

Inventory of the

**Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra**  
DeKalb County, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

**RC 223**

## INTRODUCTION

Del Schafer, President of the Board of Directors of the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra, donated records of this organization to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on April 18, 1995. Additional records for the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra Collection have also been donated by Carrie Brantley, Bob Buggert, Sally Stevens, and Diane Wells.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 1.75  
Number of containers: 3  
Northern Illinois Regional History Center  
Collection 223

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra Collection dates from 1977 to 1998. These records consist of meeting minutes, correspondence, grant applications, newspaper clippings, brochures and programs, as well as papers of incorporation, by-laws, and other reports. Also included are Kishwaukee Symphony associates newsletters, and program material. This collection, although not complete, will provide the researcher with documentation on the growth of the organization, and its musical programs.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

The New Approach Music Makers, Inc. was established in the summer of 1977 with its primary purpose to bring music to the "average" person. The first project initiated by the organization was to establish a community orchestra. The first concert performed by this group was on Sunday, April 23, 1978, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in DeKalb. Five years later, in 1982, the organization changed its name to the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra.

Over the years the orchestra grew from a group getting together informally to play, to rehearsing once a week and presenting four concerts a season at the Egyptian Theatre. Likewise, the board grew from three to twelve members. In September 1986 the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra began sponsoring a Young Artists Competition, the winners of which would perform with the orchestra during its Young Peoples Concert the following spring. Over the years the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra's concert season has been partially sponsored by grants from the Rockford Arts Council, the Illinois Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Kishwaukee Symphony Associates were formed in 1983 to help promote and foster the growth of the orchestra, and provide financial support to the orchestra. In recognition for

providing the community with the opportunity to enjoy performances of the worlds greatest music, and enabling talented volunteer musicians in the community to participate in the act of cultural enrichment, the cities of DeKalb and Sycamore proclaimed April 24-30, 1988 Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra Week. In 1992 the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra was a recipient of the Altrusa Cultural Award. The Arthur Montzka family, instrumental in the founding and continuation of the KSO, had been honored with this award in 1990 for their musical contributions to the community.

### SUBJECT TRACINGS

DeKalb County  
DeKalb County Orchestra  
Kishwaukee Symphony Associates  
Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra  
New Approach Music Makers

### COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
		New Approach Music Makers
1	1	Incorporation papers, 1977, 1980, 1982
	2	By-laws, ca. 1978
	3	Not-for-profit Corporation Act, Annual Reports, 1980-1982
	4	Board of Directors Minutes, 1978-1980
	5	DeKalb County Orchestra, 1979-1980 Budget
		DeKalb Symphony Orchestra
	6	Name change, 1982
	7	By-laws, n.d., 1983, amended 1984
	8	Not-for-profit Corporation Act, Annual Reports, 1983-1995
	9	Board of Directors lists, 1985-1996
	10	Job Descriptions and Resumes, n.d., 1984, 1986, 1995
	11	Agreements, 1984, 1988-1995
	12-15	Board of Directors Minutes, 1982, 1984-1996
	16	Financial Records, 1982-1995
2	1-2	Correspondence, 1984-1996
	3-10	Grants, (1985-1996)
	11-12	Brochures and Programs, 1978, 1983-1992
3	1-1a	Brochures and Programs, 1992-2009+
	2-2a	Newspaper Clippings, 1984-1996, 1997-1998+

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	3
3	3	Press Releases, 1988-1989, 1992, 1994	
	4	Music Played, 1980-1989	
	5	Advertising, Correspondence, Lists, and Invoices, 1985-1991	
	6	Artwork, n.d., 1985	
	7	Photograph (Montzka, Monat, Squires, & Pickler, ca.early 1990's)	
	8	Mailing lists	
	9	Altrusa Cultural Award Nomination, 1988, 1989 (Montzka Family submitted by Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra)	
	10	Proclamation - Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra Week, April 24-30, 1988 [legal size folder in box]	
	11	Kishwaukee Symphony Associates, By-Laws, Manual 1983; Newsletters, Programs, and Correspondence, (1984-1998)	
	Small box	Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra stamp	
	5 tapes	Videocassette Tape Recordings: Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra Concert, Egyptian Theater, February 23 & April 26, 1992 (1 tape); "Messiah" Concert, Elwood Smith and KSO, December 10, 1993 & December 9, 1994 (2 tapes); KSO Young Performers, May 7, 1995 & April 28, 1996 (2 tapes)	
Oversize Drawer 20, Folder 9		Original calligraphy artwork for April 23, 1978 concert program by Kathryn Jones	