

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mater Dei
#868 Collection**

14 boxes, 8 linear feet

**Special Collections & Archives
J. Edgar & Louise S. Monroe Library
Loyola University New Orleans**

Collection #51

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mater Dei #868 Collection

Reference Code

Collection #51

Name and Location of Repository

Special Collections and Archives, J. Edgar & Louise S. Monroe Library, Loyola University New Orleans

Title

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mater Dei #868 Collection

Date

1924 – 1989

Extent

14 boxes, 8 linear feet

Name of Creator

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mater Dei #868

Administrative/Biographical History

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas was founded in June of 1903 in New York State. The society was conceived as a Knights of Columbus for Catholic women, and the organization was originally known as the “Daughters of Isabella”. The name was subsequently changed twice more, becoming the “Catholic Daughters of America” in 1921 and the broader “Catholic Daughters of the Americas” in 1954, as at that point the CDA had established “courts” in several other countries including Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Saipan, the Dominican Republic, and Mexico. The State Court of Louisiana was formed on January 14, 1923, and the Court Mater Dei #868 branch was founded on May 18, 1924. The Catholic Daughters of the Americas is still active today with nearly 75,000 members and contributes to such charitable causes as Habitat for Humanity International.

Scope and Content

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mater Dei #868 Collection consists primarily of newspaper clippings and photographs. These clippings and photographs were included in scrapbooks and photograph albums chronicling the history of the Court Mater Dei #868 branch of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

System of Arrangement

This collection has been arranged into three series. Whenever possible, the original order of the scrapbooks and photograph albums has been maintained. Pages missing photographs have been left as-is. These missing photographs appear to have been removed prior to donation. Loose photographs and newspaper clippings from the 1924 – 1951 scrapbook that could not be returned to their original order have been placed in two folders at the beginning of Series I.

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Physical rights are retained by the J. Edgar and Louis S. Monroe Library, Loyola University New Orleans. Copyright is retained in accordance with U.S. Copyright Laws.

Language and Scripts of the Material

Collection is in English.

Processing Information

Finding aid written by James Clifford, 2013.

Sources Used

The following sources were consulted during the preparation of the biographical note:

Catholic Daughters of the Americas. (n.d.). *The history of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas*. Retrieved from <http://www.catholicdaughters.org/history.shtml>

Catholic Daughters of America. (1927). Origin, Catholic Daughters of America. *Building Fund Benefit*.

Series Description

Series I Scrapbooks

Eight scrapbooks containing newspaper clippings, photographs, pamphlets, programs, and miscellaneous ephemera related to the Court Mater Dei #868 branch of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas between the years 1924 and 1984.

Series II Photographs

Two photograph albums. One contains photographs of past regents of Court Mater Dei #868 from between the years 1966 and 1989, and the other miscellaneous Court Mater Dei #868 photographs from between the years 1959 and 1975. Both albums include undated photographs. Also includes a panoramic photograph of the Catholic Daughters of America at St. Matthew's church in Washington, D.C. dated July 8, 1941.

Series III Minstrel Maids Show Programs

Minstrel show programs from between the years 1925 and 1941 for an annual building fundraiser organized by Court Mater Dei #868, and performed by the "New Orleans Minstrel Maids". No program is included for the year 1939. Also includes two undated group photographs of the Minstrel Maids and a certificate from Catholic Dramatic Guild from 1924.

Container List

| Box | Folder | Description |
|------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1924 – 1951 |
| | 2 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1924 – 1951 |
| | 3 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1924 – 1951 |
| | 4 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1924 – 1951 |
| | 5 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1951 – 1954 |
| | 6 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1951 – 1954 |
| | 7 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1951 – 1954 |
| | 8 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1951 – 1954 |
| | 9 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1962 – 1963 |
| 2 | 1 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1962 – 1963 |
| | 2 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1962 – 1963 |
| | 3 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1962 – 1963 |
| | 4 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1962 – 1963 |
| 3 | 1 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1963 – 1964 |
| | 2 | Junior CDA, 1950 – 1954 |
| | 3 | Junior CDA, 1950 – 1954 |
| 4 | | Court Mater Dei #868, 1964-1965 |
| | | Court Mater Dei #868, 1966-1968 |
| 5 | | Court Mater Dei #868, 1968-1970 |
| | | Court Mater Dei #868, 1970-1972 |

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| 6 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1972-1974 |
| 7 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1974 – 1976 |
| 8 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1976 – 1978 |
| 9 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1978 – 1980 |
| 10 | Court Mater Dei #868, 1980 – 1982 Court Mater Dei #868, 1982 – 1984 |

Series II: Photograph Albums

| Box | Folder | Description |
|------------|---------------|--|
| 11 | | Past Grand Regents, 1966 – 1989 |
| 12 | | Photographs, 1959 – 1975 |
| 13 | | Photographs, 1959 – 1975 |
| 14 | 1 | Panoramic group photograph, July 8, 1941 |

Series III: Minstrel Maids Show Programs

| Box | Folder | Description |
|------------|---------------|--|
| 14 | 2 | Minstrel Maids group photographs |
| | 3 | Catholic Dramatic Guild certificate, 1924 |
| | 4 | Minstrel Show and Dance, 1925 |
| | | The Fun Revue, 1926 |
| | | Novelty Minstrel, New Orleans Minstrel Maids, 1926 |
| | | Building Fund Benefit, 1927 |
| | | Building Fund Benefit, 1928 |
| | | Building Fund Benefit, 1929 |
| | | Building Fund Benefit, 1929 |
| | | Building Fund Benefit, 1929 |
| | | Black Face Comedy and Minstrel, 1930 |
| | | Black Face Comedy and Minstrel, 1930 |
| | | Black Face Comedy and Minstrel, 1930 |
| | | Novelty Minstrel and Revue, 1931 |
| | | Review of Revues, 1932 |
| | | Cinderella Married, 1933 |
| | | “Fanfare and Fantasy”, a Minstrel and Revue, 1934 |
| | | “It’s the Tops”, a Minstrel Revue, 1935 |
| | | “The Pastry Cook and the Pirate”, a Musical Comedy in Three Acts, 1936 |
| | | “The Pastry Cook and the Pirate”, a Musical Comedy in Three Acts, 1936 |

“Musical Mixtures”, 1937
New Orleans Minstrel Maids Fiesta, 1938
Ranchcapades, 1940
Ranchcapades, 1940
“Minstrel Americana” and Their 1941 Streamlined
Revue, 1941