Carl Busch was a noted musician, conductor, and composer who had a well-known musical presence in Kansas City during the first half of the 20th century. This scrapbook reflects the city's admiration for his musical contributions.

**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Carl Busch Recognition Association; Lambda Phi Delta, Gamma chapter  
**Title:** Carl Busch Recognition Association scrapbook  
**Dates:** 1923-1934, bulk 1923  
**Size:** 1 item, 11 x 15 in. (1 box)  
**Location:** SC78

**Administrative Information**

**Restrictions on access:** Unrestricted access.  
**Related collections in other repositories:** Carl Busch (1862-1943) Papers, Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Kansas City (KC0222).  
**Acquisition information:** Unknown, cataloged by library in 1973.

**Custodial history:** Originally located in the library's Art and Music Department and in the Central Reference Department.

**Citation note:** Carl Busch Recognition Association scrapbook (SC78), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

**Collection Description**

**Biographical/Historical note**

Carl Busch was born on March 19, 1862, in Denmark. In 1887 he and three friends formed a string quartet and came to Kansas City after hearing about opportunities for musicians in the growing city. He began giving private lessons, playing violin with other groups and conducting. In the next 35 years Carl Busch composed orchestral works and wrote compositions for both strings and voice. He was a guest conductor for major symphony orchestras in the United States, Europe, and Scandinavia.

Mr. Busch was knighted by both the king of Norway and of Denmark for making the music of their countries known in America. In 1923 he was honored for his musical service to Kansas City with a concert at the Convention Hall. Although he was nationally recognized in the music world, he continued living and working in Kansas City until his death in 1943.

**Scope and content note**

This collection consists of one leather bound scrapbook which contains telegrams, formal letters and handwritten notes from people who accepted an invitation to be honorary members on the committee of the Carl Busch Recognition Association. The committee and the Lambda Phi Delta sorority
planned a concert to be held in Convention Hall on November 25, 1923, to honor Mr. Busch for his 35 years of musical service in Kansas City.

The scrapbook has 141 used pages. The first page is dedicated to Mr. Carl Busch for his devotion to music and his inspiration to others. The next two pages contain a portrait photograph reproduction of him and a list of officers and members of the Gamma Chapter of the Lambda Phi Delta sorority. Newspaper clippings about the concert are interspersed with the letters. At the back of the scrapbook are letters congratulating him about the award given to him by the Fine Arts College at the University of Missouri – Columbia in 1934. Attached is a list of people who sent letters in 1923 and in 1934.

Collection Inventory - Signatures

Signatures 1923

- Arthur M. Hyde – Governor of Missouri
- Jonathan M. Davis – Governor of Kansas City Missouri School District
- Constantine Brun – Minister of Denmark
- Georg Bech – Consul General of Denmark
- Juliette Johan Pvendsen – widow of the composer, Johann Pvendsen
- Ole Olsen – former Chief of the Norwegian Army, musician and composer of international fame
- Henry Hadley – associate conductor of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra
- H.W. Gray – H.W. Gray company, music publisher
- Carl Fischer – music publisher in New York
- Theodore Presser – Theo Presser Company, music publisher and dealer
- Walter Henry Rothwell – conductor of the Philharmonic Orchestra
- Earl Towner – conductor of the Fresco, California Orchestra
- John M. Spargur – conductor of the Settle Symphony Orchestra
- Alfred Hertz – conductor of the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra
- Frederick Neil Innes - founder and director of the F.N. Innes Correspondence School of Bank Music
- Mrs. Abbie Llewellyn Snoddy – president of the Missouri Federation of Music Clubs
- Mrs. William J. Logan – president of the Kansas Federation of Music Clubs
- D.M. Swarthout – Dean of the School of Fine Arts at the University of Kansas City Missouri School District
- Walter McCray – Director of the Department of Music at Kansas State Teachers College
- Mrs. J.F. Lyons – president of the National Federation of Music Clubs
- T.C. Niles of the Niles and Moser Cigar Company in Kansas City, Missouri
- Arnold Volpe – Kansas City Conservatory of Music
- Laura Nelson Kirkwood and Irwin Kirkwood
- J. C. Jenkins – Jenkins Music Company
- W.S. Dickey of Dickey Clay Company

Signatures 1934

- George Melcher – Superintendent of the Kansas City Missouri Public Schools
- John F. O’Hara – president of the University of Notre Dame
- J.C. Nichols
- Walter S. Fischer – president of Carl Fischer, Inc., music publisher

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sandra Gates, Summer 2000.