

Immaculata High School Records,
1921-2000, n.d.

Creator: Immaculata High School
Extent: 11 linear ft.
Processor: Elizabeth Myers, July 2009

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: None

Usage Restrictions: Copyright for these materials resides with the Women & Leadership Archives.

Preferred Citation: Loyola University Chicago. Women & Leadership Archives. Immaculata High School Records. Box #, Folder #.

Provenance: These records were donated to the Mundelein College Archives, Sr. Ann Ida Gannon, BVM, in February 2000. The Mundelein College Archives is now the Mundelein College Records Collection.

Separations: None

See Also: Mundelein Records Collection at the Women & Leadership Archives and the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Archives, Dubuque, IA.

Administrative History

Immaculata opened its doors in 1921 as an all-girls Catholic high school on Chicago's northeast side with 225 freshman students. Founded by the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM), the school was originally housed in a former private residence, the Greenlee Mansion built in 1893 by Ralph S. Greenlee. In 1922, the BVMs opened the main school building located Irving Park Road and Marine Drive (still standing) designed by renowned architect Barry Byrne. As an aside, at the time of its construction, the building sat at the furthest north extension of Lake Shore Drive, thereby claiming over fifty feet of direct lakefront land. The new building allowed enough space for upper and lower division classes, or a total of more than 700 students. In 1977, the same building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and in 1983 received landmark status recognition from the City of Chicago.

The school population and campus continued to grow steadily from the 1920s to the 1950s. In 1928 Home Economics (clothing division) moved into Carmel Hall, a three story apartment building on Bittersweet Place. This was the same building that also temporarily housed the BVM faculty in 1955 when their new convent, St. Philomena Hall located just north of the school, was under construction. At the same time, the old Greenlee Mansion was torn down to make room for a massive new addition to the school, St. Joseph's Hall, completed in 1956. This construction blitz was carefully supervised by Sr. Mary Naola, BVM, principal of the school.

The school student population peaked in 1963-1964, with 1,225 students but fell into persistent decline afterward. By 1981, the school's sixtieth anniversary, enrollment barely reached 500. Coupled with rising expenses of building maintenance, increased cost of faculty, and a running deficit of \$115,000, the decision was made to close the school. Sr. Diane O'Donnell, BVM served as the last principal.

Scope and Content

The Immaculata High School Records span from 1921 to 2000 and includes undated items. The collection primarily includes information about the campus, students, and alumnae. Some information relates to the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, though no faculty or student records are present. Several dozen photographs and an incomplete run of yearbooks are also included. The oversized items series contains photographs and newspapers. The collection was divided into five series, arranged alphabetically within each series.

Series 1: General, 1921-1981, n.d., Box 1

Contains booklets, dedication of buildings, sheet music used in school assemblies, school anniversaries, and notably some materials about the BVMs and CISCORA (Chicago Catholic Student Conference on Religious Activities).

Series 2: Alumnae, 1971-2000, n.d., Box 2

Includes correspondence, newsletters, and reunion information. Related reunion photographs were separated and included under the photographs series.

Series 3: Event Programs and Publications, 1922-1981, n.d., Boxes 3-10

The most extensive of the five series, programs and publications includes numerous materials documenting school events, activities, and commencement. Publications include *Immaculata News*, *Alumnae News*, *IMM-Prints*, and an incomplete run of the school yearbook.

Series 4: Photographs, 1921-1993, n.d., Boxes 11-13

Contains mainly alumnae event images or campus views from the 1950s. Other notable images include informal shots of students from the 1920s, fashion shows in Home Economics, student charity work and other activities. There is also a nearly complete run of formal class pictures.

Series 5: Oversized Items, 1921-1958, n.d., Box 14-17

Contains large photographs, Golden Jubilee, Silver Jubilee, and a World War II scrapbook, and full newspaper copies noting the Our Lady of Angels School fire in 1958. The newspapers are in poor physical condition. Box 12 contains several pieces of Immaculata school uniforms including skirts, jackets, bows, collars, and pantaloons. There are uniform pieces in black and white.

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Ann Ida Gannon, BVM, Center for Women and Leadership
Loyola University Chicago

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Series 1: General, 1922-1981, n.d.			
1	1	Booklets	1927-1940, n.d.
	2	Booklets: "Blue Quill"	1939
	3	Booklet: "Lasting Gold"	1937
	4	Booklet: "Freshman Forecast"	1966
	5	BVM Centennial	1933
	6	Closing of the school	1978-1981
	7	CISCORA (Chicago Catholic Student Conference on Religious Activities)	1929, 1935
	8	Dedication of St. Philomena Hall (Convent)	1955
	9	Miscellaneous	1931-1940
	10	Music: "BVM Hymnal"	1962
	11	Music: "The Child's Book of Hymns"	1927
	12	Music: Christmas	n.d.
	13	Music: "High School Songs for Every Occasion"	1922
	14	Newspaper clippings	1926-1985
	15	Prayer Cards	n.d.
	16	Silver Jubilee	1946
	17	Testimonial	1977
	18	Theater: Luenen Passion Play	1937

Series 2: Alumnae, 1971-2000, n.d.

2	1	Alumnae: Correspondence	2000
	2	Alumnae: International Federation of Catholic Alumni	1972
	3	Alumnae Newsletter	1971-1981
	4	Alumnae Newsletter	1982-1990
	5	Alumnae Newsletter	1991-1995
	6	Alumnae Newsletter	1996-1999
	7	Alumnae Newsletter	2003
	8	Alumnae Association	1978-1979
	9	Class of 1925	n.d.
	10	Class of 1925: Lucille Hamilton	n.d.
	11	Class of 1925: Reunion	1974
	12	Class of 1957: Reunion	1982
	13	Class of 1959: Reunion	1984
	14	Class of 1967: Reunion	1977, 1992
	15	Class of 1969: Reunion	1994
	16	Class of 1970: Reunions	1970, 1990
	17	Class of 1973: Reunion	1993

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**Series 3: Event Programs and Publications,
1922-1981, n.d.**

Event Programs

3	1	Anniversary: Silver Jubilee	1946
	2	Anniversary: Sixtieth	1981
	3	Class Day	1925-1969
	4	Commencement	1928-1939
	5	Commencement	1940-1947
	6	Commencement	1948-1958
	7	Commencement	1959-1966
4	1	Commencement	1967-1972
	2	Commencement	1973-1976
	3	General Events	n.d.
	4	General Events	1922-1929
	5	General Events	1930
	6	General Events	1931
	7	General Events	1932
	8	General Events	1933
	9	General Events	1934
	10	General Events	1935
	11	General Events	1936
5	1	General Events	1937
	2	General Events	1938
	3	General Events	1940-1949
	4	General Events	1950-1959
	5	General Events	1960-1969
	6	General Events	1970-1979
	7	Graduation Ceremony Invitations	1922-1927
	8	Junior / Senior Reception	1923-1932
	9	Inaugural Class	1923
	10	Physical Education	1924-1925
	11	Senior Play	1922-1939
	12	Yuletide Pageant	1925-1934

Publications

6		<i>Immaculata News</i> (bound)	1927-1928
		<i>Immaculata News</i> (bound)	1928-1929
		<i>Immaculata News</i> (bound)	1929-1930
		<i>Immaculata News</i> (bound)	1930-1931
		<i>Immaculata News</i> (bound)	1930-1931

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	<i>Immaculata News</i> (loose)	1929-1931
	<i>Alumna</i>	1944-1952
7	<i>Immaculata News</i> (bound)	1931-1938
8	<i>Immaculata News</i> (bound)	1945-1961
9	<i>Alumna</i> (bound)	1952-1964
	<i>Immaculata News</i> (bound)	1961-1966
	<i>IMM-Prints</i> (bound)	1961-1971
	<i>IMM-Prints</i> (bound)	1971-1973
10	Yearbook	1951
	Yearbook	1955
	Yearbook	1956
	Yearbook	1961
	Yearbook	1962
	Yearbook	1963
	Yearbook	1965
	Yearbook	1966
	Yearbook	1970
	Yearbook	1971
	Yearbook	1972
	Yearbook	1973
	Yearbook	1976
	Yearbook	1977
	Yearbook	1979
	Yearbook	1981

Series 4: Photographs, 1921-1993, n.d.

11	1	Alumnae: Class of 1930	n.d.
	2	Alumnae: Class of 1939	n.d.
	3	Alumnae: General	n.d.
	4	Alumnae: Reunions	1973-1993
	5	Alumnae: Tours: Europe	n.d.
	6	Alumnae: Tours: New Salem	n.d.
	7	BVM: St. Joseph's Church 125 th Anniversary	1959
	8	BVMs	n.d.
	9	Campus: Aerial Views	n.d.
	10	Campus: Greenlee Building	n.d.
	11	Campus: Greenlee Building Demolition	1955
	12	Campus: Irving Park Building	n.d.
	13	Campus: St. Joseph's Hall, Exterior	1956
	14	Campus: St. Joseph's Hall, Interior	1956

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15		Campus: St. Philomena Hall	1955
16		Campus: Statues	n.d.
17		Classroom Scenes	n.d.
18		Children	n.d.
19		Events: Cardinal Stritch Funeral Procession	1958
20		Graduations	n.d.
21		Home Economics / Fashion Shows	[1950s-1960s]
12	1	May Crowning	n.d.
	2	Miscellaneous	n.d.
	3	Priests / Mass	n.d.
	4	Solemn Pontifical High Mass	1926
	5	Students	1921
	6	Students	1922
	7	Students	1922-1924
	8	Student Assemblies	n.d.
	9	Student Campus Scenes	n.d.
	10	Student Charity Work	n.d.
	11	Student Christmas Candlelighting	n.d.
	12	Students: Class of 1927	[192?]
	13	Students: Class of 1932	2002
	14	Students: Class of 1934	n.d.
	15	Students: Clubs	n.d.
	16	Students: Germaine Saulter Williams	n.d.
	17	Students: Red Cross	[1940s]
	18	Students: Sports	n.d.
	19	Students: Social Events	n.d.
	20	Students: Studying	n.d.
	21	Students: World War II Activities	[1940s]
	22	Theater	n.d.
13		Class Pictures	1927-1980

Oversized Items, 1921-1958, n.d.

14		28 th Eucharistic Congress, Chicago (panoramic photo)	1926
		Diploma: Margaret Bruner Frazer	1923
		Field Trip: Washington, DC (panoramic photo)	1949
		Jr./Senior Banquet (panoramic photo)	1925
		Jr./Senior Banquet (panoramic photo)	1931
15		Newspaper Clippings: <i>The New World</i> , <i>Chicago Daily News</i> , <i>Chicago American</i> , <i>Chicago Daily Tribune</i> , <i>Chicago Sun Times</i> (Our Lady of Angels Fire)	1958
		Photographs: Campus Exteriors	n.d.

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	Photographs: "Empress Lita"	1943
	Photographs: George Cardinal Mundelein	1925
	Photographs: Silver Jubilee	1946
	Photographs: Students on Campus	1921
	Photographs: Students in Theater Costume	n.d.
	Photographs: Students on Campus	[1950s]
	Scrapbook: World War II	n.d.
16	Scrapbook: Golden Jubilee	1970
	Scrapbook: Silver Jubilee	1946
17	School Uniforms including multiple skirts, jackets, bows, collars, and pantaloons. The uniform pieces are in black and white.	n.d.