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Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

First World Festival of Negro Arts. United States Committee. Press agent's files

1965-1966

Sc MG 220

Summary

Creator: First World Festival of Negro Arts

Title: First World Festival of Negro Arts. United States Committee. Press agent's files

Date: 1965-1966

Size: .4 linear feet

Source: Museum of the City of New York, 10/--/84

Abstract: The records of the First World Festival of Negro Arts, U.S. Committee Press Agent Files consist of minutes of committee meetings, correspondence pertaining to the planning for American participation in the festival, pre-festival informational packets, biographical information of festival participants and U.S. Committee members, lists of material sent to the festival, press releases, material regarding a reception held for President Leopold Senghor of Senegal, and post-Festival reports.

Access: Advance notice required.

Preferred citation: First World Festival of Negro Arts. United States Committee. Press agent's files, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library

Creator History

The First World Festival of Negro Arts took place April 1-24, 1966 in Dakar, Senegal and demonstrated the cultural ties between African nations and the rest of the world, and the impact of black culture upon world culture. The festival involved the participation of forty-five African, European, West Indian, and North and South African countries. Conceived by Senegalese President Leopold Sedar Senghor, the festival highlighted black literature, music, theater, visual arts, film and dance.

The festival was held under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the government of Senegal and the Society of African Culture. While most other nations relied on governmental procedures to arrange participation in the festival, the United States formed a private, volunteer committee. Mrs. Virginia Inness-Brown and Dr. John A. Davis chaired the U.S. Committee and coordinated American representation at the festival. Broad based funding sources were the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Information Agency, Agency for International

Development, foundations, corporations and private donors.

Scope and Content Note

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Key Terms

Subjects

African American artists
African American arts
African Americans in the performing arts
Art festivals -- Africa
Blacks in the performing arts
Festivals -- Africa
Performing arts festivals -- Africa

Titles

Schomburg NEH Automated Access to Special Collections Project

Names

First World Festival of Negro Arts
World Festival of Negro Arts