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Finding Aid for Freedom Forum Records, 1948-1978 (2008.72)

Accession number 2008.72

Source: Richard Sills, Niskayuna, NY Finding aid by Katherine Chansky, 2008.

Administrative History

A Schenectady volunteer and member-supported organization with the purpose of organizing lectures by prominent citizens and national figures about social and political issues. The lectures and debate surrounding the lectures were meant to foster ideals of democracy and "Americanism," and to provoke an interest in the community in the topics of the lectures.

Scope Note

Publicity files containing original flyers, programs, newspaper clippings about speaker events hosted by the Freedom Forman. The records include organization bylaws and minutes of committee meetings.

Related Collections

See also Freedom Forum Records, 1959-1978 (APAP-124), at the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives at the University at Albany, Albany, New York.

Series

Janet Sills Scrapbook on publicity 1948 - 1950 Irma Ruth Chestnut Publicity, Minutes Files, 1958 – 1978

Box and File Folder List

1 Scrapbook compiled by Janet Sills (1919 - 1999) of Scotia, assistant editor of the GE Monogram, AAUW member, and member of First Church of Christ Scientist in Schenectady.

Contents: Publicity and Public Relations 1948-9, 1949-50. Newspaper clippings and Freedom Forum memoranda. David Lilienthal talk March 1950 on atomic energy. [Copy loose newspaper, folder loose documents, photocopy scrapbook pages on acidic paper.]

Several letter-size file folders containing papers saved by Irma Ruth Chestnut (1922 - 2008, a mathematician, GE employee, educator, activist, (married to Harold "Harry" Chestnut (1918 – 2001), author, editor, engineer and activist)

Freedom Forum – Publicity, 1977-1978

Programs – 1977 - 1978

Speaker Flyers 1977

Freedom Forum Publicity 1975 - 1976

Publicity 1978-79

Nominating 1978

Board Minutes, 1977-78 [Re-folder in acid-free folders]

1 three-ring binder with papers collected by Irma Ruth Chestnut

The contents of the binder were removed to file folders.

Dates and topics in the file folders:

1971 – 1972 programs.

1967 newspaper articles

1964 flyers

1968 meeting minutes

1968 correspondence, member lists

1966-1967 membership lists

1958 By-Laws

1967 Committee reports (nominating, budget, executive) and meeting minutes.