

K History Speaks Oral History Project Records (2000-2002)  
0400 10 linear feet  
295 VHS video cassettes (masters and use copies), 142 folders, mini digital  
cassette masters

## RESTRICTED

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri-Research Center, Kansas City](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [shsofmo-kc@umsystem.edu](mailto:shsofmo-kc@umsystem.edu).

## INTRODUCTION

The records of the History Speaks Oral History Project contain videotaped interviews, participant files, and project administrative files relating to this early 21<sup>st</sup> century project. The project focused on capturing stories of prominent Kansas Citians from the business, nonprofit, arts, political, and civic communities. Participants were selected whose experiences highlighted events that shaped Kansas City's history and development. The concept for the project originated out of celebrations surrounding Kansas City's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The records were collected as a Western Historical Manuscript Collection – Kansas City (WHMC-KC) project conducted by Dr. Carol Mickett and David Boutros. The records were donated to the University of Missouri/State Historical Society of Missouri in 2002 (Accession No. KA0000).

## RESTRICTIONS

The Project Participant Files, Project Administrative Files, and several Interviews, are restricted. Restricted interviews are noted in the Series 3 listing below.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Short biographies of project participants were written at the time the project was conducted, c. 2000-2002. Project participant files and project administrative files also include biographical information, and may be made available upon staff review and with some redactions.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The records have been arranged into the following six (6) series:

- Project Participant Files**
- Project Administrative Files**
- Interviews, use copies**
- Interviews, masters**
- Other Related Tapes, donated as part of the project**
- Interviews, digital masters**

The **Project Participant Files** series contains files on the project participants, such as agreement forms, biographical information forms, additional biographical sources, and documents regarding restrictions. Not all participants have a project participant / biographical folder, and not all folders have completed information.

The Project Participant Files are RESTRICTED, and may be available for use following staff review of the requested contents.

The **Project Administrative Files** series consists of material pertaining to the formulation and administration of the History Speaks project, including its advisory board and funding sources.

The Project Administrative Files are RESTRICTED, and may be available for use following staff review of the requested contents.

The **Interviews, use copies**, series consists of interviews recorded on VHS video tape. Some interviews are noted as restricted until after the participant's death. Participant files should be consulted regarding the details of individual restrictions.

**ONLY USE COPIES SHOULD BE PULLED FOR RESEARCHERS.**

The **Interviews, masters**, are recorded on Super VHS video tapes. When only a master tape is available, researchers should be prepared to pay for digital conversion to enable access to the material.

The **Other Related Tapes, Donated as Part of Project** series include a small number of video interviews or recordings related to project participants, but that were not part of History Speaks. Included are videos of R. H. Uhlmann and Albert Mauro.

The **Interviews, digital masters** series contain mini digital video cassettes (approx. 2" x 3") of the project interviews.

#### PREFERRED CITATION:

Specific item; folder or tape number; *History Speaks Oral History Project Records (2000-2002)*; The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

#### CONTACT:

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<http://shs.umsystem.edu/index.shtml>

**BOX & FOLDER LIST**

<b>Series 1</b>		<b>Project Participant Files, A-Z</b>
<b>Box 1</b>	f. 1-8	Adler-Bruner
	f. 9-16	Calkins-Curran
	f. 17-23	Dallanis-Elman
	f. 24-30	Farnsworth-Fried
	f. 31-44	Gates-Hughes
	f. 45-54	Jacobsen-Kingsley
	f. 55-64	Leedy-Morgan
	f. 65-78	Ng-Owens
	f. 79-89	Palmer-Ruiz
	f. 90-100	Sandy-Strauss
	f. 101-114	Taylor-Wu

<b>Series 2</b>		<b>Project Administrative Files</b>
	f. 115-142	Project advisors, videographers, planning, funding, forms, potential interviewees, oral history workshops

<b>Series 3</b>		<b>Use Copies</b>
<b>Box 2</b>	v.t. 001	<b>Frank Adler</b> , administrative director emeritus, Temple B'nai Jehudah, historian, and author ( <i>Roots in the Moving Stream: The Centennial History of Congregation B'nai Jehudah of Kansas City, 1870-1970</i> (1972))
	v.t. 002, 003	<b>C. Richard Belger</b> , ceo, Belger Cartage Service and co-founder, John and Maxine Belger Family Foundation and Belger Arts District
	v.t. 004	<b>Eliot Berkley</b> , founder and chair, International Relations Council (1954-present) – <b>RESTRICTED</b>
	v.t. 005	<b>Walt Bodine</b> , Kansas City's most renown television and radio personality: host, <i>The Walt Bodine Show</i> , KCUR-FM
	v.t. 006	<b>Mary Shaw Branton</b> , award winning civic leader and community volunteer
	NO USE COPY	<b>Alvin Brooks</b> , Kansas City mayor pro tem (1999-present), founder, Ad Hoc Group Against Crime, and former Kansas City police officer
	v.t. 007	<b>Richard Brown</b> , professional actor seen often on the stage of the Missouri Repertory Theater

v.t. 008	<b>Olga Bruner</b> , German WWII immigrant and war bride who settled in Kansas City
v.t. 009	<b>Myron Calkins</b> , engineer and former Kansas City director of Public Works
v.t. 010, 011, 012	<b>Kay Callison</b> , granddaughter of J. C. Nichols, daughter of Miller Nichols, board director, Highwoods Properties Inc., and community volunteer <b>[see also Jay Nichols]</b>
v.t. 013, 014	<b>Dianne Cleaver</b> , civic leader, consultant, Kansas City school district, Missouri governor appointee (mental health and children/family issues) and Kansas City first lady (1991-1999)
NO USE COPY	<b>Emanuel Cleaver</b> , United Methodist minister, first African-American mayor of Kansas City (1991-1999) and city council member (1979-1991)
v.t. 015	<b>Richard Coleman</b> , professor emeritus, Kansas State University and author of work on social status and social leadership in Kansas City
v.t. 016, 017	<b>Joanne Collins</b> , Kansas City city council member (1974-1991) and community outreach officer for federal agencies and private corporations
v.t. 018	<b>Carol Comer</b> , singer, songwriter, and co-organizer, Kansas City Women's Jazz Festival <b>[ see also Dianne Gregg ]</b>
v.t. 019	<b>Chuck Curran</b> , former president, Kansas City Association of Trusts and Foundations
v.t. 020	<b>Sister Olive Louise Dallavis</b> , president, Avila College (1952-1996)
v.t. 021, 022	<b>Lloyd Daniel</b> , assistant department director, Missouri Department of Economic Development, Missouri state representative (42 <sup>nd</sup> District, 1994-1998), poet, educator, and community activist
v.t. 023	<b>Dory DeAngelo</b> , writer of Kansas City history ( <i>What About Kansas City!</i> (1995))
v.t. 024	<b>Angelo Diaz</b> , native of the West Side of Kansas City, Missouri
v.t. 025, 026	<b>Jay Dillingham</b> , business and civic leader including former president, Kansas City Stockyards, Co. (1937-1975), New York Central Railroad (1925-1935), former chair, Kansas

		City, Missouri, and Kansas City, Kansas, Chambers of Commerce, and key player in Missouri State Highway and Transportation Commission and the American Royal Association
	v.t. 027	<b>John Dillingham</b> , president and director, JoDill, Inc. and Dillingham Enterprises, Inc., Kansas City civic leader, and north-of-the-river advocate
	v.t. 028	<b>Carolyn Elman</b> , executive director, American Business Women's Association, founded by her father, Hilary A. Bufton, Jr., in Kansas City in 1949
	v.t. 029	<b>Robert Farnsworth</b> , professor emeritus, department of English, University of Missouri-Kansas City and former president, Kansas City CORE
	v.t. 030	<b>Brad Finch</b> , photographer and historic researcher
	v.t. 031	<b>Jane Fifield Flynn</b> , Kansas City historian and preservationist
	v.t. 032	<b>John B. Francis</b> , chairman, Puritan-Bennett Corp., Francis Families Foundation – <b>RESTRICTED</b>
	v.t. 033, 034	<b>Mary Harris Francis</b> , co-founder, Toy and Miniature Museum, honorary vice-chair, Francis Families Foundation, and community volunteer
	v.t. 035, 036	<b>Robert Freilich</b> , attorney, consultant on growth and development of cities, and author ( <i>From Sprawl to Smart Growth</i> )
	v.t. 037	<b>Suellen Fried</b> , mental health advocate and author, speaker, and consultant on child abuse and bullying prevention
	v.t. 038, 039	<b>Samella Gates</b> , director, Kansas City Model Cities program and Urban Affairs Department (1972-1983) and charter member, Bruce R. Watkins Board of Governors
	v.t. 040	<b>Sue Gentry</b> , former editor, <i>Independence Examiner</i> (1929)
	v.t. 041, 042	<b>Steven Glorioso</b> , political analyst and consultant, radio talk host ( <i>Friendly Fire</i> ), and television commentator ( <i>Ruckus</i> )
	[see v.t. 020]	<b>Dianne Gregg</b> , arts administrator, Kansas City Young Audiences, and co-organizer, Kansas City's Women's Jazz Festival  [ see also Carol Comer ]
	v.t. 043, 044	<b>Adele Hall</b> , award winning national and regional civic leader and community volunteer

	v.t. 043, 044	<b>Donald Hall</b> , civic leader, philanthropist, and chair, Hallmark Cards and Hall Family Foundation
<b>Box 3</b>	v.t. 045, 046	<b>Barnett Helzberg, Jr.</b> , former chair, Helzberg Diamonds (1956-1995), philanthropist, educator, and creator and chair, University Academy
	v.t. 045, 046	<b>Shirley Bush Helzberg</b> , award winning civic activist, philanthropist, and chair, Arts Council of Metropolitan Kansas City
	v.t. 047	<b>Bill Hickok</b> , grandson of Napoleon Dible, co-founder, The Writers Place, and real estate developer
	v.t. 048	<b>Irvine O. Hockaday</b> , civic leader, president and ceo, Kansas City Southern Industries (1968-1983), and president and ceo, Hallmark Cards (1983-2000)
	v.t. 049	<b>Laura Rollins Hockaday</b> , reporter (1962-1975), travel editor (1975-1982), and society editor (1982-2000), <i>Kansas City Star</i>
	v.t. 050	<b>Sylvester Holmes</b> , president and ceo, Black Economic Union of Kansas City and assistant treasurer, National Congress for Community Economic Development
	v.t. 051, 052	<b>Mamie Currie Hughes</b> , civic activist, ombudsman, Bruce R. Watkins Drive (1986-present) and president and ceo (1982-1986) Black Economic Union of Greater Kansas City
	v.t. 053	<b>Ann Reinsner Jacobson</b> , social worker, community organizer, founder, Panel of Americans, and director of Kansas City volunteers
	v.t. 054, 055	<b>Dorothy Johnson</b> , civic leader, activist and former reporter, <i>The Call</i>
	v.t. 056, 057	<b>Herman Johnson</b> , civic leader, former branch president, NAACP, and real estate appraiser
	v.t. 058, 059	<b>Larry Joiner</b> , Kansas City police officer (1960-1983), Kansas City chief of police (1984-1990) and United States marshall (1991-1994)
	v.t. 060	<b>Norman Kahn</b> , civic leader and chair, Kahn Steel Corporation
	v.t. 061	<b>Gertrude Keith</b> , civic activist, first African American women, Kansas City school board, first manager, Wayne Miner Housing Project, and deputy director, Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority

v.t. 062	<b>Rose Kemp</b> , women's advocate and regional administrator, Women's Bureau, United States Department of Labor – <b>RESTRICTED</b>
v.t. 063	<b>R. Crosby Kemper, Jr.</b> civic leader, philanthropist, chair and ceo, UMB Financial Corporation (1972-2000) and UMB Bank (1971-1997), and founder, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art
v.t. 064	<b>James Kemper</b> , civic leader chair, Commerce Bankshares (1946-1991), chair and ceo, Tower Properties Co., and founder and first chair, Downtown Council
v.t. 065, 066	<b>Whitney Kerr</b> , Kansas City area real estate broker and developer (Corporate Woods)
v.t. 067	<b>Gordon Kingsley, ph.d.</b> , author, speaker, vice president of development, Health Midwest, and former president, William Jewel College
v.t. 068	<b>Jim Leedy</b> , artist, professor, Kansas City Art Institute, and founder and co-director, Leedy Voulkos Art Center
v.t. 069, 070	<b>Linda Lighton</b> , artist and art activist
v.t. 071	<b>Jack Lindberg</b> , newspaper reporter, <i>Coffeyville Journal</i> , <i>Kansas City Star/Times</i> , and <i>Belton Star Herald</i>
v.t. 072	<b>Ceferino Lozano</b> , native of Armourdale, Kansas, and employee, Swift Meat Packing Company
v.t. 073	<b>Ruth Margolin</b> , woman activist and director, Women's Center, University of Missouri-Kansas City (1983-1999)
v.t. 074	<b>Barbara Hall Marshall</b> , consultant, Hallmark Cards, and co-founder, Toy and Miniature Museum
v.t. 075, 076	<b>Albert Mauro</b> , civic leader, president, Kansas City board of education (2000-present), and executive consultant, Kansas City Southern Industries (retired-1995)
v.t. 077	<b>Lillian McKittrick</b> , officer, International Ladies Garment Workers Union
v.t. 078	<b>Robert Meneilly</b> , founding minister, Village Presbyterian Church, and founder, Main Street Coalition
v.t. 079	<b>Myra Morgan</b> , deputy director, Belger Arts Center, University of Missouri-Kansas City, and founder, Morgan Art Gallery
v.t. 080	<b>Far Ling Ng</b> , co-founder and owner, Bo Ling's Restaurants
v.t. 080	<b>Richard Ng</b> , co-founder and owner, Bo Ling's Restaurants

	NO USE COPY	<b>Clyde Nichols</b> , son of J. C. Nichols and civic philanthropist
	[ see v.t. 010, 011, 012 ]	<b>Jay Nichols</b> , grandson of J. C. Nichols, son of Clyde Nichols, and ceo, Nichols Industries  [ See Kay Callison ]
	NO USE COPY	<b>Jeanette Nichols</b> , award winning civic leader and philanthropist
	NO USE COPY	<b>Marty Nichols</b> , leader of major civic endeavors
	v.t. 081	<b>Gerry Niewald</b> , artist manager and homemaker
	v.t. 082	<b>Wilbur Niewald</b> , Kansas City born artist and former chair (painting department) and professor emeritus, Kansas City Art Institute (43 years)
	v.t. 083, 084	<b>Vicki Noteis</b> , director, City Planning and Development, Kansas City, Missouri
	v.t. 085, 086	<b>James Nutter</b> , mortgage banker and key “behind-the-scenes” political player
	v.t. 087	<b>Dorothy Ochsner</b> , economist, Waddell and Reed (1963-1995)
	v.t. 088	<b>Ralph Ochsner, Ph.D.</b> , owner and principle-in-charge of projects, Ochsner•Hare & Hare, and former planning director, Kansas City, Missouri, and Independence, Missouri
<b>Box 4</b>	v.t. 089	[ <b>Ralph Ochsner, cont’d</b> ]
	v.t. 090	<b>James Olson</b> , president, University of Missouri-Kansas City (1976-1984)
	v.t 091, 092	<b>Louis X. Orozco</b> , owner, Jose Gallos Tacqueria, general contractor, and artist
	NO USE COPY	<b>Janice Owens</b> , community activist, employee, HUD, and past-interim executive director, Kansas City Housing Authority
	v.t. 093	<b>Cruise Palmer</b> , reporter and editor, <i>Kansas City Star/Times</i> (1832-1978)
	v.t. 094	<b>Nedinne Parker</b> , 100 year old citizen of Kansas City
	v.t. 095	<b>Barbara Pendleton</b> , civic leader and executive vice president, United Missouri Bancshares, Inc. and United Missouri Bank (1942 –1993)



v.t. 096, 097	<b>Barbara Potts</b> , civic leader, first woman mayor, Independence, Missouri, (1982-1990) and former executive director, Jackson County Historical Society
v.t. 098	<b>Leonard Pryor</b> , teacher of art, Lincoln High School, first African American student and first African American dean, Kansas City Art Institute, and director of art and physical education, Kansas City Public Schools (1973-1986)
v.t. 099	<b>Gerald Randall</b> , mechanic, Engine Overhaul Shop, TWA (1955-1992), and member (1950-1992), union steward (1977-1992), and legislative committee (1979-present), International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers.
[ see v.t. 119, 120 ]	<b>Patricia Uhlmann Rich</b> , civic leader and community volunteer [ See John Uhlmann ]
v.t. 100, 101	<b>Stephen Rose</b> , newspaperman, Sun Publications, co-chair, Bistate I and II, and political commentator ( <i>Ruckus</i> )
v.t. 102	<b>Dorothy Rosenwald</b> , community volunteer and national and regional officer, National Council of Jewish Women
v.t. 103	<b>David Ross</b> , award-winning humanitarian, senior vice president charitable trusts, Bank of America, and advocate, comprehensive mental health services and community resource network
v.t. 104	<b>Irene Hernandez Ruiz</b> , teacher and librarian: Irene H. Ruiz Biblioteca de las Americas is named in her honor
v.t. 105	<b>Hal Sandy</b> , marketing consultant, designer of the University of Kansas Jayhawk, and former mayor, Westwood Hills
v.t. 105	<b>Wilda Sandy</b> , writer and historian ( <i>Here Lies Kansas City</i> (1984))
v.t. 106	<b>Sandra Schermerhorn</b> , attorney (first woman law partner in Kansas City), former Jackson County counselor, and community volunteer
v.t. 107	<b>Marjorie S. Sirridge</b> , physician and professor of medicine at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Medical School
v.t. 108	<b>Beth Smith</b> , award winning civic leader and community volunteer
v.t. 109	<b>Robert Soltero</b> , civic and cultural leader of Kansas City's West Side

v.t. 110, 111	<b>Estelle Glatt Sosland</b> , civic leader and arts patron
v.t. 110, 111	<b>Morton Sosland</b> , civic leader, chairman, Sosland Companies, Inc. and Sosland Publishing Company, Inc., and editor-in-chief, <i>Milling and Baking News</i>
v.t. 112	<b>Rheta Sosland</b> , art patron and philanthropist
v.t. 113, 114	<b>Frank Spurlock</b> , former editor, <i>Kansas City Star</i>
v.t. 115	<b>Marilyn Strauss</b> , founder, Kansas City Shakespeare Festival
v.t. 116, 117	<b>Loren Taylor</b> , attorney, police legal advisor, Kansas City, Kansas, and founder and editor/publisher, <i>Wyandotte County Historical Journal</i>
v.t. 118	<b>Betty Tillotson</b> , dancer and teacher of dance
v.t. 119, 120	<b>John Uhlmann</b> , civic leader and chairman, The Uhlmann Company [ See also <b>Patricia Uhlmann Rich</b> ]
v.t. 121	<b>Gina Valente</b> , director, Scuola Vita Nuova, host/producer, <i>An Adventure in Italy</i> on KXTR, and director, Bisceglia Italian Cultural Center
v.t. 122	<b>Gloria Vando</b> , poet, publisher/editor, Helicon Nine Editions, and co-founder, The Writers Place
v.t. 123	<b>Walter Vernon</b> , attorney, Kansas City Board of Trade (1972-1984), executive director, National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame (1990-1992) and Kansas City Consensus – <b>RESTRICTED</b>
v.t. 124	<b>Jack Wally</b> , chief photographer, <i>Kansas City Journal-Post</i> , assignment photographer, LIFE magazine, family owned Western Blue Print Co. (1908-1980), and inventor and founder of Opti-Copy (1950–present)
v.t. 125	<b>Charles Wheeler, m.d.</b> , physician and mayor, Kansas City, Missouri (1971-1979)
v.t. 126	<b>Robert Wheeler</b> , assistant superintendent, Division of Urban Education, School District of Kansas City, Missouri (1966-1971), associate commissioner for elementary and secondary education, United States Office of Education (1972-1974), and deputy commissioner for elementary and secondary education, United States Office of Education (1974-1977)
v.t. 127	<b>Harry Wiggins</b> , attorney and Missouri state senator (1974-2002)

	v.t. 128, 129	<b>Sidney Willens</b> , attorney and Kansas City activist and hell-raiser
	v.t. 130	<b>Clem Wittman</b> , member and steward, United Auto Workers (30 years)
	v.t. 131	<b>Esther Valladolid Wolf</b> , civic leader, women's activist, former secretary on aging, Kansas Department on Aging, and former administrator, Richard Cabot Clinic
	v.t. 132	<b>Bob Wormington</b> , television broadcaster (42 years-including general manager at WDAF and KSHB-TV)
	v.t. 133	<b>Cecile Wu</b> , writer and poet
	v.t. 133	<b>William Wu</b> , neuro-surgeon and professor, University of Missouri-Kansas City Medical School
<b>Series 4</b>		<b>Masters</b>
<b>Box 5</b>	v.t. 134-166	Adler – Flynn [includes masters for Alvin Brooks, Emanuel Cleaver]
<b>Box 6</b>	v.t. 167-199	John Francis – James Kemper
<b>Box 7</b>	v.t. 200-232	Kerr – Owens [includes masters for Nichols, Owens]
<b>Box 8</b>	v.t. 233-265	Palmer – Charles Wheeler
<b>Box 9</b>	v.t. 266-273	Robert Wheeler – Wu
<b>Series 5</b>		<b>Other Related Tapes – Donated as Part of Project</b>
	v.t. 274-275 v.t. 276 v.t. 277 v.t. 278-295	“A Man Called Al” (Albert P. Mauro) “Albert P. Mauro: American Citizen” “Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Presents: The 1998 Mankind Award Honoring Albert P. Mauro” R.H. Uhlmann – 4 part interview – (8 tapes – 4 use and 4 masters)
<b>Series 6</b>		<b>Digital Masters</b>
<b>Box 10</b>		Mini digital video cassettes (approx. 2” x 3”)