


11-26-2013

## Bowling Green Music Club - Bowling Green, Kentucky (MSS 457)

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives  
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*Descriptive Inventory*

**MSS 457 BOWLING GREEN MUSIC CLUB – Bowling Green, Kentucky**

2 boxes. 23 folders. 269 items. 1896-1961. Originals and photocopies

SC2013.3.81

***ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY***

The Woman's Music Club was founded in 1896 in Bowling Green, Kentucky to promote musical study and performance. With twenty-eight charter members, the club met on the first and third Fridays of each month in one of the member's homes. Meeting dates changed periodically and locations for public concerts were held throughout the community. Programs could include vocal or instrumental music, but lectures on musical topics were also allowed. The by-laws accorded harsh penalties for members who refused to be on the program when asked.

Information about the period from 1906 to 1922 is sketchy at best, and minutes for a meeting held on 22 November 1922 claims that the organization was organized on that date. A newspaper article from this date also notes that the Woman's Music Club had been inactive for fifteen years. The new organization's constitution and by-laws were adopted and published in December 1927; the document declares the Music Club's objective "to promote the musical culture of its members and to foster in the community an increased knowledge and love of music." At a meeting held on 10 January 1923, the program included "A History of the old Music Club" by Mrs. Ben Proctor. Unfortunately Mrs. Proctor's treatise was not kept for posterity.

The organization changed its name and amended its constitution and by-laws on 7 October 1936. The group's name was changed to the Bowling Green Music Club, and it opened its membership to men although it remained almost exclusively female. The Club continued its programming at least until 1961, but minutes are extant only through 7 May 1945. The constitution and by-laws were last amended on 7 April 1954.

The Woman's Music Club founded the Bowling Green Junior Music Club in 1927 to "stimulate musical development through study and performance" for children between the ages of 12 and 18. It was operated by a Board of Directors that included the President of the senior club and the officers of the junior club. It was active through at least 1952. It, like its senior organization, held educational programs and member recitals and concerts as well as open concerts to which the public was invited. At one time it had a 35-member orchestra and a 40-voice choir. It, along with its senior organization, also performed for other musical clubs in the area as well as at competitions.

## **COLLECTION NOTE**

This collection contains material from the Woman's Music Club, the Bowling Green Music Club and the Bowling Green Junior Music Club. The collection includes minutes, governing documents, yearbooks, programs for public concerts, membership information, various reports, and news clippings. The most complete records are the yearbooks which include the programs produced by each group.

Box 2, Folder 4 includes an interesting pedagogical tool called *Young Folks' Picture History of Music* by James Francis Cooke. It is a combination workbook and scrapbook in which illustrations are glued into prescribed boxes and children filled in answers to questions asked about the accompanying text.

## **SHELF LIST**

<b>BOX 1</b>	<b>BOWLING GREEN MUSIC CLUB</b>	<b>1896-1954</b>	<b>56 items</b>
Folder 1	Inventory	n.d.	1 item
Folder 2	Minutes	1922-1935	13 items
Folder 3	Minutes	1935-1945	8 items
Folder 4	Constitution and by-laws	1925-1954	6 items
Folder 5	Yearbooks	1896-1930	12 items
Folder 6	Yearbooks	1930-1946	16 items
<b>BOX 2</b>	<b>BOWLING GREEN MUSIC CLUB</b>	<b>1900-1961</b>	<b>213 items</b>
Folder 1	Yearbooks	1946-1961	15 items
Folder 2	Annual reports	1937-1939	4 items
Folder 3	Membership	1935-1949	3 items
Folder 4	Correspondence	1933-1939	6 items
Folder 5	Programs	1900-1949	79 items
Folder 6	Clippings	1922-1938	6 items
Folder 7	Miscellaneous	1901-1957	11 items

Folder 8	Bowling Green Junior Music Club minutes	1937-1941	16 items
Folder 9	Bowling Green Junior Music Club Constitution and Bylaws	1937-1938	2 items
Folder 10	Bowling Green Junior Music Club yearbooks	1934-1952	7 items
Folder 11	Bowling Green Junior Music Club annual reports	1939-1942	5 items
Folder 12	Bowling Green Junior Music Club membership	1937-1942	9 items
Folder 13	Bowling Green Junior Music Club correspondence	1938-1942	19 items
Folder 14	Bowling Green Junior Music Club programs	1937-1938	4 items
Folder 15	Bowling Green Junior Music Club financial information	1937-1938	8 items
Folder 16	Bowling Green Junior Music Club young folks picture history of music	1925	1 item
Folder 17	Bowling Green Junior Music Club miscellaneous	1937-1938	18 items

### ***BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD***

MSS BOWLING Green Music Club – 1896-1961  
457 Bowling Green, Kentucky

Minutes, governing documents, yearbooks, programs for public concerts, membership information, various reports, and news clippings for the Woman's Music Club, the Bowling Green Music Club and the Bowling Green Junior Music Club.

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### ***SUBJECT ANALYTICS***

Armitage, Mary Julia, 1871-1958 B2,F4  
Bowling Green Junior Music Club B2,F8-17  
Christmas cards B2,F13  
Clubs – Bowling Green  
Honey Krust Bakery – Bowling Green – Relating to B2,F13  
Menus B2,F17

Music and musical affairs – Bowling Green

Pianos B2,F4

Strahm, Franz Joseph, 1867-1941 – Relating to B2,F7

Smith, Beulah Ethel (Morgan), 1894-1987 – Correspondence B2,F13

Woman's Music Club – Bowling Green

*Young Folks' Picture History of Music* B2,F16

***SEE and SEE ALSO***

Woman's Music Club – Bowling Green

See also:

Bowling Green Music Club

Jeffrey 11/26/2013