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Finding Aid for the Celebration on the Grand Collection 450

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids History and Special Collections

111 Library Street NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

localhis@grpl.org

URL: <https://www.grpl.org/research/history/>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Grand Rapids History and Special Collections
Creator:	Abe Drasin, Mayor
Creator:	Casey Wondergem
Creator:	Elliott, Gerald, 1907-1994
Creator:	Keeler, Mary Ann
Creator:	Richard M. Devos
Title:	Celebration on the Grand Collection
ID:	Collection 450
Date [bulk]:	Bulk, 1980-1982
Date [inclusive]:	1980 - 2015
Physical Description:	3.0 Linear feet 3 boxes
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Celebration on the Grand was held yearly from September 1980 to 2015. The documents in this collection mainly examine the beginning of the festival and how it was created. It also documents it's most prosperous year in 1981 which was the second Celebration on the Grand. The purpose of this festival was to celebrate the city.

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Biographical/Historical note

The "Celebration on the Grand" began in September 1980, at that time it was known as the "Grand A Fair". Some of the core committee members that began the event were Richard M. Devos, Casey Wondergem, and Mary Ann Keeler. It was originally meant to celebrate the opening of Devos Hall and the former Grand Center convention facility. Later in 1981 the name was changed to "Celebration on the Grand" and it was to celebrate the opening of the Gerald R Ford Museum, the new Grand Rapids Art Museum, and the remodeling of the Grand Plaza Hotel. This second "Celebration on the Grand" became the most notable. President Gerald Ford attended in this year. It's location was all over the city but it was centered around the new Gerald R Ford Museum. It was a massively popular event that ended in tens of thousands of people showing up. "Celebration on the Grand" went on to become an annual event until

2014 when it was absorbed into the 4th of July festival. In 2015 it was decided to end Celebration on the Grand altogether.

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Scope and Contents note

This collection consists of information and documents having to do with the Celebration on the Grand festival. This collection includes documents about the planning, city amendments for the festival, financial records, committee minutes, correspondence, photos and newsclippings about the event.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Controlled Access Headings

- Artists -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Arts -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Buildings -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- Photographs
- Tourism -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids

Collection Inventory

Administrative, 1980 - 1981

Title/Description	Instances	
City Ordinance Amendment, 1980	Box 1	Folder 3
Postage Meter, 1980	Box 1	Folder 8
Contracts, 1980 - 1981	Box 1	Folder 9
Advertising, 1980	Box 2	Folder 1
Press Releases, 1980	Box 1	Folder 7
Cancellations, 1980	Box 2	Folder 4
Copyright Request, 1980	Box 2	Folder 5
Logo Artwork, 1980	Box 2	Folder 2
Arts Council Release Form, 1980	Box 2	Folder 3
Exhibitor Badges, 1980	Box 2	Folder 22
	Box 2	Folder 21
	Box 2	Folder 23
	Box 2	Folder 20
Exposition Services, 1980	Box 2	Folder 24
First-Aid, 1980	Box 2	Folder 26
Security, 1980	Box 2	Folder 28
Space Requests, 1980	Box 2	Folder 32
Sponser Confirmations, 1980	Box 2	Folder 34
Sign Painters, 1980	Box 2	Folder 29

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Historical, 1975 - 1980

Title/Description	Instances	
The Grand A-Fair - Historical, 1980	Box 1	Folder 1
Celebration of the Arts - Historical, 1980	Box 1	Folder 2
Historical, 1975 - 1980	Box 1	Folder 6

	Box 1	Folder 5
	Box 1	Folder 4
Celebration on the Grand - Committees Minutes, 1980	Box 1	Folder 11
	Box 1	Folder 10
	Box 1	Folder 12
Century of Music - Historical, 1980	Box 1	Folder 13
Festival of Praise and Thanksgiving - Historical, 1980	Box 1	Folder 14
	Box 1	Folder 15

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Door Prizes, 1980

Title/Description	Instances	
Door Prize Certificates, 1980	Box 2	Folder 11
Door-Prizes Courtesy Grand Affair, 1980	Box 2	Folder 7
Door Prizes, 1980	Box 2	Folder 8
For Doorman, 1980	Box 2	Folder 9
Grand A-Fair Door Prize Winners, 1980	Box 2	Folder 14
	Box 2	Folder 12
	Box 2	Folder 13
Claimed Door Prizes, 1980	Box 2	Folder 16
	Box 2	Folder 15
	Box 2	Folder 18
	Box 2	Folder 17
Mailed to Door Prize Donors (Thank-yous), 1980	Box 2	Folder 35
	Box 2	Folder 36

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Souvenirs, 1980

Title/Description	Instances	
Souvenirs, 1980	Box 2	Folder 30
Souvenirs / Give Aways, 1980	Box 2	Folder 31

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Thank You Letters, 1980

Title/Description	Instances	
Thank You Letters, 1980	Box 2	Folder 37
	Box 2	Folder 38
Thank You from Exhibitors, 1980	Box 2	Folder 39
Special Bulletin Mailing List, 1980	Box 2	Folder 33

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Entertainment, 1980

Title/Description	Instances	
Film, 1980	Box 2	Folder 25
Display Companies, 1980	Box 2	Folder 10
Entertainment, 1980	Box 2	Folder 19
Decorations CDS, Inc, 1980	Box 2	Folder 6
Programs, 1980	Box 1	Folder 16
Sales Brochure, 1980	Box 2	Folder 27

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Newsclippings, 1976 - 1980

	Box 3	Folder 1
	Box 2	Folder 41
	Box 3	Folder 2
Title/Description	Instances	
Newsclippings, 1979-1980	Box 2	Folder 41
	Box 3	Folder 1
	Box 3	Folder 2
Performing Arts Campaign Newspaper Clippings, 1976 - 1978		

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Miscellaneous, 1980	Box 2	Folder 40
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