Teachers College of Kansas City Collection (SC168)

Introduction

This collection contains materials relating to the Teachers College of Kansas City, as well as its alumni organization, Tau Kappa Delta. These materials include a scrapbook maintained by members of Tau Kappa Delta, newspaper clippings and photographs detailing the activities and achievements of the Teachers College’s students and faculty, and an issue of the school’s weekly newspaper, Teachers College Scout.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Tau Kappa Delta members
Title: Teachers College of Kansas City
Dates: 1922-1974
Size: 1.92 linear feet, 2 boxes, 27 folders
Collection Number: SC168

Donor Information

Gift, October 12, 2010, Loni Maxey.

Citation Note

Teachers College of Kansas City Collection (SC168), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administrative Information

Related Collections: Additional information on the Teachers College of Kansas City may be found in the Missouri Valley Special Collections. Holdings include yearbooks for the Teachers College of Kansas City, Ye Pedagogue, for the years 1924-1934, 1936-1942. Other resources include the school newspaper, Teachers College Scout, for the years 1925-1932, and 1935-1942, the Teachers College Scout magazine edition, a quarterly professional journal for the years 1928-1939 (093.957 S43m), student handbooks, 1926-1938 (093.957 S93), course catalogs, 1917-1943 (093.957 C86 and 093.957 S95), and parent education bulletins, 1930-1934 (093.957 P22). Additional information on the Teachers College can also be found in the vertical file.

Historical Sketch

The Teachers College of Kansas City, originally established by the Kansas City Board of Education, was an outgrowth of a teacher-training department founded in 1911 at Central High School (11th and Locust streets). The expanded training grew from the original 1-year course to a 2-year training course by 1915 and in 1927, three years were required for a certificate. That same year, the school became co-ed with only two men attending regular courses, Vernon Downs and Alvin Karner. It became
a four-year college leading to a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in 1931. The site moved to the Woodland building at 1840 E. 8th Street in 1922, and the Woodland School became the demonstration school for the college. On March 5, 1942, the board of education approved the merger of the Teachers College with Kansas City Junior College and provided a new location at 39th and McGee Streets. It was then officially named the Junior and Teachers College of Kansas City offering two years beyond the junior college years, with courses leading to a B.S. in Elementary Education and state certification for elementary schools. In 1944, the school officially closed. The alumni association began in 1923 with the objective to promote good fellowship among graduates by means of social gatherings, as well as provide financial aid to students of Teachers College. Tau Kappa Delta was the name of the college’s debate club, as well the name adopted by the school’s alumnae.

**Scope and Content Note**

The collection is arranged into four series according to type of material, and therein chronologically where possible.

**Series 1: Newspaper clippings, 1922-1940**

This series contains clippings of articles from newspapers such as The Kansas City Star/Times and the Journal Post. Most clippings are pasted to cardboard or paper. Articles are arranged in chronological order whenever possible. Topics range from events held by the college to student achievements and photographs such as class photos from Central High School, the University of Kansas City Law School, Teachers College of Kansas City, Loretto Academy and St. Agnes Academy published in the Kansas City Star May 5, 1940 (f.11). For preservation purposes, photocopies of these pages are available for patron’s use.


This series comprises a scrapbook created by members of Tau Kappa Delta, the Teachers College of Kansas City Alumni Association. Scrapbook pages are in their original order, although some items have come unattached from the pages. A felt patch of the Tau Kappa Delta insignia is attached to the scrapbook cover. Inside the cover is written: Billy Neel, Civics Hour 5, April 23, 1945. Scrapbook pages contain a variety of items including photographs (some identified), newspaper clippings, obituaries and funeral programs; correspondence in the form of Christmas cards, postcards, thank you notes, and wedding invitations; meeting minutes, donation receipts and letters from Children’s Mercy Hospital and United Inner City Services, membership roster and by-laws from 1962, and a book of poetry, *Reflections in Miniature*, by Margaret E. McCaul, 1966. For preservation purposes, photocopies of these pages are available for patron’s use.

**Series 3: Photographs, 1928, 1931, n.d.**

This series contains eight black and white photographs. One is an 8x10 class portrait by “Cooley Studio” in a cardboard frame. It is not dated and people featured are not
identified. Three 8x10 photos feature school productions. Writing on the back of one of these photos states: “Overtones” by Alice Gerstenberg, Direction of Miss Louise Abney, T.C. “College Footlights”- April 17, 1931. Three 8x10 photographs are class portraits, but no date is noted or people identified. Stamped on the back are Library Teachers College and Ye Pedagogue. The last photo is 10x14 and features the graduating class of 1928 in cap and gowns. Printed on the front is: Graduating Class 1928, Teachers College of Kansas City, Anderson KC.

Series 4: Teachers College of Kansas City Newspaper, 1927

This series contains only one item, volume 4, issue number 1 of the Teachers College Scout dated September 15, 1927. This was the official weekly newspaper of the Kansas City Teachers College.

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Newspaper clippings, 1922-1940

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f. 13 Teachers College of KC Alumni Scrapbook (photocopies)
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f. 23 Photographs, framed class photo, n.d.
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