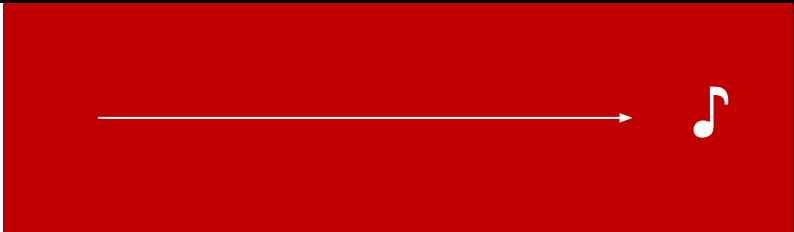


A WINDOW

TO SEATTLE'S

MUSIC HISTORY:



CAPSTONE

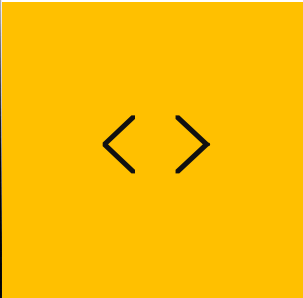


Ladies Musical Club Digital Archive

IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY TO THE LADIES MUSICAL CLUB'S

# ARCHIVES

The Ladies Musical Club (LMC) is Seattle's oldest arts organization. Founded in 1891, LMC helped establish Seattle as a musical city by giving skilled women musicians a platform for public performance, thrilling audiences with concerts by world-famous musicians, and supporting other Seattle institutions like Cornish College. LMC's important history is well preserved but can be hard to find. This project aims to improve accessibility to the LMC's archive by providing a cross-institutional collection guide and enhancing the LMC's digital archive. These changes offer a clearer window to Seattle's music history for LMC members, researchers, music fans, and the broader public.



**Team:** Whitney Henderson, PhD, MLIS Class of '24

**Sponsor:** Ladies Musical Club of Seattle

SPRING 2024

SPONSOR + TEAM NEXT

A WINDOW

TO SEATTLE'S

MUSIC HISTORY

# SPONSOR + TEAM

Whitney (UW) and Katie (LMC) worked together throughout the project's duration.



Photo by William Muñoz



**WHITNEY HENDERSON, PHD**

Music historian, researcher, and aspiring archivist.

MLIS '24

**KATIE HOLLENBACH, PHD**

LMC's Archives Trustee, music historian, and curriculum developer.

UW



LMC



LADIES MUSICAL CLUB COLLECTION

# ISSUES

## SCATTERED

LMC is fortunate to have many well-preserved archival materials. But they are spread across multiple institutions, including Seattle Public Library, Museum of History and Industry, and the LMC, that don't interface. It was hard to get a complete picture of the LMC's history across sources.

## HARD TO FIND INFO + ARTIFACTS

Many documents in the digital archive are text-heavy PDF booklets that were not searchable prior to this project. In addition, most digital artifacts lacked defined, consistent item categories to span all collections.

## NOT OPTIMALLY ORGANIZED

The LMC's digital archive was organized into collections, but they appeared largely undifferentiated on one screen. Collection themes and descriptions also needed adjustments for clarity and to accommodate additional items that didn't quite fit before.

LOTS COLLECTED



HARD TO FIND + USE





# PROJECT DELIVERABLES

## 1. COLLECTION GUIDE

Create a collection guide that includes LMC archival items in LMC's digital archive, MOHAI, SPL, and UW.

## 2. THEMES + DESCRIPTIONS

Revise collection themes and descriptions for the LMC's digital archive and incorporate into a new layout that reflects these updates.

## 3. EXPAND

Post additional documents to LMC's digital archive.

## 4. ACCESSIBILITY VIA OCR

Process a collection from LMC's digital archive through Optical Character Recognition to make it searchable.





# IMPROVEMENT #1

## GUIDE TO LMC COLLECTIONS

This new guide contains information and links to LMC archival items in LMC's Digital Archive and in collections at Seattle Public Library, Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI), and University of Washington. That way, archive users only need to consult one guide to find out *who* has *what* and *where*, cutting down on research time and increasing visibility for the whole collection.



### Ladies Musical Club Collection Guide

Use this guide to locate LMC historical artifacts in collections held by the Ladies Musical Club (LMC), Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI), Seattle Public Library, and University of Washington Libraries.

#### Table of Contents

Ladies Musical Club Digital Archive, 1891-1986  
Museum Of History And Industry (MOHAI), 1891-2023  
Seattle Public Library, 1916-1999  
University of Washington Libraries, 1891-1992

#### Ladies Musical Club Digital Archive, 1891-1986

[Link to Collection](#)

#### Collection Overview

Creator	Ladies Musical Club (Seattle, WA)
Title	Ladies Musical Club Digital Archive
Dates	1891-1986 (inclusive)
Extent	187 digital documents
Summary	This collection consists of digitized membership books, photographs, concert programs, administrative documents, sheet music, and other documentation of LMC activities from 1891 to 1986.
Repository	<a href="https://lmcseattle.org">https://lmcseattle.org</a>
Access Restrictions	No restrictions for online access. Physical objects are available for viewing by appointment. Appointments at <a href="mailto:archives@lmcseattle.org">archives@lmcseattle.org</a> .
Language	English
Preferred Citation	Ladies Musical Club Digital Archive





# IMPROVEMENT #2

## NEW THEMES + DESCRIPTIONS

Taking into account the LMC's archival items across many collections, collection themes were revised and added to encompass the LMC's vast scope of materials and make themes more cohesive for people exploring LMC's history through the archives. New and revised collection descriptions were also developed and added to the new digital archive layout.



### ARTIST CONCERT SERIES

## Performers brought to Seattle by our organization from 1900 to 1995

The Artist Concert Series ran from 1900 to 1995 and brought world famous performers to Seattle stages four to six times per season. This series established LMC as Seattle's leading music organization and put it on the national musical map. Artist photographs were often given to LMC concert managers by performers when they came to Seattle under the auspices of the LMC for its Artist Concert Series. This collection also includes concert programs and other artifacts from these performances.

[VIEW COLLECTION](#)

### MEMBER BOOKS & ACTIVITIES

## Peek into the LMC's past activities and operations from 1891 to 1886

LMC issued a yearbook – called a "Members' Book" – annually (1891-1932) or biennially (1932 - 1986). These comprehensive books offer a snapshot of the LMC's activities,





NEW ITEMS

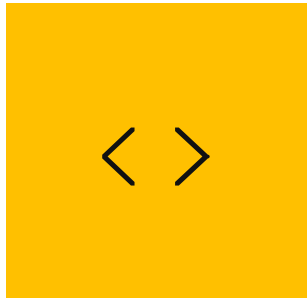


BETTER INFO

# IMPROVEMENT #3

## ADD NEW DIGITIZED ITEMS

Items had been digitized but left out of the prior digital archive because they didn't fit within the existing collections. With the revised collection themes and categories, they now fit. New items have been added to the digital archive, making them accessible to the public for the first time.



ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS

### Internal and founding documents showcasing our organization

Secretary's books reveal the meticulous inner workings of the LMC and give insight into the LMC's various programs. The LMC's bylaws were printed in Members' Books but also printed separately at times. Other administrative artifacts include stock certificates, financial records, and miscellaneous administrative or financial documents of historical interest.

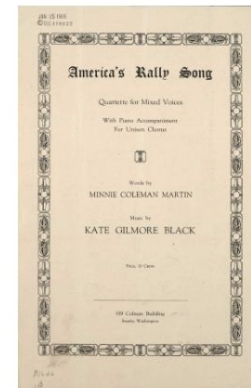
[VIEW COLLECTION](#)

SHEET MUSIC

### Explore the music created and performed by LMC members between 1901 and 1970

The LMC's sheet music collection includes annotated scores from LMC members, sheet music from important performances, and sheet music published by LMC member composers.

[VIEW COLLECTION](#)





OCR

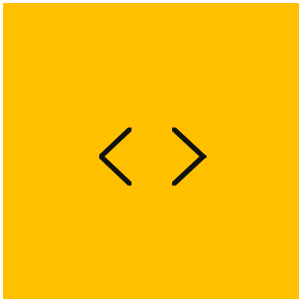


IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY

# IMPROVEMENT #4

## UNLOCK INFO WITH OCR

LMC Members' Books were issued annually and biennially dating back to the club's early years. They contain 20-50 pages of important historical data, such as rosters, financial overview, bylaws, concert schedules, and concert programs for the year. All 47 were processed through OCR, unlocking the information within these documents for curious researchers, family members, and the public.



### History of Ladies Musical Club

Founded in 1891, March 20, to stimulate the development of musical activity in the community, the Ladies Musical Club numbered fifty members by the end of that year.

By 1900 the Club had grown strong enough to attempt a concert season of great visiting artists, the first project of its kind in Seattle. Managed by our own Mrs. M. A. Gottstein, it prospered financially as well as artistically. This series has continued to bring the "musically great" to Seattle and on Pages 12 through 16 of this book you will find them listed - a cross section of the musical Stars of the last seventy-two years. Our Concert Series brings a balance to the Seattle musical season, so is a constant joy to the selective concert-goer.

Since the Club is a non-profit organization, any profit on the Series went into a Sustaining Fund. It is the income from this Fund which made possible our yearly donations to the Seattle Symphony. Also, from this income, we have supported the Orthopedic Hospital, the Red Cross, Chamber Music Series, the Seattle Art Museum and various other cultural activities of the city. In addition, it has financed all of our local meetings and recitals these last many years. The Sustaining Fund has given continuity to our Club through the years.

Active members of the Club are women musicians who have been invited to join and who are qualified by musicianship and ability to do active work in the Club. In addition there are many men and women who wish to attend our concerts and ally themselves with the ideals and activities of the Club each year. For these, there is a standing invitation to become Associate Members.

— Mrs. Erroll Rawson  
President 1938-1940

### PRESIDENTS

Mrs. George W. Bacon	March to August, 1891
Mrs. Alexander B. Stewart	1891-1894
Mrs. Maurice McMicken	1894-1896
Mrs. George F. Meehan (served as Chairman)	1896-1897
Mrs. Frank R. Van Tuyl	1897-1899
Mrs. C. E. Patterson	1899-1900
Mrs. H. C. Taylor (nee Lillian Miller) (Mrs. Taylor served from January 1, 1901)	1900-1902
Mrs. George H. King, Vice-President (Mrs. King served in Mrs Taylor's absence)	1901-1902
Mrs. Ralph W. Emmons	1902-1904
Mrs. J. S. Judah	1904-1906
Mrs. M. A. Gottstein	1906-1908
Mrs. Horace Day Hanford	1908-1910
Mrs. William Hickman Moore	1910-1912
Mrs. Mitchell Gilliam	1912-1914
Mrs. Bamford A. Robb	1914-1916
Mrs. W. D. Perkins	1916-1918
Mrs. W. H. White	1918-1920
Mrs. A. K. Fiskén	1920-1922
Mrs. Ivan Hyland	1922-1924
Mrs. C. H. Hopper	1924-1926
Mrs. A. E. Boardman	1926-1928
Mrs. J. M. Lang	1928-1930

### ARTIST RECITAL

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
Monday Evening, October Twenty-seventh

### PERCY GRAINGER

#### PROGRAM

- Sonata, in B Minor, Op. 58.....Chopin
- (a) Allegro Maestoso
- (b) Scherzo; Molto vivace
- (c) Largo
- (d) Finale: Presto non tanto
- (a) Prelude and Fugue C Sharp Minor.....Bach  
(From "The Well Tempered Clavichord" part I)
- (b) Sonata, in G Minor (Breitkopf & Haertel  
Edition, No. 34).....Scarlatti
- (c) Sonata, G Minor (Breitkopf & Haertel  
Edition, No. 35).....Scarlatti
- (d) Hornpipe from the "Water Music".....Handel  
(Arranged for piano by Percy Grainger)
- Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel, Op. 24  
.....Brahms
- Norwegian Folk-song and Folk-dances, set for piano  
.....Grieg
- (a) Gibeon's Bridal-March, Op. 72, No. 1  
(Gibeon is the name of the peasant-fiddler who  
composed this march-tune)
- (b) Cattle-call, Op. 66, No. 1  
(Cattle-calls are used to collect the cattle to-  
gether, on the saeters)
- (c) "Rapt in Thought I Wander," (Adagio religioso)  
Op. 66, No. 18
- (d) "Rotnamsknut," Halling Op. 72, No. 7
- (a) "Sheep and Goat Walkin' to the Pasture"  
(Cowboy's and old fiddler's breakdown, set by  
David Gulion)
- (b) Prelude in D, for the left hand, Op. 15, No. 1  
.....Marion Bauer
- (c) Clog Dance.....Howard H. Hanson
- (d) Cradle-song, Op. 49, No. 4.....Brahms  
(Arranged for piano by Percy Grainger)
- (e) Paraphrase on Tschaiikowsky's "Flower-Waltz"  
.....Grainger





1911 Photograph of the Ladies Musical Club. Photo: Museum of History & Industry

We are excited to bring our heritage to you in our digital archive library, made possible through the generosity of eCulture, Seattle's Office of Arts & Culture, and private donations. We will be adding artifacts as they are scanned, so check here and the LMC's news section for updates.

The LMC is proud of our long and rich history over the club's 130+ year lifetime. In addition to being a club of incredible musicians, we have also been a club of meticulous record-keepers. As a result, the LMC has over 40 boxes of historical artifacts in MOHAI's Sophie Frye Bass library as well as our own internal archive collection.

Are you a researcher or someone who's curious to see LMC's history in documents? Email archives@lmcseattle.org to inquire about the collection or to make an appointment to see these incredible snapshots of our region's history.

#### LMC Historical Photographs

Artist photographs were often given to LMC members by the performers or managers when they came to Seattle under the auspices of the LMC for its International Artist Concert Series.



John McCormack



#### Members' Books

Members' Books offer a snapshot of the LMC's activities, musical programs, and members in a given season or seasons. Membership Books are listed in chronological order. Click on the image for access to the full members' book.



#### RECENT POSTS

- Artist Bios, May 2024
- Artist Bios, April 2024
- Artist Bios, March 2024

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category

#### MONTHLY CONCERT NEWS

Receive our monthly concert news

email address  [SUBSCRIBE](#)

LMC TURNS 132 THIS YEAR!

[Donate](#)

## LMC'S DIGITAL ARCHIVE

# BEFORE

# +

# AFTER

#### DIGITAL ARCHIVES

## Documenting our history from 1891 to present

Browse our digital collection of photographs, scores, operating documents, and much more. With more than 130 years of history, we have worked to document and maintain the history of Seattle's oldest arts organization.



#### ARTIST CONCERT SERIES

### Performers brought to Seattle by our organization from 1900 to 1995

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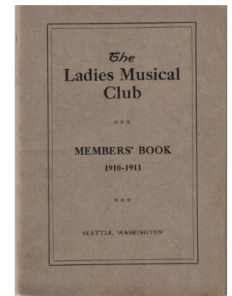
[VIEW COLLECTION](#)

#### MEMBER BOOKS & ACTIVITIES

### Peek into the LMC's past activities and operations from 1891 to 1986

LMC issued a yearbook - called a 'Members' Book' - annually (1891-1932) or biennially (1932 - 1986). These comprehensive books offer a snapshot of the LMC's activities, including all musical programs and members in a given season or seasons, a financial overview, special notes, leadership and committees, and/or bylaws and administrative documents. Other activities and information about notable members were documented through special event programs, photographs, and newspaper clippings.

[VIEW COLLECTION](#)



#### ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS

### Internal and founding documents showcasing our organization

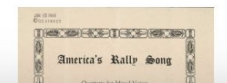
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[VIEW COLLECTION](#)



#### SHEET MUSIC

Explore the music created and performed by LMC members between 1901 and 1970



PROJECT

# SURPRISES + SOLUTIONS

## DEPENDENCIES

Some deliverables were contingent on work by LMC, including digitizing and web development, and took longer than planned. Adjustments to the project's scope were made accordingly.

## PIVOTING

Originally, a finding aid was planned, rather than a "Collection Guide." After discussing options with LMC, the scope was revised for this phase of the project, and the name was changed to avoid confusion with a more standard archival finding aid for a single institution's collections. It still serves the project's objectives to improve accessibility and facilitate learning about the LMC's history.

## ITERATE + STAY FLEXIBLE

The project's original work plan was very detailed, broken into 20 milestones with due dates. Sometimes iterating through the project's work called for shifts, jumping around, or more time, so staying flexible on workflow and deliverables was key.

PROBLEMS



SOLUTIONS



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio





# PROJECT EXPERIENCE

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This project was an invaluable experience working with archives and collections at different institutions. The Ladies Musical Club has such a rich history, and it's a testament to the LMC's importance that many different Seattle institutions have stewarded this history in collections. I'm honored to be able to contribute in some small way to preserving and making accessible this history.

Archiving requires time, patience, and skill. I was fortunate to be familiar with the LMC's own collection going into the project, which saved some time. I did quickly learn my limitations, however, and had to shift objectives to accommodate my skill level as well as software, time, and other project constraints. The same was true for other aspects – ambitious goals had to be tempered by new realities. The bottom line was to keep moving forward, to find creative ways to inch toward the goal of making it easier for people to access the LMC's history through archives. Day 2 projects are in the works.

What's next? At the capstone's conclusion, I'll hand off final recommendations and project documents to the LMC. I will continue working with the organization toward its long-term vision for the archives. The collections offer insights into history that reach beyond the LMC – to a broader story of a city that defines itself in large part by its music. The LMC and I will keep moving forward to preserve our ability to look backward at and learn new things from this important part of Seattle's history.

**KEEP.  
MOVING.  
FORWARD.**

**THANKS TO LMC, KATIE, CHANCE, AND ISHITA! AND THANKS FOR READING!**