Library Exhibits: World’s Fairs 1939, 1965
2010
Table of Contents

Summary ......................................................................................................................................2
Historical Note ..........................................................................................................................3
Scope & Content .......................................................................................................................3
Arrangement Note ....................................................................................................................3
Series Description & Container List ........................................................................................4
### Summary

**Title:** Library Exhibits: World's Fairs 1939, 1965  
**Dates:** 2010  
**Extent:** .1 linear feet  
**Creator:** Gurl, Robert  
**Language:** English  
**Abstract:** This collection contains materials used in a 2010 exhibit showcasing the 1939 and 1964-1965 World’s Fairs in New York  
**Source:** Library Media Resource Center, LaGuardia Community College (New York, N.Y.)  
**Access:** Collection is open for research. Staff may restrict access at its discretion on the basis of physical condition.  
**Copyright:** “The Library Exhibits” is the property of LaGuardia Community College. All intellectual rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assignees. The collection is subject to all copyright laws. LaGuardia Community College assumes no responsibility for the infringement of copy rights held by the original authors, creators, or producers of the materials.  
**Preferred Citation:** Item, date (if known), box, folder, Library Exhibit: World’s Fair 1939, 1965, Institutional Archives, LaGuardia Community College, City University of New York  
**Special Formats:** Exhibit Materials  

### Controlled Access Terms

- Library Exhibits-LaGuardia Community College (New York, N.Y.)
Historical Note

Both the 1939 and 1965 New York World’s Fairs were events of cultural and educational value that took place during significant times in history. In 1939, fascism in Europe and Asia lead to political and international unrest, ultimately leading to World War II. And in 1965, the Civil Rights movement was impacting the political landscape at home in the U.S. while the Vietnam War was happening overseas.

In spite of these tumultuous times, the 1939 World’s Fair was the largest fair ever to take place, with 44 million people attending from around the world. Looking towards the future with the tools and gadgets of its time, the Fair opened with the theme, “Dawn of a New Day”.

The theme for the 1965 World’s Fair was “Peace Through Understanding.” The goal was to build trust and relationships based on common interests in various fields such as science and technology. It was the third exposition held in New York City and took place at the same site as the 1939 World’s Fair at Flushing Meadow, Corona Park.

This exhibit record is added to Institutional Archives website as it can be of use for class projects and in light of restoration and preservation surrounding the structures which remain.

Scope and Content Note

The majority of the materials are reproductions of photos, newspaper clippings, correspondence, printed souvenirs and advertisements of both World’s Fairs. The materials are arranged chronologically by exposition year. Faculty members donated and who also loaned selected materials for the exhibit.

Arrangement Note

The Library Exhibit Series: World’s Fairs 1939, 1965 is comprised of four series

- **Series I**: 1939-1940 World’s Fair Library Exhibit Collection
- **Series II**: 1964-1965 World’s Fair Library Exhibit Collection
- **Series III**: General Print Covers
- **Series IV**: Correspondence - 1939 and 1964 World’s Fair
Series Descriptions and Container List

Series I: 1939-1940 World’s Fair Library Exhibit

This series includes reproductions of color and black/white photographs depicting the grounds, pavilions, landmarks and exhibits with brief descriptive headers, reproduction of headlines and brief articles describing the World’s Fair and its expectations as well as issues regarding racial discrimination, and color reproductions of various souvenirs including stamps, vouchers ticket stubs etc. Items of note include President Roosevelt’s opening words and photo. These materials are available for research use only, copying prohibited.

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Series II: 1964-1965 World’s Fair Library Exhibit

This series includes reproductions of color and black/white photographs depicting politicians and influential people involved in the Fair, reproduction of headlines and brief articles describing the World’s Fair, and color reproductions of various souvenirs including stamps, vouchers ticket stubs etc. Items of note photos of Robert Moses and President Kennedy with Pope Paul VI and the opening address by President Johnson. These materials are available for research use only, copying prohibited.

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Series III: General Print Covers

Color reproductions of posters and magazine covers of both World’s Fairs. This series also include original book covers about the expositions. Available for research use only, copying prohibited.

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Series IV: Correspondence

Copies of various letters including presidential letters of congratulation and a note from W.E.B. DuBois.

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