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Guide to the Elizabeth Hargrave Papers, 2013-2023 123.1767

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong

The Strong

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URL: <https://www.museumofplay.org/collections/brian-sutton-smith-library-archives-of-play/>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong
Creator - dsr:	Hargrave, Elizabeth
Title:	Elizabeth Hargrave papers, 2013-2023
ID:	123.1767
Date [inclusive]:	2013-2023
Date [bulk]:	2016-2019
Physical Description:	1.0 Linear Feet (2 document boxes, 1 small box, 1 oversize folder)
Physical Description:	1.8 Gigabytes
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	English with some instances of German.
Abstract:	The Elizabeth Hargrave papers include materials used in the design, development, and publication process for the board games Wingspan (2019) and Mariposas (2020). The physical reference materials are comprised of research notes and prototype components including cards, chits, cubes, dice, dice tower, game boards, player mats, and tokens. The digital files consist of correspondence, graphics, presentations, spreadsheets, text, and video. The bulk of the materials date from 2016 to 2019.

Preferred Citation

Elizabeth Hargrave papers, Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong.

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Biographical Note

Elizabeth Hargrave is an American game designer known for creating the popular board game Wingspan in 2019. Hargrave graduated from Brown University and earned a Master's degree in Public Affairs from the Lydon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs. She went on to work for the Department of Health and

Human Services and the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Center. Her interest in board games combined with love of the outdoors inspired her to design games with themes from nature.

Hargrave began designing Wingspan in 2013. She pitched the game to three publishers at Gen Con 2016, including Stonemaier Games which published it in 2019. The game's mechanics fall into the engine-building genre. The objective is for players to attract birds to their wildlife sanctuary. Hargrave used research from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the IUCN Red List, and National Audubon Society to support the theme. The bird designs were highly acclaimed for their accurate characteristics and artwork. Wingspan won several awards including the 2019 Kennerspiel des Jahres award for best connoisseur game of the year.

Hargrave began developing Mariposas, a game themed around monarch butterfly migration, in 2018 and sold it to Alderac Entertainment Group in 2019. Her other games include Tussie Mussie (2018), The Fox Experiment (2023), and Undergrove (2023).

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Collection Scope and Content Note

The papers are comprised of materials used by Hargrave in the design, development, and publication process of board games. The physical reference materials are comprised of research notes and prototype components including cards, chits, cubes, dice, dice tower, game boards, player mats, and tokens. The digital files consist of correspondence, graphics, presentations, spreadsheets, text, and video. The games represented in the collection are Wingspan (2019) and Mariposas (2020).

The papers date from 2013 to 2023 with the bulk of materials dating from 2016 to 2019.

The papers are arranged into two series which are further divided into subseries. The materials are housed in 3 archival boxes and one oversize folder. The digital collection can be accessed on-site at The Strong.

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Arrangement

Series I: Wingspan, 2013-2023

Subseries A: Game development, 2013-2023

Subseries B: Digital, 2013-2023

Series II: Mariposas, 2014-2023

Subseries A: Game development, 2014-2023

Subseries B: Digital, 2014-2023

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open to researchers. Digital materials are restricted to on-site only access with required advanced notice.

Conditions Governing Use

Though the donor has not transferred intellectual property rights (including, but not limited to any copyright, trademark, and associated rights therein) to The Strong, they have given permission for The Strong to make copies in all media for museum, educational, and research purposes.

Custodial History

The Elizabeth Hargrave papers were donated to The Strong in July 2023 as a gift of Elizabeth Hargrave. The papers were accessioned by The Strong under 123.1767.

Processed by

Laura Boland, February-March 2024.

Processing Information Note

Retained original order for digital folders, titles assigned with prefix, SeriesSubseries_Folder No_, followed by the original folder title, in some cases files received outside of a folder were moved to new folders created by the archivist.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Board game industry
- Board game industry -- United States
- Board games -- Design and construction.
- Board games -- History.
- Women in Games
- Spiel des Jahres Award
- Gen Con (convention)
- Lepidopterology
- Butterflies
- Stegmaier, Jamey
- Alderac Entertainment Group
- Stonemaier Games
- Unpublished Games Network (UNPUB)
- Break My Game

Collection Inventory

Series I: Wingspan, 2013-2023

Scope and Contents

This series contains physical and digital materials related to the design, development, and publication of the game Wingspan. The materials include multiple iterations of the game from early stages of development through publication. Some versions used components and mechanics which were not included in the final published version. The materials date from 2013 to 2023 with the bulk of the materials from 2016 to 2019, covering the time period from pitching to Stonemaier Games through publication.

Sub-series A: Game development, 2013-2019

Scope and Contents

This subseries consists of the physical components used in the design and development of the game Wingspan. Materials are comprised of cards, including both hand drawn and printed, and cardboard, plastic, and wooden game components. Some of the components were not included in the final version of the game.

Box 2 folder 25 contains the Kennerspiel Des Jahres nomination certificate for Wingspan

Box 3 includes a prototype of the 3D "bird feeder" dice tower used in the game.

Title/Description	Instances	
"2013a" cards from first draft, bird card game, 2013	box 1	folder 1
Late 2013 and 2014 cards, Bird World, 2013-2014	box 1	folder 2-10
"First Unpub" deck, Bird World, 2015	box 1	folder 11-16
Late 2015 - Aug 2016 cards, Bring in the Birds, 2015	box 1	folder 17-24
May 2017, Activatable cards, Wingspan, 2017	box 1	folder 25-28
"Misc. 2017 changes," Wingspan cards, 2017	box 1	folder 29-31
Lay and hatch cards, undated	box 1	folder 32
Asia bird cards, draft, Wingspan expansion, circa 2019	box 2	folder 1-5
Europe bird cards, draft, Wingspan expansion, 2018	box 2	folder 6-9
Oceania bird cards, draft, Wingspan expansion, 2019	box 2	folder 10-13
Eggs late 2015 on, game components, undated	box 3	folder 1
Dice, bird feeder, undated	box 3	folder 2
Cubes, undated	box 3	folder 3
Chits, undated	box 3	folder 4
Dial, simultaneous action mechanic, prototype, undated	box 3	folder 5
Active player cards, draft of simultaneous action mechanic, undated	box 3	folder 6
Chick cards, draft of simultaneous action mechanic, undated	box 3	folder 7-8
Bird feeder dice tower, prototype, undated	box 3	object 1
Kennerspiel des Jahres nomination, Flügelschlag (Wingspan), 2019	box 2	folder 25

Sub-series B: Digital, 2013-2023

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains digital files related to the design, development, and publication of Wingspan. The files consist of correspondence, graphics, presentations, spreadsheets, text, and video materials. The materials cover multiple design stages, the pitching stage, development and publication with Stonemaier Games, and reception

of the game after publication. The files include writings by Hargrave documenting the history of the game and materials donated to The Strong.

Title/Description	Instances	
IB_Folder 01_Documenting Wingspan versions [2 files], 2023	digital	folder 1
IB_Folder 02_All Wingspan birds to date [1 file], 2023	digital	folder 2
IB_Folder 03_bird pics used on draft cards [129 files], 2023	digital	folder 3
IB_Folder 04_2013a_1st draft March 2013 [1 file], 2013	digital	folder 4
IB_Folder 05_2013b_ordered a printed deck [28 files, 4 folders], 2013	digital	folder 5
IB_Folder 06_2014_April draft [30 files, 5 folders], 2014	digital	folder 6
IB_Folder 07_2015_feedback tracker [1 file], 2015	digital	folder 7
IB_Folder 08_2015a_Unpub was in Feb [16 files, 2 folders], 2015	digital	folder 8
IB_Folder 09_2015b_March build after Unpub [34 files, 3 folders], 2015	digital	folder 9
IB_Folder 10_2015c_May [7 files], 2015	digital	folder 10
IB_Folder 11_2015d_summer [12 files, 2 folders], 2015	digital	folder 11
IB_Folder 12_2015e_late 2015 [26 files, 4 files], 2015	digital	folder 12
IB_Folder 13_2016a_leadup to Unpub in April [6 files], 2016	digital	folder 13
IB_Folder 14_2016b_between Unpub and pitching [12 files, 2 folders], 2016	digital	folder 14
IB_Folder 15_2016c_pitching_Gen Con in Aug 2016 [18 files, 3 folders], 2016	digital	folder 15
IB_Folder 16_2016d_between pitch and resubmission_fall 2016 [9 files, 3 folders], 2016	digital	folder 16
IB_Folder 17_2016e_Dec 1 version accepted for contract [10 files, 1 folder], 2016	digital	folder 17
IB_Folder 18_2017a_contract and early 2017 [4 files], 2017	digital	folder 18
IB_Folder 19_2017b_took a rondel version to unpub in March [7 files], 2017	digital	folder 19
IB_Folder 20_2017c_no rondel and all birds have powers - April [7 files, 1 folder], 2017	digital	folder 20
IB_Folder 21_2017d_activate birds in habitats [13 files, 2 folders], 2017	digital	folder 21
IB_Folder 22_2017e_player mat and dice tower in July 2017 [19 files, 2 folders], 2017	digital	folder 22
IB_Folder 23_2017f_misc stuff summer_fall 2017 [127 files, 15 folders], 2017	digital	folder 23

IB_Folder 24_2017g_October wave 1 blind playtest and followup [114 files, 6 folders], 2017	digital	folder 24
IB_Folder 25_2017h_Dec wave 2 blind playtest and followup [205 files, 5 folders], 2017	digital	folder 25
IB_Folder 26_2017i_2018a_components and graphic design [15 files], 2018	digital	folder 26
IB_Folder 27_2018b_into 2019_Europe expansion [35 files, 1 folder], 2018	digital	folder 27
IB_Folder 28_2018c_layout May and June [13 files], 2018	digital	folder 28
IB_Folder 29_2018d_considering late changes to gameplay [15 files, 1 folder], 2018	digital	folder 29
IB_Folder 30_2018e_first royalty [1 file], 2018	digital	folder 30
IB_Folder 31_2019a_release and reactions_January [15 files], 2019	digital	folder 31
IB_Folder 32_2019b_swift start [14 files, 1 folder], 2019	digital	folder 32
IB_Folder 33_2019c_into 2020 oceania expansion [30 files, 1 folder], 2019	digital	folder 33

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Series II: Mariposas, 2014-2023

Scope and Contents

This series contains reference materials, prototype game components, and digital files related to the design and development of the game Mariposas. The materials document the submission and sale of Mariposas to Alderac Entertainment Group, which published the game in 2020.

Sub-series A: Game development, 2014-2023

Scope and Contents

This subseries consists of physical material related to Mariposas. Materials include a near complete prototype used around 2019 consisting of cards, game boards, player mats, tokens, and other game components, plus one file folder of research notes on monarch butterfly migration.

Oversize folder 1 contains two prototype game boards used in different stages of design.

Title/Description	Instances	
Action cards, Mariposas prototype, circa 2019	box 2	folder 14-15
Bonus move cards, Mariposas prototype, circa 2019	box 2	folder 16
Goal cards, Mariposas prototype, circa 2019	box 2	folder 17
Life cycle cards, Mariposas prototype, circa 2019	box 2	folder 18-20

Tokens, Mariposas prototype, circa 2019	box 2	folder 21
"Late stage Mariposas prototype" misc. components, circa 2019	box 2	folder 22
Board components, Mariposas prototype, circa 2019	box 2	folder 23
Flower tokens, Mariposas prototype, circa 2019	box 2	folder 24
"Monarch Migration," Mariposas development, 2018	box 2	folder 26
Monarch pieces and player scores markers, game components, circa 2019	box 2	box 2a
Monarch Migration prototype map, 2014	oversize 1	object 1
Mariposas prototype map, circa 2019	oversize 1	object 2

Sub-series B: Digital, 2014-2023

Scope and Contents

This subseries contains digital files related to the game Mariposas including submission and sale to Alderac Entertainment Group (AEG). The content includes Hargrave's submission to AEG's contest calling for games by women designers, their selection and purchase of the game, and communication between Hargrave and AEG after the sale. The materials consist of correspondence, graphics, presentations, spreadsheets, and text materials, including writings by Hargrave documenting the history of the game and materials donated to The Strong.

Title/Description	Instances	
IIB_Folder 01_Documenting Mariposas [2 files], 2023	digital	folder 34
IIB_Folder 02_2014_monarch map [1 file], 2014	digital	folder 35
IIB_Folder 03_2018_summer [1 file], 2018	digital	folder 36
IIB_Folder 04_2018_11_28_submission to AEG [4 files, 1 folder] , 2018	digital	folder 37
IIB_Folder 05_2019_Feb through April getting set up with AEG [17 files, 1 folder], 2019	digital	folder 38
IIB_Folder 06_2019_May thru Dec development and art emails [22 files], 2019	digital	folder 39
IIB_Folder 07_2020_event planning [8 files, 1 folder], 2020	digital	folder 40

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