



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**John Angelo and David Bond papers**

1931-2012

\*T-Mss 1993-008

Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2015

## Summary

**Creator:** Angelo, John

**Title:** John Angelo and David Bond papers

**Date:** 1931-2012

**Size:** 1.6 linear feet (4 boxes, 1 volume)

**Source:** Donated by John Angelo, 1993-2013

**Abstract:** John Angelo (1922 - ) is a former dancer, choreographer, actor, and set and costume designer who appeared in many Hollywood musicals. David Bond (born Alfred Allegro, 1914-1989) was an actor and theatrical producer. The John Angelo and David Bond papers, dating from 1931 to 2012, document the careers of the performers through photographs, scrapbooks, interviews, programs, clippings, flyers, letters, awards, video interviews, and posters.

**Access:** Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:  
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

**Conditions Governing Access:**

Video materials will be subject to preservation evaluation and migration prior to access. Electronic records are currently unavailable.

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**Processing note:** Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2015

## Creator History

John Angelo (1922-) is a former dancer, choreographer, actor, and set and costume designer. Born in Newark, NJ, he started dancing as a teenager and performed on Broadway, as well as in the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo. In 1952, Angelo moved to West Hollywood when he was recruited by MGM to be a dancer and acting extra. His film appearances included *Summer Stock*, *Singin' in the Rain* (for which he screen tested Gene Kelly's routines), *West Side Story*, *An American in Paris*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Gene Krupa Story*, *From Here to Eternity*, and *Scared Stiff* (with Jerry Lewis and Dean Martin). On television, he was a regular dancer on *The Frank Sinatra Show*, and he also appeared on *Playhouse 90* and *Schultz Playhouse*. Angelo continued to perform in stage and summer stock companies in Southern California, and he also worked and choreographed in Las Vegas, where he appeared with the Rat Pack.

After Angelo retired from dancing he worked as a set designer for such television shows as *Dallas*, *Knots Landing*, *Hart to Hart*, and *The Red Fox Show*.

From the early 1960s onward, Angelo produced theater and dance workshops for children, teens, and adults under the name of Adult, Teen, and Children's Theatre Arts Workshop. He produced, directed, and choreographed most of the productions himself, and was hired by the County of Los Angeles and the City of West Hollywood to produce community theater projects. Angelo was known for an interview show he hosted on the public access West Hollywood City Channel in the 1990s and 2000s, and was interviewed on the channel himself.

In the 1960s, Angelo danced with the Hollywood Shakespeare Festival, which was founded by Angelo's associate, David Bond (born Alfred Allegro, 1914-1989). An actor and theatrical producer, Bond was born in New York City and appeared on Broadway before moving to Los Angeles, where he toured with the Shakespeare Festival around Southern California. He appeared in many films, including *The Late George Apley*, *The Private Affairs of Bel Ami*, *Joan of Arc*, *The Great Caruso*, *Julius Caesar*, and *House Calls*. His television appearances included *Dragnet*, *The Twilight Zone*, *The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis*, and *The Untouchables*.

## Scope and Content Note

The John Angelo and David Bond papers, dating from 1931 to 2012, document the careers of the performers through photographs, scrapbooks, interviews, programs, clippings, flyers, letters, awards, video interviews, and posters. The John Angelo papers mainly cover Angelo's career from the 1960s onward, and consist mostly of photographs, programs, and clippings. Scrapbooks comprise the bulk of the David Bond papers, which primarily document Bond's career from the 1930s to the mid-1960s.

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## Key Terms

### Occupations

Actors (performing artists)  
Dancers  
Producers (managers)

**Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Awards

Clippings (information artifacts)

Interviews

Letters (correspondence)

Photographs

Posters

Programs (documents)

Scrapbooks

**Subjects**

Motion picture actors and actresses -- United States -- 20th century

Theater -- United States -- 20th century

**Geographic Names**

West Hollywood (Calif.)

**Names**

Bond, David, 1914-1989

## Container List

### Series I: John Angelo Papers 1950s-2012 (1.3 boxes)

The John Angelo papers date from the 1950s to 2012. They document the career of the dancer and actor through awards, photographs, clippings, flyers, programs, letters, and video interviews.

The photographs include film stills; autographed prints; publicity shots; shots of productions choreographed or produced by Angelo; prints of Angelo dancing in the 1950s and 1960s; and personal photographs of Angelo with family and friends. Autographed prints include photographs of Frank Sinatra, Kim Novak, Gypsy Rose Lee, Robert Englund, Mitzi Gaynor, David Bond, Carol Burnett, Goldie Hawn, Mae West, Robert Wagner, Natalie Wood, and Dom DeLoise. Informal photographs, most of which date from the late 1990s to the 2000s, feature Angelo with Fayard Nicholas, Mitzi Gaynor, Valerie Harper, Dom DeLoise, Julie Newmar, Jane Powell, Dick Van Dyke, Debbie Reynolds, Tony Curtis, Redd Fox, Cyd Charisse, and Carol Channing. Images of Angelo-choreographed shows include productions from the Hollywood Shakespeare Festival, Las Vegas resorts, summer stock companies, and community theatre events.

The clippings, programs, flyers, and letters date from 1980 to 2012, and mainly document Angelo's community activities in West Hollywood, particularly his Adult and Children's Theatre Workshops. Scripts for some of Angelo's community productions are also present. The letters are from family and friends, usually for Angelo's birthdays.

The two video interviews with Angelo were broadcast on the West Hollywood City Channel (public access cable television). One dates from 2003, the other from 2005.

Angelo's awards and certificates mostly recognize his contributions to the Hollywood community. They include awards for his cable television interview program and citations from the cities of Los Angeles and West Hollywood. The awards include a 2012 video recording of the West Hollywood City Council meeting at which Angelo was honored.

Video materials will be subject to preservation evaluation and migration prior to access.

#### Awards

- b. 1 f. 1 1980-2009
- b. 2 f. 1 1987-2012
- 2012  
origvid.221094  
West Hollywood City Council meeting featuring a presentation to John Angelo.

Video recordings unavailable pending digitization.

- b. 1 f. 2-6 Clippings, Flyers, Programs, and Letters 1980-2012

#### Interviews

An Interview with John Angelo 2003  
origvid.220985  
Video recordings unavailable pending digitization.

*Legends of Hollywood -- John Angelo Interview* 2005

origvid.221093  
Video recordings unavailable pending digitization.

#### Photographs

- b. 1 f. 7 1950s-2012
- b. 3 f. 1 1950s-2012
- b. 4 f. 1-3 1950s-2012

**Series II: David Bond Papers 1931-1980s (2.6 boxes, 1 volume)**

The David Bond papers, dating from 1931 to the 1908s, consist of scrapbooks, photographs, posters, letters, programs, clippings, and posters.

The scrapbooks date from 1931 to 1979, but primarily cover the 1930s to the mid-1960s. They hold photographs, programs, clippings and letters. The earlier material documents Bond's career in the New York area, during which he was still acting under his real name, Alfred Allegro. Later scrapbooks cover his film appearances, as well as his production and acting work with the Hollywood Shakespeare Festival. The letters in the scrapbooks are usually congratulatory notes or telegrams.

Additional letters, programs, and clippings were never assembled into a scrapbook. They date mostly from the early 1940s and include material regarding the Players Repertory Company and the Junior Programs (both of which Bond worked with), as well as programs for summer stock companies.

The photographs date from the 1930s to the 1980s and include stage production shots, film and television stills, and headshots. The posters advertise productions in which Bond appeared.

- b. 4 f. 4 Letters, Programs, and Clippings 1940-1942, 1979
- b. 4 f. 5 Photographs 1930s-1980s
- b. 3 f. 2 Posters 1960s, undated
- Scrapbooks
  - b. 2 f. 2 1931-1945
    - v. 1 1937-1940
  - b. 3 f. 3 1938-1942
  - b. 2 f. 3 1942-1947
  - b. 2 f. 4 1954-1967, 1979