

The Springfield Symphony Orchestra Collection

Clark County Historical Society Museum and Archives

Processed by:
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Introduction

The materials pertaining to the Springfield Symphony Orchestra cover the period from 1927-1994. The collection fills one box and has 43 file folders. The materials include a photograph, advertisements, concert and season programs, pamphlets, booklets, and newspaper clippings. The collection is organized into three series as follows:

- Series 1: History of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra
- Series 2: Newspaper Articles Pertaining to the Springfield Symphony Orchestra
- Series 3: Concert Programs

Historical Overview

- April 24, 1916 Dedication of Memorial Hall, when the Springfield Symphony Orchestra would later perform
- 1922 Founding of the Springfield Civic Orchestra, which was composed Of 37 men under the direction of Mr. Charles Bauer.
- 1927 The Springfield Civic Orchestra was reorganized under the name Springfield Symphony Orchestra.
- 1935 The Springfield Symphony Orchestra collapsed on account of the Great Depression.
- March 19, 1944 The Springfield Symphony Orchestra gave its first concert. It had 50 players and a 90 person chorus. It was conducted by William Fielder, head of the Antioch University Music Department. The Concert drew an audience of 1500 people/
- December 1944 The Symphony initiated its Christmas tradition with a performance Of Handel's *Messiah*.
- 1945 The Women's Association of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra was organized.

December 1947 1948	The Symphony began its history of cooperation with Wittenberg. The Symphony decided to hire its own full time conductor, Mr. Guy Taylor.
1954-1955	The first Young Musicians' Audition for soloists at Student Concerts were held, and two Springfield High School students performed with the Symphony.
1955	The decision was made to increase the number of annual subscription concerts from four to five.
1959	The Symphony held its first outdoor concert on the Esplanade.
1960	The first Symphony scholarship was given to a Wittenberg freshman.
February 1960	The first Springfield Youth Symphony Orchestra played its first concert on its own.
August 1962	The Springfield Symphony Orchestra performed its first concert in Snyder Park.
1967	Beginning of Summer Arts Festival.
1972	The Springfield Symphony Orchestra gave the first Christmas Gala Concert.
1973	First radio broadcast of a symphony concert.
1974	The Springfield Symphony Orchestra received the ASCAP award for adventuresome programming.
1989	First "Music in the Classrooms" programs.
1991	The Springfield Symphony Orchestra hosted the first "POPS" celebrity soloist.

Box Listing

Series 1: History of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra

<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Springfield Symphony Orchestra Historical Highlights – 1944-1969
2	Springfield Symphony Photograph
3	Program for “Madonna of the Trail” March 6, 1928

Series 2: Newspaper Articles Pertaining to the Springfield Symphony Orchestra

<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Arts Festival Opens Combination Enjoyable – June 27, 1976
2	Symphony Big Band to Offer Pops, Jazz – July 16, 1976
3	Dorothy’s ‘Jitters’ Ending – August 8, 1976
4	Brewster will manage Springfield Symphony – Sept. 21, 1976 Smith praised for Abilities as Conductor – March 15, 1978 Services Sunday for Mrs. Whallon, Conductor’s wife – 2/6/77 Charles Stephens head Symphony Orchestra Board – May
5	Scholarship Concert Saturday Night – April 18, 1978 Scholarship Concert Slated – April 16, 1978
6	Symphony slates six Christmas concerts, Christmas Gala – 5/14/78
7	A Trained Ear – Springfield Symphony Executive Director A. Diane Schoeffler has her idols – August 29, 2002

Series 3: Concert Programs

<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Program for the <i>Messiah</i> – December 17, 1944
2	Program for Third Concert – May 5, 1946
3	Program for Third Concert – May 4, 1947 – Memorial Hall
4	Ad for 1947-48 Season. Walter Heerman, Conductor
5	Program for 1947-48 Season – February 15
6	Program for 1948-49 Season – May 1
7	Program for 1950-51 Season – October 29, 1950
8	Program for 1951-52 Season – December 9, 1951
9	Program for A Special Lenten Concert – March 2, 1952
10	Program for <i>Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo</i> – March 20, 1952
11	Program for 1951-52 Season – April 27, 1952
12	Ad and ticket subscription for 1952-53 Season
13	Program for Pops Concert – May 11, 1952
14	Program for 1952-53 Season – December 14, 1952
15	Program for 1952-53 Season – April 19, 1953
16	Program for Pops Concert – May 17, 1953
17	Program for 1953-54 Season

18	Program for 1953-54 Season – November 22, 1953
19	Program for 1954-55 Season
20	Program for 1957-58 Season
21	Program for 1961-62 Season
22	Springfield Symphony Orchestra 25 th Anniversary booklet
23	Program for 1975-76 Season
24	Ad and ticket subscription for 1976-77 Season
25	Program for 1977-78 Season
26	Program for 35 th Anniversary 1978-79 Season
27	Program for 1979-80 Season
28	Program for 1980-81 Season
29	Program for Fourth Subscription Concert – January 17, 1981
30	Program for 1981-82 Season – John E. Ferritto, Conductor
31	Program for 1982-83 Season
32	Ad & ticket subscription for A Special Christmas Gala – 12/10/83
33	Program for A Season of Romance – 1984-85
34	Program for 40 th Anniversary season – John E. Ferritto, Conductor
35	Program for A Noteworthy Season – 1986-1987
36	Springfield Symphony Orchestra 50 th Anniversary Pamphlet
37	Program for the 1965-66 Season
38	Columbus Dispatch Article
39	Program for 1988-89 Season
40	Program for the 1992-93 Season
41	In Tune with the Springfield Symphony Orchestra – Fall 2002
42	Symphony a Constant amid Clark County's many chages – 1/5/02
43	Colorful attire sets mood for Symphony Concert