeing, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - All Dolled up, episode 1, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - All Dolled up, episode 2, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Oasis Earth, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Pandas in the Wild, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - In Search of Santa Claus: The True Story, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Sound Revolution: Blues, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Sound Revolution: Jazz, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Sound Revolution: Soul, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Wanda Jackson, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Wanted: Anaconda, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Yellowstone National Park, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Nature Tech: Magic of Motion, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Nick Baker's Weirdest Creatures: Vampire Fish, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Nick Baker's Weirdest Creatures: Basking Shark, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Nick Baker's Weirdest Creatures: Star Nose Mole, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Nick Baker's Weirdest Creatures: Saggy Skinned Frog, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Nick Baker's Weirdest Creatures: Pink Fair Armadillos, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Nick Baker's Weirdest Creatures: Croc from Mars, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - The Lost Gods: Romans, Greeks, and Egyptians, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - The Lost Gods: Mayans, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - The Lost Gods: Celts, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - The Lost Gods: Incas, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Mysteries, Myths, and Legends, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - True Story of Mary Celeste, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Light at the Edge of the World: Polynesia, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Light at the Edge of the World: Peru, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Light at the Edge of the World: Himalayas, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Light at the Edge of the World: Arctic, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Journeys in the Air: West Coast of Ireland, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Journeys in the Air: Italy, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Journeys in the Air: South of France, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Journeys in the Air: Southern England, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Men Who Brought the Dawn, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Batwomen of Panama, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Cutting Loose, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Dream Windows, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Flying with Condors, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Fortress Britain (Castles), 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Ghosts of Duffy's Cut, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Goodwood, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Golden Age of Zeppelins, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Zoo babies, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - When Pigs Fly, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - World's Finest Cars, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - World's Smallest Airplanes, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Unbelievable Flying Objects, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Uncle John's Band, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Vampire Princess, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Vietnam Memorial, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Tiger Tales, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Timewatch: D-Day, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Timewatch: Egypt, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Street Monkeys: Internal Affairs, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Supercars, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Stories from the Vaults: Famous Donors, Episode 1, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Stories from the Vaults: Superlatives, Episode 2, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Stories from the Vaults: There's No Place Like Home, Episode 3, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Stories from the Vaults: Beauty, Episode 4, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Stories from the Vaults: Firsts, Episode 5, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Stories from the Vaults: Life After Death, Episode 6, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Stories from the Vaults: Random?, Episode 7, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Stealth, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Smithsonian Spotlight, Episode 1, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Smithsonian Spotlight, Episode 2, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Smithsonian's Weirdest, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Saving Treasures, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Smithsonian Coin Legends, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Lansdowne, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Legend of the Big Blue, 2007
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Loose at the Zoo: Golden Lion Tamarins, 2006

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Mummy Mysteries: Battlefield of Bones, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Mummy Mysteries: Roman Skull, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Mummy Mysteries: Bog Bodies, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Mummy Mysteries: Child Mummies, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Hindenburg, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Hoover Racers, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Hunt for the Double Eagle, 2006

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Day of the Kamikaze, 2006

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Designer Dogs, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Electric Guitar, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Eyewitness Kamikaze, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Ghost Cat: Saving the Clouded Leopard, 2006

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Gun Room, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Critter Quest, Episode 1, 2006

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Critter Quest, Episode 2, 2006

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Critter Quest, Episode 3, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Christianity Decoded, Flesh and Blood, Episode 1, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Christianity Decoded, Damned or Saved, Episode 2, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Christianity Decoded, Angels, Episode 3, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Christianity Decoded, Sign and Symbols, Episode 4, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Christianity Decoded, Miracles, Episode 5, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Christianity Decoded, Emotion and Reason, Episode 6, 2006
Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Carrier at War, 2007

Smithsonian Networks - Program review - Bombs, Bullets, and Fraud, 2006