

BAM Board Files

Collection Identifier

BAM_Board_Files

Dates

circa 1966 – 2015 inclusive

circa 1966 – 2012 bulk

Abstract

The BAM Board Files Collection is comprised of the business records of the the BAM Board and the BAM Endowment Trust, along with other Board groups associated with BAM.

Extent

12 document boxes

15 linear feet

Agency History

The Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), founded in 1861, is a thriving arts center in Brooklyn. Originally conceived as a home for classical music, it quickly broadened to include theater and lectures, and welcomed the star performers of the day. After the original location in Brooklyn Heights was destroyed by fire in 1903, a new theater was built at 30 Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, and the BAM campus has now grown to comprise three buildings. Today, BAM is known as an adventurous multi-arts center with world-renowned programming. It is celebrated for its Next Wave Festival in the fall, which presents contemporary experimental performance, and for its spring season of international theater, dance, and opera. BAM also offers a robust roster of film, a comprehensive Education & Humanities program, and serves an important civic function, hosting numerous community events.

Historical/Biographical Note

The BAM Board of Directors grew out of two previous formal organizations of leadership for the Brooklyn Academy of Music. The first, the Brooklyn Institute of Arts & Sciences (BIAS), established 1823 predated BAM's founding by 38 years. The second organization was the shortly lived St. Felix Street Corporation, established in 1970. As BAM began to distance itself from the control of BIAS, which was at the time a partnership with multiple Brooklyn organizations, namely the Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, and the Brooklyn Children's Museum, it sought to create a leadership body devoted to BAM alone. This corporate body was later reorganized as the BAM Board of Directors in 1974, with Paul Lepercq as its Chairman. The leadership of the board continues to this day to help shape both the financial and institutional character of BAM.

Scope & Content

The BAM Board Files consist of two main series: the BAM Board of Trustees and the BAM Endowment Trust (BET). The BAM Board of Trustees is comprised of five boxes of board minutes, from 1966 to the present, as well as one box of Board correspondence and related materials and a final box of biographies of BAM Board members, the bulk of which were created in the 1990s. The BAM Endowment Trust series consists of three boxes of BET minutes from 1997 to the present, as well as one additional box of related BET member biographies and financial statements. The remaining series consists of a small amount of files from related BAM Board groups, such as the Community Partnership Council and Friends of BAM. This series also contains the only records of the Women's League for BAM (1958-1959). Notable materials in the Friends of BAM series include the 1968 formal constitution of this volunteer group, outlining their goals to represent the diverse cultures of New York City by creating a broader audience and membership base for BAM and its programming.

Arrangement

The majority of the collection is arranged in chronological order according to series. The only exception is the BAM Board Biographies, which are arranged alphabetically.

Processing Note

In consultation with Processing Archivists, the BAM Board Files were minimally processed according to their series and sub-series. Misfiled papers were refiled according to general series order. Duplicates were discarded and unrelated materials were removed from the files.

Restrictions

Open to researchers. Appointments are necessary for the use of archival collections.

Use Restrictions

Collection use is subject to all copyright laws. Permission to publish materials must be obtained in writing from the Director of the BAM Hamm Archives. For more information, contact BAM Hamm Archives 1000 Dean Street Brooklyn, NY 11238 Phone: 718.724.8151 Email: slehner@bam.org

Provenance

Internal transfer of files to the BAM Hamm Archives.

Preferred Citation

Published citations should take the following form: Identification of item, date (if known); BAM Board Files, box number, BAM Hamm Archives, Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Collection Contents

BAM Board Files

01 - BAM Board of Trustees

01 - BAM Board of Trustees Minutes

02 - BAM Board of Trustees Biographies

03 - BAM Board of Trustees Photographs (1 record)

[Adam Max, portrait by Jesse Dittmar Studios] , 2016

02 - BAM Endowment Trust

01 -BAM Endowment Trust Minutes

02 - BAM Endowment Trust Biographies

03 - BET Conflict of Interest forms

03 - Other Boards related to BAM

01 - Women's League for the Academy of Music (1958-1959)

02 - Friends of BAM (1967-1977)

03 - Community Partnership Council (2008-2012)

04 - Picnic Committee/BAM Employee Council (1987-1990)