

Maryland Kindergarten Collection

MS20

Finding aid prepared by Kelly Peters

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections

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<http://www.prattlibrary.org/>

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Summary Information

Repository	Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections
Title	Maryland Kindergarten Collection
Date [inclusive]	1894-1954
Extent	20.0 Linear feet 27 boxes
Language	English
Abstract	<p>The Maryland Kindergarten Collection contains the papers of six early childhood education organizations and also, two state and two national organizations. It documents the evolution of the kindergarten in Maryland from 1890 through 1946. The Collection is divided into nine series and contains mostly reports, by-laws, minutes, correspondence between organizations as well as arts and crafts, such as, weaving patterns, sewing cards, and parquetry.</p>

Biographical/Historical note

The history of kindergarten started in Germany in 1837, through the hands of Friedrich Froebel, who worked for the nurture and healthy development of young children as an educational institution. In 1892, the International Kindergarten Union was formed and took on many branches throughout the nation, trying to build support for the creation of kindergartens. The Baltimore Kindergarten Club would join with the IKU in 1907. The IKU then joined with the National Council of Primary School Education in 1931. The NCPSE became the Association for Childhood Education in the 1940s and became one of the foremost organizations pushing for quality early childhood education.

The first kindergarten in Baltimore was created in May 1890 by the Friends Meeting and was named the Light Street Free Kindergarten. Shortly thereafter, the Froebel Club was created on Feb. 10, 1893. The Froebel Club became the Kindergarten Association of Baltimore in 1897 with the following purpose: "To establish Kindergartens, to spread knowledge of Froebel's principles in the community; to present to the School Board the desirability of incorporating Kindergartens into our public schools; and to encourage the training of teachers." The officers of the KAB in 1900 were President: Edward H. Griffin; Vice-Presidents: Mrs. Henry Wood and Mrs. F.W. Wood; Corresponding Secretary: Alice Gilman; Recording Secretary: Kate G. Brooks; and Treasurer: Richard J. White. The KAB was responsible for the inclusion of kindergartens within the Baltimore Public Schools in 1901.

In 1907, the KAB changed its name and became the Baltimore Kindergarten Club, which had a committee, the Maryland Association for Kindergarten Extension (which later branched off and became its own entity). The BKC worked with state organizations, including the Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs, to build public sentiment. The BKC joined the ranks of the International Kindergarten Union and became an official branch of the organization. During the time of the BKC, teaching schools dedicated to training Kindergarten teachers opened.

In 1923, the BKC became the Baltimore Kindergarten Primary Club. It was during this time that kindergarten education went into decline and during 1931, many training schools were closed, and many kindergartens were refused. In 1935, the BKPC became an official branch of the Association for Childhood Education, with the purpose: "To gather and disseminate knowledge of the movement for the education of young children, and to bring into active cooperation all childhood interests." By 1946, the organization went through its last name change and became the Association for Childhood Education International-Baltimore Branch.

Scope and Contents

The Maryland Kindergarten Collection includes minutes from various meetings, correspondence between national and other local organizations, materials from certain events, publications (both state and national), constitutions/by-laws, etc.

Arrangement

All items contained in each of the series are arranged chronologically. Undated material is placed at the back of each folder or at the end of each series and subseries. Correspondence is arranged chronologically and, in the case of identical dates, arranged alphabetically by the sender. In cases where the sender was the same, the correspondence is arranged alphabetically by the person receiving the letter.

I. Froebel Club, 1893-1897 The first series only contains one folder, which contains the Light St. Kindergarten Report from April 14, 1894.

II. Kindergarten Association of Baltimore, 1897-1907 The second series contains the summary of work, an act from the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore County, and Baltimore Training School Catalogs.

III. Baltimore Kindergarten Club, 1907-1923 The third series contains mostly paper documents including, constitution/by-laws, correspondence, event materials, minutes and meeting announcements, news clippings, etc. Also included is a ledger book that contains minutes from meetings and actual arts and craft work from kindergartners, including weaving patterns, sewing cards and parquetry.

IV. Baltimore Kindergarten Primary Club, 1923-1935 The fourth series contains mostly paper documents, same as above. All material is sorted chronologically.

V. Association for Childhood Education-Baltimore Branch, 1935-1946 The fifth series contains mostly paper documents, same as above. Also included in this series are two photographs taken of a display set up at the Enoch Pratt Free Library in 1943. Two ledger books full of meeting minutes are included in this series, along with a scrapbook with an engraved, wooden cover. The scrapbook is tied together with leather strips.

VI. Association for Childhood Education International-Baltimore Branch, 1946- The sixth series contains mostly paper documents, same as above.

VII. Allied Organizations-State The seventh series is divided into two subseries: 1. Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs; and 2. Maryland Association for Kindergarten Extension. Both subseries contain mostly paper documents and an abundance of correspondence. Also included are minutes, reports, publicity materials, editorials and legislative materials.

VIII. Allied Organizations-National The eighth series is divided into two subseries: 1. International Kindergarten Union; and 2. National Kindergarten Association. Both subseries contain mostly paper documents, same as above. Subseries 2 contains Maryland Field Secretary correspondence between, Margaret Parr and Isabel Lazarus and the NKA. Subseries 2 also contains an oversized box full of press

releases, specifically the "Home Education" releases. These releases came in sheets with numerous separate panels on them, which can be individually cut for publishing.

IX. Ungrouped Material The ninth series contains mostly paper documents, same as above. This series holds material that could not be placed within any of the above organizations because there was no identifying information provided in order to place the material. This series includes a folder full of music cards (used for vocal or instrumentals) and stories to read to children.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections July, 2006

Revision Description

Entered into Archivist's Toolkit by Joan M. Wolk, January 2015 January, 2015

Conditions Governing Access

Unrestricted, open by appointment.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

The bulk of the Maryland Kindergarten Collection is from two women, Margaret Parr and Isabel Lazarus. Both women served as presidents of the Maryland Association for Kindergarten Extension and as Maryland field secretaries for the National Kindergarten Association from the 1920s-1940s.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Baltimore Kindergarten Club.
- International Kindergarten Union.
- Kindergarten Association of Baltimore.
- Light Street Free Kindergarten.

Genre(s)

- Correspondence
- crafts (art genres)
- Editorials
- minutes (administrative records)
- newspapers
- parquetry
- Press releases
- Publicity
- reports
- Sewing
- weaving

Personal Name(s)

- Erich, Froebel, 1782-1852
- Lazarus, Isabel
- Parr, Margaret

Subject(s)

- Early childhood education
- Education History
- Kindergarten
- Women--Societies and clubs.

Series I: Froebel Club, 1893-1897

Collection Inventory

Series I: Froebel Club, 1893-1897	Box 1	Folder 1
	Box	Folder
Light St. Kindergarten Report, April 14, 1894	1	1
Series II: Kindergarten Association of Baltimore, 1897-1907	Box 1	Folder 2-4
	Box	Folder
Summary of work...1897-1898	1	2
Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore County-Act to authorize creation of Kindergartens	1	3
Baltimore Training School for Kindergartners Catalogs, 1900-1908, 3 pcs. Includes "History of the Baltimore Training School..."	1	4
Series III: Baltimore Kindergarten Club, 1907-1923	Box 1-3	Folder 5-30
	Box	Folder
Arts and Crafts-1909 Parquetry, sewing cards, weaves	1	5-8
Constitution/Bylaws	1	9
Correspondence, 1915-1922	1	10

Series IV: Baltimore Kindergarten Primary Club, 1923-1935

Event Materials	1	11
Kindergarten Play Festival Materials	1	12
Minutes/Meeting Announcements	1	13
National Publications, State Laws, Correspondence	1	14-16
News Clippings, 1914-1919	2	17
Program of Meetings, 1915-1923	2	18
Publications, 1909: "A Kindergarten...Nine Articles of Faith."	2	19
Reports, 1914-undated	2	20-27
Senate and Members of the House, 1920, 2 copies	2	28
Sue C. Collins Memorial Fund	2	29
Yearbook, 1918-1919	2	30
		Box
Baltimore Kindergarten Club Ledger Book		3
Series IV: Baltimore Kindergarten Primary Club, 1923-1935	Box	Folder
	4-5	31-52
	Box	Folder

Series IV: Baltimore Kindergarten Primary Club, 1923-1935

Memorials-Katherine V. Hopper and Nellie Schreiber	4	31
List of Members	4	32
Programs, 1923-1935	4	33
Meeting Announcements	4	34
Meeting Minutes	4	35
Constitutions, 1923-1935	4	36
Reports	4	37
State/Local Correspondence-includes list of PTAs and Superintendents	4	38
National Correspondence	4	39
International Correspondence-Jardins D'Enfants Unit, April 10, 1930	4	40
Events/Institutes-includes delegates to conference	4	41
Kornerstone Kindergarten Materials	4	42
National Legislation creating Kindergartens	5	43
Resolutions	5	44

Series V: Association for Childhood Education-Baltimore Branch, 1935-1946

Bibliographies	5	45
Blank Forms	5	46
Educational Materials	5	47
News Clippings/Editorials	5	48
State/Local Publications	5	49
National Publications, 1923-undated	5	50-52
Series V: Association for Childhood Education-Baltimore Branch, 1935-1946	Box 6-10	Folder 53-79
	Box	Folder
Certificate-Branch authorization for A.C.E.	6	53
List of Members/Membership Application	6	54
Constitution/Mission Statement	6	55
Meeting Announcements/Minutes	6	56
Resolutions	6	57
A.C.E.-Baltimore Reports/Statistics	6	58

Series V: Association for Childhood Education-Baltimore Branch, 1935-1946

National Reports/Statistics-includes blank branch report form	6	59
Programs	6	60
Correspondence-Symposium Dinner/Kindergarten Centennial	6	61
Correspondence-State/Local-includes class mothers of Park School	6	62
National A.C.E. Correspondence	6	63
National Correspondence	6	64
EPFL Window Display, 1943-2 photos/glossy and matte	7	65
Toy Lending Library	7	66
A.C.E.-Baltimore Toy Forum, 1938	7	67
A.C.E.-Baltimore Toy Forum, 1939-includes photo of exhibit	7	68
A.C.E.-Baltimore Events/Institutes	7	69
State/Local Events/Institutes	7	70
A.C.E. National Events/Institutes	7	71
List of free and inexpensive teaching materials, Sept. 24, 1940	7	72

Series VI: Association for Childhood Education International- Baltimore Br...

A.C.E.-Baltimore Bibliographies/Reference Material	7	73
National Legislation	8	74
News Clippings	8	75
National A.C.E. Publications, 1933-1939	8	76
National A.C.E. Publications, 1940	8	77
National A.C.E. Publications, 1941-undated	8	78
National A.C.E. Publications, General	8	79
	Box	Volume
A.C.E.-Baltimore Ledgers, 2 books	9	1-2
		Box
A.C.E.-Baltimore Scrapbook		10
Series VI: Association for Childhood Education International- Baltimore Branch, 1946-	Box 11	Folder 80-99
	Box	Folder
Official Name Notice and Other Information, March 18, 1949	11	80
Isabel Lazarus Memorial Materials	11	81

Series VI: Association for Childhood Education International- Baltimore Br...

Program of Meetings, 1947-1951	11	82
Meeting Announcements	11	83
Meeting Minutes	11	84
Reports/Statistics	11	85
Membership Lists, Feb. 1949, Feb. 1950, May 1951	11	86
Correspondence	11	87
A.C.E.I.-Baltimore Bulletin, March 27, 1950	11	88
Events	11	89
News Clippings	11	90
3rd and 4th Annual Joint Institute, Jan. 21, 1946 and Jan. 17, 1947	11	91
5th Annual Institute, Jan. 16, 1948-Programs, Minutes, Financial Statements	11	92
5th Annual Institute, Jan. 16, 1948-Correspondence	11	93
6th-9th Annual Institutes, Jan. 25, 1949-Jan. 31, 1952	11	94

Series VII: Allied Organizations-State

10th Annual Institute, Jan. 19, 1953	11	95
11th Annual Institute, Jan. 25, 1954	11	96
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National Publications	11	99
Series VII: Allied Organizations-State	Box 12-13	Folder 100-142
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	Box	Folder
Rules, Reports, etc.	12	100
Resolutions	12	101
Correspondence	12	102
Meeting Announcements and Minutes	12	103
Home Reading Courses	12	104
Editorials/Publicity	12	105
Publications	12	106

Subseries II: Maryland Association for Kindergarten Extension

Subseries II: Maryland Association for Kindergarten Extension	Box	Folder
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	Box	Folder
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Treasurer's Report, 1932-1942	13	109
Miscellaneous Dated Reports	13	110
Miscellaneous Undated Reports	13	111
Miscellaneous Materials	13	112
Publicity/Mailing Lists	13	113
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Event/Conference Material	13	115
Minutes, 1917-1947 and undated	14	116-125
Form Letters/Unsigned Material, 1917-1929	15	126
Form Letters/Unsigned Material, 1930-1937	15	127
Form Letters/Unsigned Material, undated	15	128

Series VIII: Allied Organizations-National

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Correspondence, 1936-1941	16	134-139
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Series VIII: Allied Organizations-National	Box 18-24	Folder 143-179
Subseries I: International Kindergarten Union	Box 18	Folder 143-150
	Box	Folder
Minutes of Local Committee, Feb. 1918-June 1919	18	143
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Correspondence	18	145
Report	18	146
Membership List	18	147
Delegate/Officer Cards	18	148
Annual Meetings	18	149
Publications	18	150
Subseries II: National Kindergarten Association	Box 19-24	Folder 151-179

Subseries II: National Kindergarten Association

	Box	Folder
Kindergarten Programs/Invitations	19	151
Blank Forms	19	152
Reports/Statistics	19	153
Annual Reports	19	154
Maryland Field Secretary Correspondence-Isabel Lazarus, Sept. 1929-June 1931	19	155-157
Maryland Field Secretary Correspondence-Margaret Parr, Nov. 1929-Nov. 1935	20	158-163
Maryland Field Secretary Correspondence-Margaret Parr, 1936-undated	21	164-167
N.K.A./Bessie Locke Correspondence, 1928-1940	21	168
Request Cards/Petition Cards	22	169
Legislative Material	22	170
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Field Secretary Monthly Reports	22	172
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Series IX: Ungrouped Material

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Form Letters, 1926-1931	22	176
Form Letters, 1932-undated	23	177-178
Letters to Newspapers, Articles/Editorials, List of Publications to Bring, National Editorials	23	179
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Classroom Material-Sheet Music, vocal and instrumental	25	186

Series IX: Ungrouped Material

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Editorials/Speeches	25	188
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