

# **Juried and Invitational Exhibitions Records**

**Finding aid prepared by Andrew J. Kaplan and Emily Rafferty**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Archives and Manuscripts Collections, The Baltimore Museum of Art  
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## Table of Contents

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<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Scope and Contents</u> .....	4
<u>Arrangement</u> .....	4
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	5
<u>Related Materials</u> .....	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	6
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	8
<u>Maryland and Regional Artists Exhibitions</u> .....	8
<u>Other Exhibitions</u> .....	13
<u>Artists Committee</u> .....	17

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Archives and Manuscripts Collections, The Baltimore Museum of Art
<b>Creator</b>	Baltimore Museum of Art
<b>Title</b>	Juried and Invitational Exhibitions Records
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1936-1999
<b>Extent</b>	15.9 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>The Juried and Invitational Exhibitions Records were generated by staff and volunteers of the Baltimore Museum of Art in the process of planning and hosting exhibitions of the work of local and regional artists from 1936 to 1999. These records include correspondence, registration forms, lists of applicants, loan forms, meeting minutes, and catalogs. They contain a wealth of information about artists from Maryland, Washington, D.C., Delaware and other states in the mid-Atlantic region, as well as the BMA's Artists Committee and external organizations such as the Artists' Union of Baltimore, the Baltimore Water Color Club, and Artists' Equity Association.</p>

### Preferred Citation

Juried and Invitational Exhibitions Records, Archives and Manuscripts Collections, The Baltimore Museum of Art

## Scope and Contents

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The Juried and Invitational Exhibitions Records were generated by staff and volunteers of the Baltimore Museum of Art in the process of planning and hosting exhibitions of the work of local and regional artists from 1936 to 1999. These records include correspondence, registration forms, lists of applicants, loan forms, meeting minutes, and catalogs. They contain a wealth of information about artists from Maryland, Washington, D.C., Delaware and other states in the Mid-Atlantic region, as well as the BMA's Artists Committee and external organizations such as the Artists' Union of Baltimore, the Baltimore Water Color Club, and Artists' Equity Association.

Since the BMA's Inaugural Exhibition in 1923, the museum has served an important function in offering opportunities for local and regional artists to exhibit their work. In 1933 the BMA held the *First Annual Exhibition of Maryland Painters, Sculptors and Printmakers*. Organized and hosted by the BMA until 1992, the name of the exhibition and its rules for entry shifted over the years from annual to biennial, from juried to invitational, and from Maryland-only to artists from the region and back again. Records of these events (including registration cards, catalogs, news coverage, and slides of the work of multimedia artists Lisa Lewenz and Peter Gates) are collected in Series 1: Maryland and Regional Artists Exhibitions. The records of this series date from 1936 to 1992.

The second series in this record group contains material from BMA exhibitions of the work of members of the Baltimore Water Color Club, the Baltimore Camera Club, the Artists' Union of Baltimore, and similar organizations. In general, because the BMA did not organize these exhibitions, the materials in the series relate to logistics of bringing works of art in and out of the building and communicating with the organization responsible for planning. The records date from 1939 to 1999.

The third series contains records of the Artists Committee, a group made up of members of local arts organizations that managed applications for One Man Show competitions held at the BMA. Artists Committee files related to the One Man Show competitions, Committee administration, and compilations of biographical information about local artists (including correspondence, applications, and meeting minutes) are collected here. They date from 1937 to 1973.

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## Arrangement

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The collection is arranged into three series. 1) Maryland and Regional Artists Exhibitions; 2) Other Exhibitions; 3) Artists Committee. More detailed arrangement information can be found at the series level.

## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Archives and Manuscripts Collections, The Baltimore Museum of Art 2013, 2015

### **Revision Description**

The finding aid was updated to reflect detailed processing and additional material incorporated into the records group. 2015

### **Restrictions on Access**

The collection is open for research. Please call the Library for an appointment.

### **Ownership and Copyright**

The materials are the physical property of the Archives and Manuscripts Collections, The Baltimore Museum of Art. Copyright, except in cases where material has passed into the public domain, belongs to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. The Juried and Invitational Exhibitions Records are closed to outside researchers for 25 years from the date of creation unless otherwise indicated in the Archives Access Policy. For further information, consult a Library staff member.

### **Provenance**

The majority of the records in this group were transferred from the Registration Department in 2009. A smaller group of exhibition records was transferred in 2015. Further records related to the Artists Committee (minutes, correspondence, membership lists, and biographical information about local artists) were found in the Library and Archives in 2014.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Andrew J. Kaplan in 2013 using the More Product, Less Process methodology. The record group was further processed to the file level by Emily Rafferty in 2015.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Location of Associated Material**

## Baltimore Museum of Art Records

- 1 Publications Collection
- 2 Board of Trustees Records, Henry E. Treide series
- 3 Exhibitions Photographs Collection

## Separated Materials

Fragile original documents, particularly those on brittle paper used in the 1940s and newspaper clippings have been photocopied for preservation purposes. Originals have been retained and are stored in a separate folder with the exception of newspaper clippings that are not annotated and are from widely available newspapers such as *The Baltimore Sun*.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Personal Name(s)

- Bahr, Florence Riefle
- Coale, Donald
- Cooke, Betty, 1924-
- Gates, Peter
- Ghize, Eleanor de
- Glushakow, Jacob
- Jones, Lois Mailou
- Lewenz, Lisa
- Louis, Morris, 1912-1962
- Parkhurst, Charles
- Puryear, Martin L.
- Sopher, Aaron, 1905-1972
- Taylor, Prentiss, 1907-1991
- Thomas, Alma
- Truitt, Anne

### Subject(s)

- Art museums -- Exhibitions
- Artists -- Delaware
- Artists -- Maryland

- Artists -- Washington, D.C.
- Baltimore Museum of Art
- Painting, American
- Photography, Artistic
- Prints, American
- Sculpture
- Watercolor painting

## Collection Inventory

**Maryland and Regional Artists Exhibitions. 1936-1992. 8.5 Linear feet (16 boxes, 1 oversize box, 6 card boxes)**

### Scope and Contents

In 1933, the BMA hosted the *First Annual Exhibition of Maryland Painters, Sculptors and Printmakers*. From then until 1992, the BMA hosted this exhibition under different names, including the Annual Exhibition of Maryland Artists, The Maryland Biennial Exhibition, and the Maryland Invitational. The 1952 exhibition was the first to include artists from Washington, D.C. In 1953, the BMA hosted the First Regional Exhibition: Maryland, Delaware and Washington, D.C. This became a biennial event, alternating years with the Maryland-only exhibitions. The Maryland and Regional exhibitions were juried events, with guest artists, directors, and curators serving as jurors, among them Yasuo Kuniyoshi, Max Weber, Mary Callery, George Rickey, Chaim Gross, Richard Tuttle, and Betty Parsons. After problems with finding adequate space became too difficult to handle, an invitational exhibition model began in 1968. In addition to featuring many of Baltimore's best-known artists of the twentieth century (Aaron Sopher, Reuben Kramer, Grace Turnbull, Jacob Glushakow, Betty Cooke, Herman Maril, and Amalie Rothschild), the exhibitions also included the work of Washington Color School painters (Morris Louis, Kenneth Noland, Tom Downing, Anne Truitt, Leon Berkowitz, and James Hilleary) and artists associated with the Harlem Renaissance (Lois Mailou Jones and Prentiss Taylor). Of note as well are the now well-known artists whose work was rejected, such as Alma Thomas, who entered several times in the 1950s before her work had begun to receive recognition. The materials collected here span the dates 1936 to 1992. Records for the first, second, and third exhibitions (1933-1935) have not been located.

This series contains materials such as registration cards, catalogs, applications lists, correspondence between organizers, artists, and jurors, and newspaper articles related to the exhibitions. Registration cards and applications lists provide name and address information about artists who submitted their work for exhibition as well as details about works of art that were entered. This series also includes reproductions and slides of the work of multimedia artists Lisa Lewenz and Peter Gates and a newspaper article about their contributions to the exhibitions. The material available for each exhibition varies



## Maryland and Regional Artists Exhibitions.

greatly. For example, correspondence before 1952 often includes letters to and from potential jurors, positive and negative reviews of the exhibitions, letters to and from artists about prizes, and other noteworthy material. In 1953 and 1954, the correspondence consists mainly of logistical letters relating to picking up or dropping off rejected submissions. The records for 1936 and 1937 consist only of a list of submitted works with notes about which were accepted or rejected and release signatures from the artist. The records for 1962 and 1963 have only very limited correspondence with artists, mainly regarding pickup of entries from the Museum. Additionally, files for the *Ninth Annual Exhibition of Maryland Artists* include material related to the March 7-23, 1941 exhibition, *Paintings by the Jury for the 1941 Maryland Artists' Show*.

### Arrangement

Registration cards (1947-1985) are stored in boxes R1 to R6. Other exhibition records including correspondence and applications lists are stored in boxes 1 to 16 with a small amount of oversize material in box 21.

The records are arranged chronologically. Where correspondence or other materials were clipped to registration cards, they were removed, unfolded, and filed with the non-card material.

### Box

*Fourth Annual Exhibition of Paintings and Sculpture and the First Annual Exhibition of Drawings and Prints by Maryland Artists* (1936). 1936.

1

*Fifth Annual Exhibition of Paintings and Sculpture and Second Annual Exhibition of Drawings and Prints by Maryland Artists* (1937). 1937.

1

*Sixth Annual Exhibition of Maryland Artists* (1938). 1938.

1

*Maryland Artists Traveling Show* (1938). 1938 Nov.

1

*Seventh Annual Maryland Artists* (1939). 1939.

1

## Maryland and Regional Artists Exhibitions.

<i>Eighth Annual Exhibition by Maryland Artists (1940). 1939-1940.</i>	1, 2
<i>Ninth Annual Exhibition of Maryland Artists (1941). 1940-1941.</i>	2
<i>Tenth Annual All-Maryland Show (1942). 1941-1942.</i>	2
<i>Eleventh Annual All-Maryland Show (1943). 1942-1943.</i>	2, 3
<i>Twelfth Annual Maryland Artists (1944). 1943-1944.</i>	3
<i>Thirteenth Annual Maryland Artists (1945). 1945.</i>	3
<i>Fourteenth Annual Maryland Artists (1946). 1945-1946.</i>	3
<i>Fifteenth Annual Maryland Artists (1947). 1946-1947.</i>	4, R1
<i>Sixteenth Annual, Maryland Artists (1948). 1947-1948.</i>	4, R1
<i>Seventeenth Annual, Maryland Artists (1949). 1948-1949.</i>	4, R2
<i>Eighteenth Annual Maryland Artists (1950). 1950-1951.</i>	4, 5, R2
<i>Nineteenth Annual Maryland Artists (1951). 1950-1951.</i>	5, R2
<i>Maryland Crafts (1952). circa 1952.</i>	5
<i>Maryland Artists Twentieth Annual Exhibition (1952). circa 1952.</i>	5, R3

## Maryland and Regional Artists Exhibitions.

<i>Maryland Crafts</i> (1953). circa 1953.	5
<i>Regional Artists Show</i> (1953). circa 1953.	5, R3
<i>Maryland Artists Annual</i> (1954). circa 1954.	6, R4
<i>Maryland Crafts</i> (1954). 1954.	6
<i>Regional Artists Exhibition</i> (1955). 1955, 1961.	6, R4
<i>Maryland Artists Exhibition</i> (1956). 1955-1956.	6, R4
<i>Regional Exhibition</i> (1957). 1956-1957.	6, 7, 21, R4
<i>Maryland Artists Exhibition</i> (1958). 1956-1958.	7, 21
<i>Maryland Regional Annual Exhibition</i> (1959). 1958-1959.	7
<i>Maryland Artists 28th Annual</i> (1960). 1960.	8
<i>Maryland Regional, 29th Annual</i> (1961). 1960-1961.	8
<i>Thirtieth Maryland Artists Exhibition</i> (1962). 1962.	8
<i>Maryland Regional, 31st Annual</i> (1963). 1963.	8-9
<i>Maryland Artists Exhibition</i> (1964). 1963-1964.	9, 21

## Maryland and Regional Artists Exhibitions.

<i>Maryland Regional Exhibition (1965). 1964-1965.</i>	9
<i>Maryland Artists (1966). 1965-1966, 1974.</i>	10
<i>Maryland Regional (1967). 1966-1967, 1974.</i>	10
<i>Maryland Artists Invitational (1968). 1963, 1968-1971, 1977.</i>	11, 21
<i>Maryland Regional (1969). 1968-1969, 1971.</i>	11
<i>Maryland Annual (1970). 1969-1971.</i>	11
<i>Maryland Annual, 1971. 1971-1972.</i>	12
<i>Maryland Annual, 1972. 1972.</i>	12, 13, 21, R5
<i>Maryland Biennial Exhibition (1974). 1974.</i>	13, 21
<i>Maryland Biennial (1976). 1976-1977.</i>	13
<i>Maryland Biennial Exhibition (1978). 1978-1979.</i>	14
<i>Maryland Biennial, 1980. 1980-1981.</i>	14
<i>Maryland Biennial 1983: Works on Paper. 1983.</i>	15, R5
<i>Maryland Biennial 1985: Painting and Sculpture. 1985-1986.</i>	15, R6

**Other Exhibitions.**

<i>Maryland Invitational 1988.</i> 1988.	15
<i>Maryland Invitational 1989.</i> 1988-1989.	16
<i>Maryland Invitational 1990.</i> 1989-1990.	16
<i>Maryland by Invitation: Jeff Gates and Lisa Lewenz</i> (1992). 1991-1992.	16

**Other Exhibitions. 1939-1999. 0.6 Linear feet (2 boxes, 1 oversize box, 2 card boxes, 1 flat file)****Scope and Contents**

This series contains records of exhibitions held at the BMA, but sponsored and organized by local artists' organizations like the Baltimore Camera Club, the Baltimore Water Color Club, and the Artists' Union of Baltimore, all of which held exhibitions of their members' work at the BMA between 1949 and 1999. Records of these events, including registration cards, correspondence, and promotional materials, are included here.

Exhibitions of the work of members of the Baltimore Water Color Club were held at the BMA from 1925 to 1942 and then again from 1949 to 1961. Records in this group make up the majority of the series and begin with 1940; the location or existence of any earlier records is unknown. Members of the club included artists from around the United States including John Taylor Arms, Saul Raskin, Andrew Wyeth, and Charles Burchfield. The records include publications, correspondence with club leadership, lists of entries, and publicity.

The files related to the Artists' Union exhibitions are limited and contain mainly lists of exhibition entries with notations about when works were picked up, prices, and which works were rejected.

This series also includes correspondence and registration records from the 1959 Ford Foundation Program for Visual Artists, the second year of a juried competition for grants to individual artists, purchase prizes, and retrospective exhibitions. The BMA was the collection center for region 3 (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia).

**Other Exhibitions.**

Records in this group include correspondence between the Ford Foundation staff and BMA staff, condition reports, registration cards, loan forms, lists of artists, and a Ford Foundation press release.

Also of note are the files for the photography salons in 1938, 1940, 1942, 1944-1945, and 1964. These exhibitions were organized by the Baltimore Camera Club and began with the *First All Baltimore Salon of Photography* in 1936. The success of this exhibition along with that of the earlier *U.S. Camera Salon, 1935*, spurred the organization of the even more ambitious *First Baltimore International Salon of Photography* in 1938. Records for this exhibition include correspondence, lists of photographers and jurors, receipts, lists of expenses, and publications. The salons continued until 1964, varying in frequency from annual to biennial. Records for the 1936 salon and those between 1945 and 1964 have not been located.

**Arrangement**

Arranged chronologically, with exhibitions separated by folder. Registration cards for some exhibitions are stored in boxes R3 and R4. One oversize item is stored in a flat folder (F1)

**Location of Associated Material**

For more information about the *First Baltimore International Salon of Photography* (1938), see also Henry E. Triede's correspondence in the Board of Trustees Records.

**Box**

*Baltimore Water Color Club* (1940). 1939-1940.

17

*Forty-Fourth Annual, Baltimore Water Color Club* (1942). 1940-1942.

17

*Baltimore National Water Color Exhibition, 1949*. 1948-1949.

17

*Baltimore Water Color Club* (1951). 1950-1951.

17

*Baltimore Water Color Club Annual* (1952). 1952.

17

## Other Exhibitions.

<i>Baltimore Water Color Club Exhibition, 1953.</i> 1953.	17, R3
<i>Baltimore Water Color Club Annual</i> (1954). 1954, 1961.	17
<i>Baltimore Water Color Club Annual Exhibition</i> (1955). 1955.	17, R4
<i>Baltimore Water Color Club</i> (1956). 1956.	17
<i>Baltimore Water Color Club Exhibition</i> (1957). 1957.	17
<i>Baltimore Water Color Club</i> (1958). 1958.	17, 21
<i>Baltimore Water Color Club</i> (1959). 1959.	17, 21
<i>Baltimore Water Color Club Exhibition</i> (1960). 1960.	17, 21
<i>Baltimore Water Color Club Exhibition</i> (1961). 1961-1962.	17
<i>Artists' Union Exhibition</i> (1939). 1939.	17
<i>Artists' Union of Baltimore</i> (1940). 1940.	17
<i>Artists' Union of Baltimore</i> (1941). 1941.	17
<i>Posters by Artists' Union Civil Defense Project</i> (1942). 1942.	17
<i>Seventh Annual, Artists' Union of Baltimore</i> (1942). 1942.	17

## Other Exhibitions.

<i>Baltimore Artists' Union (1950). 1950.</i>	17
<i>Exhibition of Work by Members of the Artists' Union (1951). 1951.</i>	17
<i>Artists' Union Annual (1952). 1952.</i>	17
<i>Artists' Union Annual Exhibition (1953). 1953.</i>	17
<i>Annual Artists' Union Exhibition (1954). 1954.</i>	17
<i>Artists Union of Baltimore (1955). 1955.</i>	17
<i>Baltimore Owned Paintings by Equity Artists (1950). 1950.</i>	17
<i>Artists' Equity Association (1952). 1952.</i>	17
<i>Artists' Equity Annual Exhibition (1953). 1953.</i>	17
<i>Ford Foundation Program for Visual Artists (1959). 1959-1960.</i>	17, R4
<i>Artists-In-Residence (1999). 1999.</i>	17
<i>First Baltimore International Salon of Photography (1938). 1938 Jan-Nov.</i>	18, 21
<i>International Salon of Photography-1941. 1940 Jan-Jun.</i>	18
<i>Photographic Society of America, 1942 International. 1941-1942.</i>	18



**Artists Committee.**

*Baltimore International Salon of Photography* (1944). 1943-1944. 18

*Photographic Salon* (1945). 1945-1946. 18

*Baltimore International Salon of Photography* (1964). 1963-1964. 18

*Artists' Guild of Washington* (1944). 1944.

	<b>Box</b>
Mixed materials	18, 21
	<b>Oversize</b>
Mixed materials	F1

**Artists Committee. circa 1937-1973. 1.6 Linear feet (3 boxes, 1 oversize box)**

### Scope and Contents

In 1937, under the leadership of BMA Board President Henry Treide, members of various local arts organizations were gathered to form a committee dedicated to informing the BMA's activities related to local artists. The Committee on Local Art (the group that would eventually be known as the Artists Committee) went by various names: Jury on Local Art, Artists Committee, and Artists' Advisory Committee. Despite the name changes, the function was the same: representatives of local arts groups met with representatives from the BMA to help guide exhibitions and programming with an eye toward promoting the work of local artists.

The Artists Committee managed applications for annual One Man Show competitions held at the BMA and after review, made recommendations of exhibition-worthy artists to the BMA's staff. Making up the majority of this series, Artists Committee files related to the One Man Shows are collected here and include correspondence, applications, and rules of entry. They date from 1949 to 1972. Application lists include names and addresses of artists, as well as titles and brief descriptions of their works. Letters from artists sometimes include curricula vitae and statements about their work.

## One-Man Shows

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The Administration files included in this series outline how the Committee functioned through records such as bylaws, meeting agendas and minutes, reports, correspondence to members, membership lists, and other files created by members of the Committee.

In addition to the One Man Shows, several notable files of biographical information on local artists are included in this group, in particular Who's Who in Maryland Art. This documentation was assembled as a result one of the first projects of the Committee on Local Art, a letter sent to the mailing lists of numerous local arts organizations on September 14, 1937 requesting that artists fill out a questionnaire and submit photographs of their work to be kept on file in the Museum. The questionnaire requested information about where artists studied and with whom, prizes or scholarships won, exhibitions, works in public buildings or collections, "one man shows," portraits executed, and memberships. In the early 1940s, a second questionnaire was sent to local artists requesting information about exhibitions, awards, collections their work was represented in, and if and how they were participating in the war effort. This material, the Maryland Artists Questionnaire, generally provides less detail about the scope of each artist's practice, but is notable for its insight into the work of Maryland's artists during World War II.

### One-Man Shows

#### Box

One-Man Show Applications. 1949.

19

One-Man Show Applications. 1950.

19

One-Man Show Applications. 1951.

19

One-Man Show Applications. 1952.

19, 21

One-Man Show Applications. 1953.

19

One-Man Show Applications. 1954.

19

## One-Man Shows

One-Man Show Applications. 1955.	19, 21
One-Man Show Applications. 1956.	19, 21
One-Man Show Applications. 1957.	19, 21
One-Man Show Applications. 1958.	19
One-Man Show Applications. 1959.	19
One-Man Show Applications. 1960.	19
<i>Three One-Man Shows: Jack Davis, Allyn Harris, Edward Rosenfeld. 1960-1961.</i>	19
One-Man Show Applications. 1961.	19
<i>Three One-Man Shows: Mimi Dubois Bolton, Leonard J. Skorko, Frieda Sohn. 1961.</i>	19
One-Man Show Applications. 1962.	19
One-Man Show Applications. 1963.	19
One-Man Show Applications. 1964.	19
<i>Three One-Man Shows: Harry Irving Gates, Ragnheidur Jonsdottir, John Blair Mitchell. 1964-1965.</i>	20

## Administration

<i>Minda Hess. 1964-1965.</i>	20
One-Man Show Applications. 1965.	20, 21
<i>May Wilson. 1965.</i>	20
<i>Three One-Man Shows: Joan Erbe, Peter Milton Winslow, Edward Loper. 1965.</i>	20
<i>Reuben Kramer: Sculpture and Drawing. 1966.</i>	20
<i>Minda Hess: Painting and Assemblage. 1966.</i>	20
<i>Keith Martin: Painting, Collage and Drawing. 1966.</i>	20
One-Man Show Applications. 1967.	20, 21
One-Man Show Applications. 1968.	20, 21
One-Man Show Applications. 1969.	20, 21
One-Man Show Applications. 1970.	20, 21
One-Man Show Inquiries. 1970-1971.	20

**Administration****Box**

## Local Artist Biographical Information

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Applications for Organizational Representation. circa 1963-1965.	21
Artists' Equity Association Artist Information Sheets. circa 1960.	21
Bylaws. 1955, 1962.	21
Correspondence. 1956-1968, 1971.	21
Local Artists Information. 1939, 1959, 1965, 1967-1968, 1972-1973.	21
Membership Lists. 1956, 1959-1965, 1968-1972.	21
Minutes and Reports. 1938, 1954-1970, undated.	21
Staff Notes and Memoranda. 1963, circa 1970.	21
<b>Local Artist Biographical Information</b>	
	<b>Box</b>
Directory of Maryland Artists. circa 1937.	22
Who's Who in Maryland Art. circa 1938.	22
Lists of Maryland Artists. circa 1940.	22
Maryland Artists Questionnaire. 1942-1943.	22