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Guide to the Howard Blumenthal Papers, 1991-1995 — 123.HBlum

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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

The Strong

One Manhattan Square

Rochester, NY 14607

library@museumofplay.org

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
Source:	Blumenthal, Howard
Title:	Howard Blumenthal papers
ID:	123.HBlum
Date [inclusive]:	1991-1995
Physical Description:	3.5 Linear Feet (1 document box, 2 oversize folders)
Physical Location:	Oversize materials are located in Map Case no. 2 , drawer no. 12.
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	This collection consists of program development documents for <i>Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?</i> . The papers date from 1991 to 1995, with the bulk of materials dating from 1991. The papers are comprised of scripts, set blueprints, and drawings.

Preferred Citation

Howard Blumenthal papers, Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong.

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Biographical Note

Howard Blumenthal is best known for his work leading the development and production of the PBS program, *Where in the World Is Carmen Sandiego?* The series was the first television game show to receive The Peabody Award. It was recognized as "the best education TV show ever" by People magazine.

Howard is the son of Norm Blumenthal, the producer of NBC's long-running daytime game show, *Concentration*. He grew up at NBC in the 1960s, spending many days learning from the many game shows produced in NYC during a very productive era. The author of more than 20 books, including *This Business of Television* with co-author Oliver Goodenough, Howard is a long-running syndicated columnist for more than 100 newspapers via The New York Times Syndicate and United Features.

Currently, Howard is a Senior Scholar at The University of Pennsylvania's Positive Psychology Center. His area of focus is growing up in the 21st century.

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Collection Scope and Content Note

The papers consist of documents collected by Howard Blumenthal during his time as producer on *Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?*, which includes scripts for 10 episodes of season 1, and set design blueprints and drawings.

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System of Arrangement

Series I: *Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?*, 1991-1995

Subseries A: Scripts, 1991

Subseries B: Set design, 1990-1995

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

The Howard Blumenthal papers are open for research use by staff of The Strong and users of its library and archives.

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.

Processed by

Laura Boland, May 2024.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The papers were donated to The Strong in January 2024 as a gift of Howard, Robert, and Lori Blumenthal, in honor of their father, Norm. The papers were accessioned under Object ID 123.4310. The Norman Blumenthal papers were also included in the accession.

Accrual Note

Further accruals are expected.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Norman Blumenthal papers, Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong.

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Controlled Access Headings

- National Archives of Game Show History
- Television game shows

- Television game shows -- United States -- History
- Children's television programs
- Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego? (Game show)
- Television scripts
- Large-scale drawings
- Drawings
- Map drawing
- Blumenthal, Howard

Collection Inventory

Series I: *Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?*, 1991-1995

Series Scope and Content Note

Series I consists of documents collected by Howard Blumenthal during his time as producer on *Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?*, which includes scripts for 10 episodes of season 1, and set design blueprints and drawings.

Subseries A: Scripts, 1991

Subseries Scope and Content Note

Subseries A consists of scripts for 10 episodes from season one. For each episode there is a summary script used by staff and crew, and a limitedly distributed full script which contains the questions and answers. The scripts were received in a 3-ring binder and the original order was retained.

Title/Description	Instances	
Content description memorandum from donor, 2023, November 12	box 1	folder 1
Show no. 35 "The Library Lift," script, 1991, June 5	box 1	folder 2
Show no. 55 "The Great Library Lift," script, 1991, June 12	box 1	folder 3
Show no. 48 "The Radioscope Ripp-off," script, 1991, June 11	box 1	folder 4
Show no. 49 "The Case of the Cribbed Crater," script, 1991, June 11	box 1	folder 5
Show no. 22 "The Return of Dracula's Castle," script, 1991, May 31	box 1	folder 6
Show no. 12 "The Eiffel Tower," script, 1991, May 21	box 1	folder 7
Show no. 44 "The Great Wall Haul," script, 1991, June 10	box 1	folder 8
Show no. 58 "Brandenburglary," script, 1991, June 13	box 1	folder 9
Show no. 4 "The Taking of the Shrew," script, 1991, May 6	box 1	folder 10
Show no. 10 "The Spot Lifter," script, 1991, May 19	box 1	folder 11

Subseries B: Set design, 1991-1995

Subseries Scope and Content Note

Subseries B consists of set design materials including blueprints and set design drawings by Art Director Laura Brock and Designer James Fenhagen.

Title/Description	Instances	
Set blueprints and drawings, 1991-1995	oversize OS	folder 1
Map drawings, 1991-1993	oversize OS	folder 2

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