The Department of Art of the Normal/Hunter College

1908-1916, 1927-1932, 1939-1943, 1946, 1967, 1992

**Finding Aid** 

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

Accession Number:	97-01
Size:	0.4522 cu. ft.
Provenance:	Art Department
Restrictions:	None.
Location:	Range 2 Section 4 Shelf 19
Archivist:	Prof. Julio L. Hernández-Delgado
Assistant:	Ms. Sofía Zambrano Ms. Dane Guerrero
Date:	April, 1997
Revised:	December, 2012

#### HISTORICAL NOTE

The Art Department was one of the original departments of the Normal College of the City of New York which opened on February 14, 1870. The annual reports that are included in this collection are invaluable for tracing the history of the aforementioned department. Music and drawing courses were offered to undergraduates since the inception of the College in 1870. The 1908 Report of the Department of Drawing indicated that there were 191 students enrolled in art history, composition and design, water color & cast drawing, oil painting, arts & crafts, and other related courses.

Professor Christine W. Reid, Chair of Art Department, indicated in her 1913 report that the art history classes increased in number along with the number of teachers. By 1931, the number of students enrolled in the department rose to 1,614 – 78 students less than in the previous year. This was attributed to the lack of sufficient classroom space in the building. New courses were added to the discipline and a gallery-like space was created on the fifth floor to exhibit student drawings, paintings, and designs. Professor Joseph Cummings Chase, Chair of the Art Department, reported in 1941 of the excitement that was generated when the department moved to new quarters in "The Palace on Park Avenue."

A comprehensive history of the department is sorely needed since the records in this collection only go up to 1946 with a couple of items from 1967 and 1992. Researchers may want to examine the Edna Wells Luetz Papers to assess the work and contribution of one of the former chairs of the Art Department.

## **CONTAINER LIST**

### **SERIES I - ADMINISTRATION**

Box	Folder_	Contents
1	1	Annual Reports 1908, 1911 - 1916, 1927, 1929 - 1932, 1939 - 1943, 1946
	2	Brochures
	3 4	Personnel Files Baziotes, William Lippold, Richard
	5	Contexts & Scenarios, 1992
	6	Miscellaneous Materials
	7	Proposal for the Development of a Slide Collection for the Department of Art, Hunter College of New York, September 6, 1967