HISTORICAL NOTE

The Arts Award was established by Dickinson College in order to recognize achievements in the Arts and Humanities. Honoring Dr. William Wilcox Edel, alumnus and former president of the college, the Arts Award is bestowed upon an individual who has made an outstanding contribution in the performing or visual arts. The President of the College presents to the recipient a monetary award as well as a Wedgwood ceramic medallion bearing a profile likeness of Dr. Edel.

A committee comprised of Dickinson faculty meets on an ad hoc basis to nominate individuals who they feel are deserving of this award. In order to give proper recognition to all divisions of the arts and humanities, the Arts Award Committee rotates nominations within the fields of drama, music, literature, graphic arts, and architecture. These nominations are then given to the President of the College who selects the winner and presents the award.

Dickinson College presented the first award in 1959 to poet Robert Frost. During the Arts Award celebration, the recipient is in residence at the college. The artist will generally lecture, perform, or hold a demonstration presenting his or her work to the college community.

SERIES ARRANGEMENT AND DESCRIPTION

The Arts Award collection is primarily organized chronologically, each award recipient comprising a separate series. Documents related to the founding of the award, the papers of the Award Committee, and the financial records regarding the award are grouped into three separate series at the beginning of the collection.

The Founding series includes information about the history of the award and the medal presented to the award recipients, the establishment of the endowment fund and donor lists, and a
set of guidelines regarding the administration and presentation of the award. The Award Committee series consists of correspondence, nominations and recommendations, membership lists, and minutes and meeting notes. The Financial Records series includes notes on the budget, invoices, and payment vouchers.

Materials related to specific recipients are organized into series chronologically by the academic year of the award. Each award recipient series is further divided into celebration preparation notes, correspondence, news releases and articles, and programs, invitations, posters, and flyers. The celebration preparation notes files include biographical information, schedules of events, invitation lists, menus, sample letters, itineraries, speech transcriptions, photographs, and other information collected by the President of the College in preparation for that year’s award. The correspondence files consist of letters, personalized invitations and memos, arranged chronologically. The news releases files include college press releases and published articles concerning the award. Finally, the programs, invitations, posters, and flyers files consist of various ephemeral materials related to the award ceremony.

RECORD GROUP INVENTORY

RG 9/3 - ARTS AWARD

Series 1  Founding

1.1  Award Creation
1.2  Endowment
1.3  Guidelines

Series 2  Award Committee

2.1  Correspondence

2.1.1  1959-1965
2.1.2  1966-1970
2.1.3  1971-1975
2.1.4  1976-1980
2.1.5  1981-1985
2.1.6  1986-1990
2.1.7  1991-1995
2.1.8  1996-2000

2.2  Nominations and Recommendations

2.2.1  1959-1969
2.2.2  1970-1979
2.2.3  1980-1989
2.2.4  1990-1999
Series 2  Award Committee (cont.)

2.3  Membership Lists

2.3.1  1959-1988

2.4  Minutes and Meeting Notes

2.4.1  1960-1988

Series 3  Financial Records

3.1  1959-1969
3.2  1970-1979
3.3  1980-1989
3.4  1990-1999

Series 4  Robert Frost, 1958-59 (Poetry)

4.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
4.2  Correspondence
4.3  News Releases and Articles
4.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 5  Eero Saarinen, 1959-60 (Architecture)

5.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
5.2  Correspondence
5.3  News Releases and Articles
5.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 6  Judith Anderson, 1960-61 (Theatre)

6.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
6.2  Correspondence
6.3  News Releases and Articles
6.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 7  Leonard Baskin, 1963-64 (Graphic Arts)

7.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
7.2  Correspondence
7.3  News Releases and Articles
7.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers
Series 8  Walter Piston, 1965-66 (Music)

8.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
8.2 Correspondence
8.3 News Releases and Articles
8.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 9  W. H. Auden, 1967-68 (Poetry)

9.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
9.2 Correspondence
9.3 News Releases and Articles
9.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 10  John Cage, 1969-70 (Music)

10.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
10.2 Correspondence
10.3 News Releases and Articles
10.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers (Poster in Oversized)

Series 11  The Philadelphia Orchestra, 1972-73 (Music)

11.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
11.2 Correspondence
11.3 News Releases and Articles
11.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers (Poster in Oversized)

Series 12  Mauricio Lasansky, 1974-75 (Printmaking)

12.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
12.2 Correspondence
12.3 News Releases and Articles
12.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 13  Zelda Fichandler, 1976-77 (Drama)

13.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
13.2 Correspondence
13.3 News Releases and Articles
13.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers
Series 14  John Barth, 1980-81 (Literature)

14.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
14.2 Correspondence
14.3 News Releases and Articles
14.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 15  Toshiko Takaezu, 1982-83 (Literature)

15.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
15.2 Correspondence
15.3 News Releases and Articles
15.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 16  Thomas Binkley, 1982-83 (Music)

16.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
16.2 Correspondence
16.3 News Releases and Articles
16.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 17  The Pennsylvania Ballet, 1983-84 (Dance)

17.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
17.2 Correspondence
17.3 News Releases and Articles
17.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers (Poster in Oversized)

Series 18  David Mamet, 1984-85 (Drama)

18.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
18.2 Correspondence
18.3 News Releases and Articles
18.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers (Poster in Oversized)

Series 19  Robert Stone, 1986-87 (Literature)

19.1 Celebration Preparation Notes
19.2 Correspondence
19.3 News Releases and Articles
19.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers (Poster in Oversized)
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Series 20  Tommy Flanagan, 1988-89 (Music)

  20.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
  20.2  Correspondence
  20.3  News Releases and Articles
  20.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers (Poster in Oversized)

Series 21  Horton Foote, 1989-90 (Cinema)

  21.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
  21.2  Correspondence
  21.3  News Releases and Articles
  21.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 22  Leon Golub, 1991-92 (Painting)

  22.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
  22.2  Correspondence
  22.3  News Releases and Articles
  22.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers (Poster in Oversized)

Series 23  Seamus Heaney, 1992-93 (Poetry)

  23.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
  23.2  Correspondence
  23.3  News Releases and Articles
  23.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers (Poster in Oversized)

Series 24  Twyla Tharp, 1995-96 (Dance)

  24.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
  24.2  Correspondence
  24.3  News Releases and Articles
  24.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 25  Phyllis Bryn-Julson, 1996-97 (Music)

  25.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
  25.2  Correspondence
  25.3  News Releases and Articles
  25.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers
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Series 26  Julie Harris, 2000-01 (Drama)

  26.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
  26.2  Correspondence
  26.3  News Releases and Articles
  26.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 27  Milton Babbitt, 2001-02 (Music)

  27.1  Celebration Preparation Notes
  27.2  Correspondence
  27.3  News Releases and Articles
  27.4  Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers

Series 28  André Gregory, 2004-05 (Drama)

Series 29  Trisha Brown, 2007-08 (Dance)

Series 30  Sue Coe, 2013-14 (Drawing and Printmaking)

  30.4 Programs, Invitations, Posters, Flyers