

Concordia University Library, Special Collections

Finding Aid - Blue Metropolis Foundation fonds (P232)

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Language of description: English

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Blue Metropolis Foundation fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Concordia University Library, Special Collections
Title:	Blue Metropolis Foundation fonds
ID:	P232
Date:	1997-2005 (date of creation)
Physical description:	0.70 cm of textual records 172 photographs 1 object
Language:	English
Language:	French
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The Blue Metropolis Foundation was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in 1997. Its incorporation was done in conjunction with the creation of Blue Metropolis Inc., owned by Linda Leith. Initially created to help collect funds for projects like a literary magazine, the purpose of the Foundation soon became the organization of an annual literary festival. This festival, named the Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival, was inspired by “Write pour écrire,” an event organized in 1996 by three Montreal writers in partnership with the Union des écrivaines et des écrivains québécois (UNEQ).

The first Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival took place at the Europa Hotel on Drummond Street in Montreal from April 19 to 23, 1999. In addition to readings, on-stage interviews, and panel discussions, events included the first Blue Metropolis Translation Slam, literacy programming, and community writing activities. These events took place in both English and French. Certain events were bilingual.

The second Blue Met festival took place in 2000 at the Hotel des Gouverneurs, Place Dupuis, in Montreal. During this iteration, Spanish became the third “official” language of the Festival. For the first time, the “Grand prix littéraire international Metropolis bleu” was assigned. It was in that year that CBC Radio and Radio-Canada began their involvement with the Festival. Since 2000, the Foundation has expanded its programming beyond the Festival and began organizing a wide range of educational programs for children and adolescents. The first such program was the Student Literary Program, which was first introduced at the Festival in 2000. The Foundation continues to offer year-round literacy activities.

In subsequent years, new languages were added to each iteration of the Festival. Events in non-official languages, including Italian, Dari, Farsi, later Arabic, Russian, and Chinese, were offered without

translation. In order to offer programs in various languages, the Festival conducted outreach to various communities and established partnerships with different community organizations.

In 2007, the Blue Metropolis Arab Literary Prize was created, with annual funding from the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage.

Linda Leith was president of the Blue Metropolis Foundation from 2003 to 2011.

Custodial history

The fonds was transferred from Concordia University's Records Management and Archives Department to Concordia University Libraries' Special Collections April 12, 2016 and June 22, 2016.

Scope and content

The Blue Metropolis Foundation fonds provides information on the Blue Metropolis Foundation from its beginnings in 1997 to 2005. The fonds documents not only the administrative organisation of the Foundation, but also includes materials related to the Blue Metropolis Literary Festival's held between 1999 and 2004. The Festival takes place annually in Montreal, Quebec. The fonds also contains information about the artists which participated in the festival in various years.

The fonds contains administrative records, minutes, correspondence, financial records, programs, publicity material, photographs, biographical information, and newspapers.

The fonds is organized in the following series:

P232/A Administrative records

P232/B Blue Metropolis Literary Festival

P232/C Writers

P232/D Year-round Literacy activities

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the content of the fonds.

Physical condition

Thermal papers faded.

Restrictions on access

Access to some documents is restricted.

Conditions governing use

Reproduction for research or private study is permitted. Use of material in publications cannot be done without permission of the copyright holder.

Finding aids

Box listings available.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Final
- **Conservation:** Documents on thermal paper have been photocopied.
- **Conservation:** Some photographs have been placed in protective Mylar sleeves.

Access points

- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Object (documentary form)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Communications (discipline) (subject)
- Literature (subject)

Series descriptions

Series P232/A: Administrative Records

Date: 1997-2005 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series provides information on the administrative structure of the Blue Metropolis Foundation. It includes information on different committees and their meetings. It also provides information on the funding of the foundation.

The series contains meeting minutes, financial records, mandates, correspondence, flyers, job applications, contracts and other materials.

Physical description: 20 cm of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Series P232/B: Blue Metropolis Literary Festival**Date: 1997-2004 (date of creation)Scope and content:

The series provides information on the Blue Metropolis Literary Festival in Montreal, Quebec, from 1999 to 2004. It includes the planning and organization of the festival as well as publicity material used to promote the festival. The series also documents events organized by partner organizations within the festival.

The series contains financial documents, programs, flyers, pamphlets, photographs, newsletters, magazines, correspondence, reports, newspapers, a cotton bag and other material.

Physical description: 0.5 m of textual records

124 photographs

1 object

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Object (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Series P232/C: Writers**Date: 1999 (date of creation)Scope and content:

The series provides information on writers who participated in the Blue Metropolis Literary Festival. The series contains photographs, biographies, and other materials.

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records

48 photographs

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Series P232/D: Year-round Literacy Activities**Date: 2000-2003 (date of creation)Scope and content:

The series provides information on literacy activities organized by the Blue Metropolis Foundation in Montreal from 2000 to 2003, but not directly related to the Blue Metropolis Literary Festival.

The series contains programs, grant applications, correspondence and a poster.

Physical description: 3 cm of textual recordsAccess points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list