Finding Aid for the Allegra Fuller Snyder papers, Inclusive Dates 1927-2010, Bulk Dates 1970-2000

Processed by Sativa Peterson (January 29, 2014) for e-kiNETx and Cross-Cultural Dance Resources (CCDR) Collections, School of Film, Dance and Theatre, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts at Arizona State University.

Revised by Jennifer Eagle (March 25, 2019); addition of Series 5 - Research Ephemera; reviewed and revised by Adair Landborn, Curator (August 22, 2019).

Descriptive Summary
Title: Allegra Fuller Snyder papers
Date (inclusive): 1927-2010
Collection number:
Creator: Snyder, Allegra Fuller
Extent: 28 boxes (31.5 linear feet). 10 boxes with fully described contents (14 linear feet); 17 boxes of minimally described wide-ranging research notes and ephemera (17.5 linear feet). Oversize items (educational posters) also available for study.

Abstract: The collection includes the research, personal and professional files of Allegra Fuller Snyder, professor emerita and past chair of the UCLA Department of Dance.

Evident in the collection is what a comprehensive thinker Allegra Fuller Snyder was, and is. Her personal files reflect a wide range of interests from performance dance to film, and from dance ethnology to dance therapy. For Snyder, learning had both academic and experiential dimensions. Her professional and personal interests are oftentimes indistinct which contextualizes the collection, and her intellectual process.

In addition to being professor emerita and past chair of the UCLA Dance Department, Snyder coordinated (along with Professor Elsie Dunin) the pioneer graduate program in Dance Ethnology at UCLA. Serving as chair of the Ethnic Arts Program from 1974 with an inter-college and interdisciplinary curriculum, the program later was integrated into the Department of Dance, becoming the Department of World Arts and Cultures. Snyder was an active member of the Congress on Research in Dance (CORD), serving as Chairperson from 1975-1977, and as conference co-coordinator, along with Joann Kealiinohomoku, at the 1972 CORD Conference on “Dance and Anthropology,” held at the University of Arizona, Tucson, and The Yaqui Villages of Tucson.

The collection contains a broad scope of materials from 1939-2010, with the bulk being from 1970-2000. Though Snyder retired from UCLA in 1991, she maintained many of her research files throughout the 2000’s and in some cases up until the point of transfer to ASU in 2011.

Her research materials and personal files contain articles by and about Snyder, brochures, correspondence with friends and colleagues, grant proposals, news clippings, presentations, performance programs, student thesis projects, and materials about her father, R. Buckminster Fuller.