Madeline Murphy Rabb Papers 1162013.MMRP.TSDF

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Summary Information

Repository Chicago Public Library: Harold Washington

Title Madeline Murphy Rabb Papers

Date [inclusive] 1980-1991

Extent 6.0 Linear feet

Language English

Abstract Madeline Murphy Rabb served as Executive Director of the Chicago

Office of Fine Arts from 1983 to 1990, where she helped strengthen and expand the city's cultural arts programs. The Madeline Murphy Rabb Papers span from 1980-1991 and include administrative documents, speeches, material related to conferences and exhibits, publicity and

research as well as photographs.

Biographical

Madeline Murphy Rabb is an artist, jewelry designer, art advisor and independent curator. Born in Wilmington, Delaware on January 27, 1945, she holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Maryland Institute College of Art (1966) and a Master of Science degree in Visual Design from the Illinois Institute of Technology (1975). In 1979, she opened Madeline Murphy Rabb Studio, where she created and sold original art works. In 1983, Mayor Harold Washington appointed Rabb as Executive Director of the Chicago Office of Fine Arts, where she was the first African American and professionally trained artist to head the city's fine arts program. Under Rabb, the Chicago Office of Fine Arts saw its cultural grant programs and Percent for Art program strengthened and expanded. She succeeded in making the cultural activities of Chicago more accessible, inclusive and reflective of the city's racially and ethnically diverse arts community. Rabb testified before Congress in support of the National Endowment for the Arts, addressed the Chicago City Council on behalf of the arts and spoke at conferences across the United States. Following her resignation in 1990, Rabb founded her own company, Murphy Rabb, Inc., which specializes in fine arts consulting. Rabb lives in Chicago and has served on boards and art panels of the Illinois Arts Council, Southside Community Art Center, Columbia College Chicago, Woman's Board of the Art Institute and the National Endowment for the Arts, among other organizations.

Scope and Contents note

The Madeline Murphy Rabb papers span from 1980 to 1991 and include administrative documents, speeches, and conference, exhibit, publicity and research files as well as photographs. The majority of documents pertain to the internal workings of the Chicago Office of Fine Arts and conferences that Rabb attended while Executive Director. The papers are arranged into three series, "Chicago Office of Fine Arts," "Madeline Murphy Rabb Consulting" and "Photographs."

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Chicago Public Library: Harold Washington 1/16/2013

Conditions Governing Access note

This collection must be paged 24 hours in advance. Some material has been redacted for privacy reasons.

Processing Information note

Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project." By T.J. Szafranski and Dominique Fuqua, January 16, 2013.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Harold Washington Archives and Collections, Chicago Public Library, Special Collections Eugene Sawyer Mayoral Records, Chicago Public Library, Special Collections

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

• Rabb, Madeline Murphy

Subject(s)

- African American artists
- African American women
- Art-Chicago
- Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs
- Chicago Office of Fine Arts
- Cultural Arts-Chicago
- Percent for Art Program

Bibliography

Murphy Rabb, Inc. "Biography." Accessed January 23, 2013. http://www.murphyrabb.com/AboutUs/Biography/tabid/138/Default.aspx. Columbia College Chicago. "Madeline Murphy Rabb." Accessed February 15, 2013. http://www.colum.edu/Administrative_offices/Presidents_Office/members_of_the_board_of_trustees/madeline-murphy-rabb.php

Collection Inventory

Series I. Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 1980-1991

Scope and Contents note

The Chicago Office of Fine Arts (COFA), originally called the Council on Fine Arts, was established in 1976, and became a division of the city's Department of Cultural Affairs in 1984. COFA was established to develop, support and further arts and cultural activities in Chicago. Its responsibilities included increasing the public's awareness of the arts, fostering opportunities for artists and arts organizations and organizing and producing public programs and services. This series contains material related to COFA's internal working, as well as material created and collected by Madeline Murphy Rabb during her time as Executive Director. The series is arranged into four subseries, "Administrative," "Conferences and Speeches," "Exhibits," and "Publicity and Research."

Subseries 1. Administrative, 1980-1990

Scope and Contents note

This series contains documents pertaining to the operations of the Chicago Office of Fine Arts. It includes administrative reports, organizational charts, job and program descriptions, grant applications, annual reports, calendars of events and financial documents. General administrative documents are arranged according to Rabb's existing order. Administrative and financial reports were removed from binders for preservation; the original order of the documentation is maintained and is preceded by a "documents from binder" note.

	Box	Folder
Chicago Office of Fine Arts annual report, 1982	1	1

Chicago Cultural Center, calendar of events, 1983-1985	1	2
Chicago Cultural Center, calendar of events, 1986-1987	1	3
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, program brochures, 1987-1990	1	4
Chicago Cultural Center, calendar of events, 1988	1	5
Chicago Cultural Center, calendar of events, 1989	1	6
An organizational assessment of the Chicago Office of Fine Arts by The Wolf Organization, 1985 May – June	1	7
Stenographic minutes, committee hearings on reauthorization of the National Foundation for the Arts and Humanities, 1985 June 19	1	8
An information plan for the Chicago Office of Fine Arts by The Wolf Organization, 1985 August	1	9
Consultation by The Wolf Organization, 1985	1	10
The Chicago Cultural Plan, 1985	2	1
Urban Gateways field study in Trinidad, 1985-1986	2	2
The Washington Papers and Transition report, 1986	2	3
The Chicago Cultural Plan, 1986	2	4

Department of Cultural Affairs, general programs (1 of 2), 1986-1989	2	5
Department of Cultural Affairs, general programs (2 of 2), 1986-1989	2	6
Chicago Symphony Orchestra tour of Japan, 1986	2	7
Department of Cultural Affairs annual report, 1986	2	8
Department of Cultural Affairs annual report, 1987-1988	2	9
Chicago Office of Fine Arts press kit, 1988	3	1
Evaluation of the Grants Programs at the Chicago Office of Fine Arts by The Wolf Organization, 1989 January	3	2
The Chicago Cultural Center: A Feasibility Analysis, 1989 August 2	3	3
Madeline Murphy Rabb resignation letter, 1990 March 12	3	4
New program evaluation, Undated	3	5
Correspondence from Amina Dickerson, Undated	3	6
Administrative Report 1984, Ordinance establishing the Department of Cultural Affairs, 1983 Folders 7-14 of Box 3 originated from the same binder.	3	7
Administrative Report 1984, Annual Appropriation Ordinance, 1984	3	8

Administrative Report 1984, Department of Cultural Affairs financial forms, 1983	3	9
Administrative Report 1984, Chicago Office of Fine Arts board member roster, 1983	3	10
Administrative Report 1984, Chicago Office of Fine Arts organizational chart, 1983	3	11
Administrative Report 1984, Chicago Office of Fine Arts Executive Director position description, 1980	3	12
Administrative Report 1984, Chicago Office of Fine Arts Budget Summary, 1984	3	13
Administrative Report 1984, City of Chicago Department Head roster, 1984	3	14
Administrative Report 1985, An Information Plan for the Chicago Office of Fine Arts prepared by The Wolf Organization, Inc., 1985 Folders 1-3 of Box 4 originated from the same binder.	4	1
Administrative Report 1985, Chicago Office of Fine Arts position descriptions, 1985	4	2
Administrative Report 1985, Madeline Murphy Rabb personal statement, department's accomplishments, 1985	4	3

Administrative Report 1986, General, 1986 Folders 4-13 of Box 4 originated from the same binder.	4	4
Administrative Report 1986, CityArts program, 1986	4	5
Administrative Report 1986, Civic Center, 1986	4	6
Administrative Report 1986, Cultural Center, 1986	4	7
Administrative Report 1986, Dial-A-Poem, 1986	4	8
Administrative Report 1986, Percent for Art, 1986	4	9
Administrative Report 1986, Neighborhood arts, 1986	4	10
Administrative Report 1986, Resource development, 1986	4	11
Administrative Report 1986, Performing visual and literal arts, 1986	4	12
Administrative Report 1986, Department of Cultural Affairs annual report, 1986	4	13
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Program descriptions, 1989 Folders 14-25 of Box 4 originated from the same binder.	4	14
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Chicago Office of Fine Arts letters of appreciation, 1989-1990	4	15

Administrative Report 1989-1990, CityArts Grant application and program information, 1990	4	16
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Civic Center exhibits, 1990	4	17
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Community Arts Assistance program grant application, 1990	4	18
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Press release regarding grants awarded through Community Arts Assistance program, 1989	4	19
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Cultural Center programs, 1990	4	20
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Dial-A-Poem, 1990	4	21
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Neighborhood Arts Program grant application, 1988-1989	4	22
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Percent for Art program, 1989	4	23
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Performing arts registry application, 1989	4	24
Administrative Report 1989-1990, Arts resource guide, 1989	4	25
Financial Report 1988, Community Development Block Grant, 1988 Folders 1-25 of Box 5 originated from the same binder.	5	1

Financial Report 1988, Operations Plan Summary, special events, 1988	5	2
Financial Report 1988, cost allocation worksheet for Cultural Development and Tourism, 1988	5	3
Financial Report 1988, staffing worksheet, 1988	5	4
Financial Report 1988, cost allocation worksheet, fine arts, 1988	5	5
Financial Report 1988, program revision forms, 1988	5	6
Financial Report 1988, department request budget, 1988	5	7
Financial Report 1988, operations plan summary, executive administration, 1988	5	8
Financial Report 1988, operations plan summary, Office of Fine Arts, 1988	5	9
Financial Report 1988, operations plan summary, department plan summary, 1988	5	10
Financial Report 1988, operations plan summary, Communications, 1988	5	11
Financial Report 1988, cost allocation, communications, 1988	5	12
Financial Report 1988, cost allocation, executive administration, 1988	5	13

Financial Report 1988, cost allocation, special events, 1988	5	14
Financial Report 1988, anticipated 1989 non-local funds, 1988	5	15
Financial Report 1988, finance general accounts, 1988	5	16
Financial Report 1988, travel requests, 1988	5	17
Financial Report 1988, detailed equipment note requests, 1988	5	18
Financial Report 1988, position request justification, 1988	5	19
Financial Report 1988, add employee justification, 1988	5	20
Financial Report 1988, fund 356, 1988	5	21
Financial Report 1988, fund 100, 1988	5	22
Financial Report 1988, fund 355, 1988	5	23
Financial Report 1988, lease purchase of equipment, 1988	5	24
Financial Report 1988, binder dividers without corresponding documents, 1988	5	25
Financial Report 1989, general financial documents, 1982-1990 Folders 26-39 of Box 5 originated from the same binder.	5	26

Financial Report 1989, Department of Cultural Affairs documents, 1985	5	27
Financial Report 1989, fund 100, 1989	5	28
Financial Report 1989, fund 355, 1989	5	29
Financial Report 1989, Community Development Block Grant, 1989	5	30
Financial Report 1989, finance general accounts, 1989	5	31
Financial Report 1989, non-local funds, 1989	5	32
Financial Report 1989, new positions, 1989	5	33
Financial Report 1989, neighborhood arts, 1989	5	34
Financial Report 1989, CityArts grantees, 1989	5	35
Financial Report 1989, Community Arts Assistance program grantees, 1989	5	36
Financial Report 1989, cultural outreach, 1989	5	37
Financial Report 1989, local cultural development program grantees, 1988	5	38
Financial Report 1989, program priorities, 1990	5	39

Subseries 2. Conferences and Speeches, 1984-1990

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains speeches delivered by Madeline Murphy Rabb and material related to conferences and symposiums that she attended. Documents include programs, correspondence, conference exercises and travel arrangements. This subseries is arranged chronologically.

	Box	Folder
Artists as Mothers panel discussion for Cultural Center's Creative Women series, 1984 March 30	6	1
National Endowment for the Arts, guidance committee to examine locals program, 1985 January 24	6	2
Institute for Non-Profit Administration, 1985 June 16	6	3
Percent for Art Hearing, testimony before the City Council Committee on Cultural Development and Historic Landmark Preservation, 1985 July 11	6	4
Career Path to Becoming Executive Director of Chicago Office of Fine Arts, Edison Professional Women's Association, 1986 April 6	6	5
Cultural Diversity and the Role of Cities and Government, National Assembly of Local Arts Agencies annual convention, 1986 June 21	6	6
National Assembly of Local Arts Agencies annual convention, 1986 June 21	6	7

Local Arts Leadership Institute, 1986 July 13	6	8
Cross-Cultural Outreach and Board Development, Illinois Arts Alliance conference, 1986 September 12	6	9
National Assembly of Local Arts Agencies annual convention, 1987 June 21	6	10
Developing Culturally Diverse Programs, National Association of Local Arts Agencies annual convention, 1987 June 24	6	11
Testimony before City Council in support of revised Public Art ordinance, 1987 July 23	6	12
Chicago's Picasso Twenty Years Old, 1987 August 14	6	13
Chicago's Public Art Program, Evanston Arts Council, Public Art committee, 1987 September 17	6	14
Open Dialogue, Midwest Regional Forum, 1987 November 13	6	15
Getting a Piece of the Pie: Public and Private Dollars, Open Dialogue III, Midwest Regional Forum, 1987 November 13	7	1
National Association of Local Arts Agencies Planning Committee, 1987	7	2
Cultural Arts Council of Houston, 1987-1988	7	3

Cultural Planning: Current Trends and Future Dimensions, Facilities and Space, United States Urban Arts Federation, 1988 January 29	7	4
Cultural Diversity: Assumptions and Realities; Needs, Actions and the Leadership Role of Urban Arts Agencies, United States Urban Arts Federation, 1988 January 30	7	5
Leveraging Local Government Dollars, Michigan Association of Community Arts Agencies, 1988 April 20	7	6
Local Partnerships—What's it all about in Michigan? Michigan Association of Community Arts Agencies, 1988 April 20	7	7
St. Louis Regional Arts Commission, 1988 May 20	7	8
What is a Local Arts Agency: Programs and Services, Cultural Plan Symposia, St. Louis Regional Arts Commission, 1988 May 20	7	9
Presentation to Community Development Advisory Committee for 1989 Community Development Block Grants, 1988 August 2	7	10
Developing Grants Programs to Meet the Needs of Small, Emerging Minority Organizations, City of Dallas, Division of Cultural Affairs, 1988 August 27	7	11
18th Annual Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Weekend, 1988 September 14	7	12

The Challenge of Cultural Diversity, 18th Annual Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, 1988 September 15	7	13
American Visions 2nd Art Symposium: Encountering American Diversity in Afro-American Art, 1988 September 30	7	14
National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts, Chicago conference, 1988 November 20	7	15
Funding the Arts: Building Partnerships with Local, State, and Federal Governments, Council for Advancement and Support of Education Conference, 1988 December 12	7	16
United States Urban Arts Federation, conference, 1988	7	17
Grantmakers in the Arts conference, 1988	7	18
International Cultural Relations conference (1 of 2), 1989 March 30	8	1
International Cultural Relations conference (2 of 2), 1989 March 30	8	2
National Assembly of Local Arts Agencies annual convention, 1989 June 24	8	3
Cultural Amenities and Community Livability: Is there a Formula? National Assembly of Local Arts Agencies annual convention, 1989 June 25	8	4

Leadership Institute for Local Arts Agency Administrators, 1989 July 17	8	5
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, 19th annual Legislative Weekend, 1989 September 13-17	8	6
Cultural Diversity/Artistic Adversity Symposium, opening address, 1989 October 30	8	7
Illinois Arts Alliance Conference, 1989 November 6	8	8
How Does the Specter of Censorship Affect Artists? Illinois Arts Alliance Conference, 1989 November 6	8	9
National Endowment for the Arts, 1989-1990	8	10
Getting Minority Artists into the Mainstream, United States Urban Arts Federation annual conference, 1990 February 8	8	11
Employment Practices and Opportunities for Minorities in Museums and Other Cultural Institutions, Madeline Murphy Rabb testimony to the Congressional Hearing, Committee on Government Operations (1 of 2), 1990 February 9	8	12
Employment Practices and Opportunities for Minorities in Museums and Other Cultural Institutions, testimonies to the Congressional Hearing on Government Operations (2 of 2), 1990 February	8	13

Employment Practices and Opportunities for Minorities in Museums and Other Cultural Institutions, testimonies to the Congressional Hearing on Government Operations, 1990 February	8	14
The State of the Arts in Chicago, Business Volunteers for the Arts, 1990 March 27	8	15
Testimony on behalf of the Reauthorization of the National Endowment for the Arts to Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts and Humanities, 1990 April 27	9	1
National Association of Local Arts Agencies annual convention, 1990 June 16	9	2
National Black Arts Festival, 1990 July 27	9	3
There is a Chill in the Air, National Black Arts Festival, 1990 July 29	9	4
National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, Implementing Cultural Diversity, 1990 October 24	9	5
The Role of Arts Agencies in Promoting Racial Tolerance and Understanding, Jamaica Arts Center Symposium, 1990 November 15	9	6
Jamaica Arts Center, 1990	9	7
On Being an Artist, Undated	9	8

Generic presentation about role of Local Arts Agencies, Undated	9	9
Illinois Arts Alliance, Undated	9	10
"How to serve on a board," article by Toby Mattox, Undated	9	11

Subseries 3. Exhibits, 1982-1990

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains material related to exhibits organized by the Chicago Office of Fine Arts (COFA). The majority of material relates to "Black Expressions/American Traditions," a collaboration between COFA and The Art Institute of Chicago. The program featured two exhibits, a symposium, public lectures and related events celebrating the contributions of African American visual artists to the history of American art. "Exhibits" is arranged chronologically.

	Box	Folder
Flip! Flash! Pinball Art!, 1982	9	12
Exhibit catalogs for William Dawson, Martin Puryear, American Visions: Afro-American Art, 1986-1990	9	13
Exhibit catalogs for Bill Traylor, Nathan Lerner, The Art of Seymour Rosofsky, 1984-1988	9	14
Black Expressions/American Traditions, correspondence, 1984-1985	9	15
Black Expressions/American Traditions, brochures, 1985	9	16

Black Expressions/American Traditions, budget, 1985	9	17
Black Expressions/American Traditions, questionnaire, 1985	9	18
Black Expressions/American Traditions, schedule of events, 1985	9	19
Black Expressions/American Traditions, Sharing Traditions, 1985	10	1
Black Expressions/American Traditions, mailing lists, 1985	10	2
Black Expressions/American Traditions, media coverage, 1985	10	3
Black Expressions/American Traditions, meetings, 1985	10	4
Black Expressions/American Traditions, memoranda, 1985	10	5
Black Expressions/American Traditions, overview, 1985	10	6
Black Expressions/American Traditions, publicity, 1985	10	7
Black Expressions/American Traditions, press kits (1 of 2), 1985	10	8
Black Expressions/American Traditions, press kits (2 of 2), 1985	10	9
Black Expressions/American Traditions, mailing lists and correspondence, 1985	10	10

The Art of Ethnicity, 1987	10	11
The Chicago Show, 1990	11	1
Against the Odds: African American Artists and the Harmon Foundation, 1990	11	2
Subseries 4. Publicity and Research, 1983-1991		

Scope and Contents note

This subseries contains newspaper articles about Madeline Murphy Rabb, the Chicago Office of Fine Arts and articles and papers collected by Rabb for research. This subseries is arranged chronologically.

	Box	Folder
Department of Cultural Affairs and Madeline Murphy Rabb publicity, newspaper articles, 1983-1988	11	3-5
Today's Chicago Woman, correspondence, 1985	11	6
"San Francisco's Prominent Arts Organizations: Why Aren't They Equal Opportunity Employers?" prepared by Jeff J. Jones, 1988 March 25	11	7
Correspondence from Johnson Publishing Company, 1988 June 21	11	8
Ebony Magazine article, "Big City Cultural Bosses", 1988 July	11	9

Connections Quarterly, National Assembly of Local Arts Agencies, 1988 September	11	10
Arts Community, various articles, 1988-1990	11	11
"Institutionalized Discrimination in San Francisco's Arts Funding Patterns" by Jeff Jones and Russell T. Cramer, 1989 April 20	11	12
"Cultural Diversity and the Arts in American" by Robert Garfias, 1989 September 6	11	13
The Challenge of Cultural Diversity and Cultural Equality at the Smithsonian Institution report by the Committee on Government Operations, 1989	12	1
Phyllis Schlafly, President of Eagle Forum, testimony submitted to the Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts, and Humanities, 1990 April 27	12	2
Fred Lazarus representing The National Assembly for Visual Arts Education, testimony submitted to the Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts, and Humanities, 1990 April 27	12	3
Arts Midwest articles, "Freedom of Expression in the Arts" and "Voicing Support for the Arts", 1991	12	4
Series II. Madeline Murphy Rabb Consulting, 1988-1990		
Scope and Contents note		

This series contains material associated with Madeline Murphy Rabb's work outside of the Chicago Office of Fine Arts. Rabb collaborated with Jerry Allen on a proposal for a planning symposium; assisted the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs in finding a new General Manager; worked with The Wolf Organization on the Proposal for a Cultural Masterplan for the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs; and consulted on San Francisco's Festival 2000. This series is arranged chronologically.

	Box	Folder
Planning for Cultural Diversity, symposium proposal with Jerry Allen, 1988	12	5
Los Angeles General Manager of Cultural Affairs, interview board member, 1988	12	6
The Wolf Organization, Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department project, 1990	12	7
San Francisco's Festival 2000, 1990	12	8

Series III. Photographs, 1983-1990

Scope and Contents note

This series contains photographs from events and functions associated with the Chicago Office of Fine Arts from 1983 to 1990.

	Box	Folder
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 33 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	1
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 20 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	2

Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 20 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	3
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 25 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	4
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 20 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	5
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 20 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	6
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 20 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	7
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 21 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	8
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 20 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	9
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 21 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	10
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 5 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	11
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 20 photographs, one contact sheet, various events, 1983-1990	13	12
Chicago Office of Fine Arts, 21 photographs, various events, 1983-1990	13	13