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## Guide to the John De Vincenzi Papers

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## **Guide to the John De Vincenzi Papers**

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## John De Vincenzi Papers

Collection number: MSS-1998-03



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Processed by: Laura Lind Date Completed:

2006

Encoded by: Laura Lind

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## **Descriptive Summary**

Title: John De Vincenzi papers

**Dates:** 1963-1991 **Bulk Dates:** 1965-1973

Collection number: MSS-1998-03 Creator: De Vincenzi, John, 1963-1991 Collection Size: 1 box(0.5 linear feet)

Repository: San José State University. Library.

San José, California 95192-0028

**Abstract:** The John De Vincenzi Papers document De Vincenzi's activities as the chair of the Gallery Advisory Committee to the San José Fine Arts Commission. The committee advocated for, planned, and managed the development of the San José Civic Gallery--now known as the San José Museum of Art--in downtown San José, California. The bulk of the documents in the collection reflect the committee's activities and interactions with the public, the City Council, the Triton Museum, and the San José City Council Art Department, between 1965 and 1973. Some documents from 1963 and 1991 are also included.

Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

The collection is open for research.

#### **Publication Rights**

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#### **Acquisition Information**

Gift of John De Vincenzi, 1998.

#### **Preferred Citation**

John De Vincenzi Papers, MSS-1998-03, San José State University Library, Special Collections & Archives.

#### **Processing History**

Processed by Laura Lind, 2006. EAD encoded by Laura Lind, 2006. Reviewed by Danelle Moon, 2006.

#### **Biographical History**

John De Vincenzi was born in San José in 1921. He married Lonnie Santina in 1943 and they had two children. Vincenzi also served in World War II. He received a Bachelor's degree from San José State College in 1949, an MA degree from Stanford in 1950, and in 1950 he became an art instructor at San José State College. He was promoted to full Professor in 1969; a position he held until his retirement in 1991. During his career, he achieved high honors as an artist. He was the first artist in residence at Santa Clara's Triton Museum, and was knighted by the Republic of Italy. De Vincenzi became chair of the Gallery Advisory Committee to the San José Fine Arts Commission in November, 1965. Under De Vincenzi's leadership, the advisory committee carried out the planning process for the proposed conversion of a San José public library building into a city art gallery. The City Council approved the committee report in February of 1969 and the San José Civic Gallery opened on September 19, 1971. De Vincenzi remained active on the advisory committee until September of 1972. He was instrumental in the formation of the Civic Gallery Association, and also helped assemble the gallery's first permanent collection--a group of 40 works donated by local artists.

#### **Scope and Content**

The John De Vincenzi Papers were donated to the San José State University Special Collections and Archives in 1998. The collection consists of files documenting the activities of the Gallery Advisory Committee to the San José Fine Arts Commission, which John De Vincenzi chaired. The bulk of the papers in the collection were created between 1965 and 1973, though a 1963 memo and some 1991 clippings about the gallery's history are also included. The papers are arranged as a single series: Gallery Advisory Committee Files.

#### Arrangement

The papers are arranged as a single series: Gallery Advisory Committee Files.

### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

De Vincenzi, John, 1921-2006

San José Museum of Art

Triton Museum of Art

Box 1

San José Civic Gallery

Art -- California -- San José

Art Commissions -- California -- San José

Art museums -- California -- San José

## Series I: Gallery Advisory Committee Files 1963-1991 1965-1973

Physical Description: 1 box

**Series Scope and Content Summary** 

This series is arranged by subject and date.

The contents in this series include meeting minutes, agendas, reports, and correspondence with the City Council; memoranda and clippings documenting the controversy between the committee and the Triton Museum; petitions for public support of the gallery; publicity items; architectural plans; and newspaper clippings featuring the committee's work.

The materials document the inception and history of the San José Museum of Art, and reflect John De Vincenzi's commitment to improving public access to visual art in San José.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by subject and date.

| Folder 1 | Pre-planning and fundraising process 1963-1972      |
|----------|---|
| Folder 2 | Administrative records 1965-1972                    |
| Folder 3 | Triton Museum controversy 1967-1968                 |
| Folder 4 | Joint program with San José State College 1968-1972 |
| Folder 5 | Renovation process 1970-1973                        |
| Folder 6 | Gallery collection inventory 1971                   |
| Folder 7 | Publicity 1967-1991                                 |
| Folder 8 | Clippings 1965-1991                                 |