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## Finding Aid to the Blue Key National Honor Society Records

### Blue Key National Honor Society

Blue Key National Honor Society records, 1927-  
4.5 linear ft.

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### OVERVIEW

**Access:** The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the University Archives.

**Provenance:** Donated by Blue Key Society, 1983. (Acc. 1), 1986 (24), 1987 (Acc. 47, 50), 2003 (460), 2005 (511).

**Property rights:** The University Archives owns the property rights to this collection.

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**Citation:** [Identification of item]. Blue Key National Honor Society Records, University Archives, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

### HISTORY

The North Dakota State University(NDSU) chapter of Blue Key National Honor Society was organized on May 4, 1927 at a dinner meeting in the Power's Hotel, downtown Fargo. Nationally, Blue Key began in 1925 at the University of Florida, with the NDSU chapter being the 28<sup>th</sup> established in the country. The purpose of Blue Key is to work with students and faculty to further the interest of the university. Qualifications for persons selected for membership are rigorous: scholastic involvement, leadership abilities, and involvement in campus activities and service. It was a men's organization until 1976 when it became open to women, with NDSU being the first chapter to initiate women members. In 1979, Kathy Dean became president of the NDSU chapter, a first among the 124 Blue Key chapters in the country.

Through its dedication of service to the university, Blue Key has promoted numerous activities on campus. In 1929 they began an annual variety show known as Bison Brevities, which continued through 1960. From 1961 through 1972 the organization produced a musical each spring. In 1977 Bison Brevities was revived and continues to be a yearly event. Another major activity of Blue Key, which began in 1930, is the Doctor of Service Award, given to an outstanding member of the NDSU staff. Other activities through the years have included athletic banquets, Honors Day convocations, Senior Day, scholarships, the annual Homecoming Show, publication of the *Freshman Register* (a book exchange), the Nickel Trophy (with University of North Dakota's chapter), co-sponsor of the Border Trophy with South Dakota State University, special concerts and the Annual Distinguished Educators Award

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records of Blue Key consist of materials relating to the Society's involvement on campus. The documents are dated from 1927-2004. There are three series, the records series, which are arranged in a subject order; the scrapbook series; and the video tape series.

The collection deals primarily with the productions put on by the Society. It includes programs from the annual Bison Brevities show as well as the Spring Musical. There are reports, entry forms, newspaper clippings and notes related to these two productions. Other programs from the Doctor of Service Award Banquet, Distinguished Educator Banquet, the Homecoming Show, and music concerts are also included.

Other records include Meeting Minutes from the years 1927-1975 and Blue Key correspondence from 1951-1977. There are also additional records dealing with the Society's yearly work such as Presidents Reports, Membership acceptance letters, Pledge cards, the Blue Key constitution, and membership lists.

Also included are copies of the Freshman Register (1975-1986) which feature incoming freshmen. These books were put together and sold by Blue Key. Other records in the collection's subject files cover the topics of Senior Day, Newsletters, Guides, the Nickel Trophy, and Chapter Activities. There are also four compact disks, three are PowerPoints for the 1999, 2000, and 2001 Homecoming Show and one is the 2002-2003 scrapbook of general Blue Key activities.

The scrapbook series features two Bison Brevities scrapbooks for 1948 and 1982. They document the productions with photographs. They both feature the main production groups in the show during their act. There is also written documentation indicating who the members of each group are and the title of their act. In addition, there are seven scrapbooks dealing with events, installations, retreats and other related Blue Key activities from 1988-2002.

The video tape series (VHS format) features Bison Brevities (1985-2000 with gaps) and the Homecoming Show (1989-1999 with gaps).

Separations - Photographs, slides, and artifacts have been separated from the records and removed to the NDAC/SU Photograph Collection, the NDSU Slide Collection, and the NDAC/SU Artifact Collection. See separation record at the end of the finding aid.

## **BOX AND FOLDER LISTING**

### **Box 1**

1. Historical Material and Inventory  
Original Charter – May 24, 1927 [Removed to Oversized Box 6]
2. Guides and Codes (National and Local)
3. Proposed Constitution, n.d.
4. Constitution & Statutes of Procedure-1982
5. Constitution, 1987
6. “Across the Nation...” Promo Piece, no date
7. Binder-General Information-2000-2001
8. Meeting Minutes, 1927-1942
9. Meeting Minutes, 1942-1943
10. Meeting Minutes, 1946-1955
11. Meeting Minutes, 1955-1964
12. Meeting Minutes, 1964-1975
13. Meeting Minutes, 1975
14. Meeting Minutes and Attendance Lists, September 1989 – August 1994
15. Meetings-Variety of Material-1991-1997
16. Meeting Minutes-c. late 1990s
17. Meeting Minutes, August 1998 – November 2000
18. Meeting Minutes, November 2000 – November 2002
19. Meeting Minutes(Handwritten), 2004-2005
20. Chapter Activities, 1952-1954
21. The Blue Key Journal-Winter 1992
22. President’s Reports, 1962-1972
23. President’s Folder-1997-1998
24. Meeting Agendas-Josh Sanden, President, 2001-2002
25. Meeting Agendas and President Report-Scott Huso, President, 2002-2003
26. Meeting Agendas-Adam Jones, President, 2003-2004
27. Correspondence, 1951-1956
28. Correspondence, 1962-1977
29. Membership Acceptance Letters
30. Membership List, 1977
31. Finances, 1998-1999
32. Finances, 1999-2000
33. Vendor Registry, May 2005
34. Hormel Account Information-May 17, 2005

### **Box 2**

1. Pledge Cards, 1980-1988
2. Athletic Banquets, 1952, 1955-1957
3. Bison Brevities- Newspaper Clippings, 1920s-1930s, 1970s-1990s
4. Bison Brevities- Entry Forms – 1977, 1978, 1982, 1984, 1990

5. Bison Brevities- Correspondence – 1970s
6. Bison Brevities- Publicity – 1978, 1984, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1993, 1995
7. Bison Brevities- Publicity/Ticket Committee, 1993-1999
8. Bison Brevities-Improvement Suggestions – n.d.
9. Bison Brevities-Program, 1929
10. Bison Brevities-Program, 1930
11. Bison Brevities- *Brevities Briefs*, 1931
12. Bison Brevities-Program, 1932
13. Bison Brevities-Program, 1933
14. Bison Brevities-Program, 1934
15. Bison Brevities-Program, 1935
16. Bison Brevities-Program, 1937
17. Bison Brevities-Program, 1938
18. Bison Brevities-Program, 1939
19. Bison Brevities-Program, 1940
20. Bison Brevities-Program, 1941
21. Bison Brevities-Program, 1942
22. Bison Brevities-Program, 1947
23. Bison Brevities-Program, 1948
24. Bison Brevities-Program, 1949
25. Bison Brevities-Program, 1950
26. Bison Brevities-Program, 1951
27. Bison Brevities- Business Manager’s Report, May 1951
28. Bison Brevities-Program, 1952
29. Bison Brevities- Business Manager’s Report, June 1952
30. Bison Brevities-Program, 1953
31. Bison Brevities- Business Manager’s Report, May 1953
32. Bison Brevities-Program, 1954
33. Bison Brevities-Program, 1955
34. Bison Brevities-Program, 1956
35. Bison Brevities- Reports – Assistant Director, April 1956; Business Manager, May/June 1956
36. Bison Brevities-Program, 1957
37. Bison Brevities- Reports – Art Director’s, 1957; Program Chairman, 1957; Business Manager, June 1957
38. Bison Brevities-Program, 1958
39. Bison Brevities- Reports – Publicity, 1958; Art Director’s, 1958; Judging Chairman’s, 1958; Program Chairman, 1958; Art Director, 1958;
40. Bison Brevities- Assistant Director Report, 1959
41. Bison Brevities- Reports, 1960
42. Bison Brevities-Program, 1977
43. Bison Brevities-Program, 1978
44. Bison Brevities-Program, 1980
45. Bison Brevities-Program, 1981
46. Bison Brevities-Program, 1982

47. Bison Brevities-Program, 1983
48. Bison Brevities-Program, 1984
49. Bison Brevities- Report, 1984
50. Bison Brevities-Program, 1985
51. Bison Brevities-Program, 1986
52. Bison Brevities-Program, 1987
53. Bison Brevities-Program, 1988
54. Bison Brevities-Program, 1989
55. Bison Brevities-Program, 1990
56. Bison Brevities-Program, 1991
57. Bison Brevities-Program, 1992
58. Bison Brevities-Program, 1993
59. Bison Brevities-Program, 1994
60. Bison Brevities-Program, 1996
61. Bison Brevities-Program, 1998
62. Bison Brevities-Program, 1999
63. Bison Brevities-Program, 2000
64. Bison Brevities-Program, 2001
65. Bison Brevities-Program, 2002
66. Bison Brevities-Program, 2003
67. Bison Brevities-Program, 2008
68. Bison Brevities-Judge's Ranking for Fiddlin' Trio-2008

**Box 3**

1. Productions- Correspondence, 1969-1973
2. Productions- General – c. 1969
3. Productions- Tam. S. Witmark Music Library – 1970s
4. Productions- Props Chairman, Reports - 1962-1970
5. Productions- Secretary's Reports - 1962-1968
6. Productions- "South Pacific," 1961
7. Productions- "Damn Yankees," 1962
8. Productions- "Pajama Game," 1963
9. Productions- "Flower Drum Song," 1964
10. Productions- "Annie Get Your Gun," 1965
11. Productions- "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," 1966
12. Productions- "Oklahoma," 1967
13. Productions- News Releases Chairman Reports- 1961-1967
14. Productions- "Carousel," 1968
15. Productions- "Sweet Charity," 1969
16. Productions- "Cabaret," 1970
17. Productions- "Brigadoon," 1971
18. Productions- "Mame," 1972
19. Doctor of Service- Member List, 1930-2008
20. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1965

21. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1966
22. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1967
23. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1968
24. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1969
25. Doctor of Service- Banquet Invitation, 1970
26. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1970
27. Doctor of Service- Banquet Invitation, 1971
28. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1971
29. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1972
30. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1973
31. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1974
32. Doctor of Service- Banquet Invitation, 1975
33. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1976
34. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1977
35. Doctor of Service- Banquet Invitation, 1978
36. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1978
37. Doctor of Service- Correspondence/Publicity, 1978
38. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1979
39. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1980
40. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1981
41. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1982
42. Doctor of Service- Banquet Invitation, 1983
43. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1983
44. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1984
45. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1985
46. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1986
47. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1987
48. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1988
49. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1989
50. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1990
51. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1991
52. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1993
53. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1994
54. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 1997
55. Doctor of Service- Banquet Invitation, 2001
56. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 2003
57. Doctor of Service- Banquet Program, 2008
58. Doctor of Service- Banquet Invitation, 2008
59. Distinguished Educator- Banquet Program, 1996
60. Distinguished Educator- Banquet Program, 1999
61. Distinguished Educator- Banquet Program, 2001
62. Distinguished Educator- Flyers, 1990-1992
63. Distinguished Educator-Banquet Program, 2007
64. Freshman Register, 1975-1976

65. Freshman Register, 1977
66. Freshman Register, 1978
67. Freshman Register, 1979
68. Freshman Register, 1980
69. Freshman Register, 1981
70. Freshman Register, 1982-83
71. Freshman Register, 1983
72. Freshman Register, 1984
73. Freshman Register, 1985
74. Freshman Register, 1986
75. Honors Day Convocation, 1946
76. Honors Day Convocation, 1950
77. Honors Day Convocation, 1952
78. Honors Day Convocation, 1955
79. New Student Induction Convocation
80. New Membership Packet, September 9, 1998
81. New Peeps-January 30, 2008
82. Blue Key- Prayer Card

**Box 4**

1. Homecoming Show – flyers, posters, clippings, notes, tickets - 1979
2. Homecoming Show- Program, 1987
3. Homecoming Show- Program, 1994
4. Homecoming Show- Program, 1995
5. Homecoming Show- Program, 1996
6. Homecoming Show- Program, 1998 (Mock Up)
7. Homecoming Show- Program, 1998
8. Homecoming Show- Program, 1999 (Mock Up)
9. Homecoming Show- Program, 1999
10. Homecoming Show- Program, 2000
11. Homecoming Show- Program, 2001
12. Homecoming Show- Program, 2002
13. Homecoming Show- Program, 2004
14. Homecoming Show- Program, 2007
15. Homecoming Show- Productions Reports, 1979-1990, 1994-1995
16. Homecoming Show- Ticket Committee/Advertising Committee, 1987-1989, 1991-1995
17. Homecoming Show- Ticket Committee/Advertising Committee, 1996-2000
18. Alumni Banquet - Guestbook, 1993
19. Alumni Booklet – Brief Bios, 1993
20. Alumni Booklet- Brief Bios, 1994
21. Alumni Update Survey, 1999
22. Alumni Lists
23. John Denver Concerts, 1974
24. ZZ Top Concert, 1977

25. Senior Day, 1954
26. Senior Day, 1955
27. Senior Day, 1956
28. Convention Reports, 1968, 1973
29. Newsletter, 1932
30. Newsletter, 1933
31. Journal, October 1948
32. Newsletters, Spring 1977, November 1977
33. Newsletter, 1978
34. Newsletter, 1988
35. Newsletter, 2000
36. Newsletter, November 2007
37. Newspaper Clippings
38. Article- History of the Dakota Marker Trophy
39. Newspaper Clipping- Dakota Marker, 2007
40. Nickel Trophy
41. Blue Key Endowment Fund – Memo of Understanding – April 1987
42. Certificate of Appreciation, 2008
43. Certificate of Merit, 2008
44. Student Banking Center Proposal - 1959
45. Events, 1992-1993
46. Blue Key Fall Retreat, 2007
47. Blue Key Leadership Conference Program Sheet, 2008
48. Blue Key Spam Recipes
49. Blue Key- Collection of Thank You Notes
50. Homecoming – Slide Show CD, 1999
51. Homecoming - Slide Show CD, 2000
52. Homecoming - Slide Show CD, 2001
53. Scrapbook – Slide Show CD – 2002-2003

**Box 5**

1. Bison Brevities Scrapbook, 1948
2. Bison Brevities Scrapbook, 1982
3. Scrapbook, 1988-1992

**Box 6**

1. Brown Key Scrapbook, Spring 1992- Spring 1996
2. Scrapbook, 1993-1996
3. Blue Key Charter – May 24, 1927

**Box 7**

1. Scrapbook, March 1994 – May 1996
2. Scrapbook, December 1994 – April 1997



**Box 8**

1. Scrapbook, Spring 1997 - 1999
2. Scrapbook, Fall 2001 – May 2002

**Box 9 (Videos & DVDs)**

1. Bison Brevities, 1985, 1986
2. Bison Brevities, 1985, 1986 (Originals)
3. Bison Brevities, 1985, 1987
4. Bison Brevities, 1987 (Originals)
5. Bison Brevities, 1988
6. Bison Brevities, 1988 (Master)
7. Bison Brevities, 1989 (#5)
8. Bison Brevities, 1989
9. Bison Brevities, 1990
10. Bison Brevities, 1991
11. Bison Brevities, 1992
12. Bison Brevities, 1992
13. Bison Brevities, 1993
14. Bison Brevities, 1993 (Thurs. Night, April 22)
15. Bison Brevities, 1998
16. Bison Brevities, 1999
17. Bison Brevities, 2000
18. Bison Brevities, 2000 (Fri. Night, April 7)
19. Blue Key Welcome Video & Blue Key National Convention, no date
20. Homecoming Show, 1989
21. Homecoming Show, 1990
22. Homecoming Show, 1990, 1991
23. Homecoming Show, 1991 (Original)
24. Homecoming Show, 1997
25. Homecoming Show, 1999
26. Homecoming Show, 2003
27. Car 5
28. Chub's 1
29. Fargodome 3
30. Library
31. Practice Tape- Music Department, 1991
32. Reineke 2

**Separations Record**

**Photographs removed to NDSU Photograph Collection:**

Bison Brevities, 1948 - 1949	ABi 76 - 1948
Bison Brevities, 1950	ABi 76 - 1950
Bison Brevities, 1951	ABi 76 - 1951
Bison Brevities, 1952	ABi 76 - 1952
Bison Brevities, 1953	ABi 76 - 1953
Bison Brevities, 1956 - 1957	ABi 76 - 1956
Bison Brevities, 1957	ABi 76 - 1957
Bison Brevities, 1958	ABi 76 - 1958
Bison Brevities, 1959	ABi 76 - 1959
Bison Brevities, 1960	ABi 76 - 1960
Bison Brevities, Spring Musical - "South Pacific," personnel - 1961	ABi 76 - S 68
Bison Brevities, Spring Musical - "South Pacific," rehearsal (I & II) - 1961	ABi 76 - S 70(I&II)
Bison Brevities, Spring Musical - "Damn Yankees" - 1962	ABi 76 - D35
Bison Brevities, Spring Musical - "The Pajama Game" - 1963	ABi 76 - P 34
Bison Brevities, Spring Musical - "Sweezy Charity" - 1969	ABi 76 - S 83
Bison Brevities, 1977	ABi 76 - 1977
Bison Brevities, 1978	ABi 76 - 1978
Bison Brevities, 1981	ABi 76 - 1981
Blue Key	ABi 83
Blue Key - Basketball banquet	ABi 83 - B 37
Distinguished Educator - Jack Carter - 1989-1990	ADi 77 - Carter - 1989-1990
Distinguished Educator - Thor Hertsgaard - 1990-1991	ADi 77 - Hertsgaard - 1990-1991
Distinguished Educator - Curtis Amlund - 1991-1992	ADi 77 - Amlund - 1991-1992
Distinguished Educator - James Grier - 1992-1993	ADi 77 - Grier - 1992-1993
Distinguished Educator - Jane Pettinger - 1993-1994	ADi 77 - Pettinger - 1993-1994
Distinguished Educator - William Bleier - 1994-1995	ADi 77 - Bleier - 1994-1995
Distinguished Educator - Tim Sellnow - 1995-1996	ADi 77 - Sellnow - 1995-1996
Distinguished Educator - Kathy Cummings - 1996-1997	ADi 77 - Cummings - 1996-1997
Distinguished Educator - JoAnn Miller - 1997-1998	ADi 77 - Miller - 1997-1998

Distinguished Educator – Catherine Cater – 1998-1999	ADi 77- Cater – 1998-1999
Distinguished Educator – Michael Garrison – 1999-2000	ADi 77 – Garrison – 1999-2000
Distinguished Educator – Edward Deckard – 2000-2001	ADi 77 – Deckard – 2000-2001
Distinguished Educator – Lisa Nolan – 2001-2002	ADi 77 – Nolan – 2001-2002
Doctor of Service – Mary Bromel – 1981	ADo 27 – Bromel – 1981
Doctor of Service – Ithel Schipper – 1982	ADo 27 – Schipper – 1982
Doctor of Service – Robert Koob – 1987	ADo 27 – Koob – 1987
Doctor of Service – Margriet Lacy – 1988	ADo 27 – Lacy – 1988
Doctor of Service – Gary Narum – 1989	ADo 27 – Narum – 1989
Doctor of Service – Lloyd Thompson – 1991	ADo 27 – Thompson – 1991
Doctor of Service – Andrew Keogh – 1992	ADo 27 – Keogh – 1992
Doctor of Service – Philip Haakenson – 1993	ADo 27 – Haakenson - 1993
Doctor of Service – Patty Corwin – 2000	ADo 27 – Corwin – 2000

Blue Key with Governor Hoeven & Border Trophy-2007

Blue Key Members-2006-2007

**Slides removed to NDSU Slide Collection:**

Box 12

- 1 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1977
- 2 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1978
- 3 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1979
- 4 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1980
- 5 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1982
- 6 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1983
- 7 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1986
- 8 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1988
- 9 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1989
- 10 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1990
- 11 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1991
- 12 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1992
- 13 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1993
- 14 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1995
- 15 Bison Brevities- Slides, 1996-1998
- 16 Homecoming- Slides, 1985
- 17 Homecoming- Slides, 1987
- 18 Homecoming- Slides, 1988
- 19 Homecoming- Slides, 1989
- 20 Homecoming- Slides, 1990

- 21 Homecoming- Slides, 1991
- 22 Homecoming- Slides, 1994-1995
- 23 Homecoming- Slides, 1996
- 24 Homecoming- Slides, 1997
- 25 Homecoming- Slides, 1998
- 26 Nickel Trophy/ Spam Awards- Slides

**Artifacts removed to NDAC/SU Artifacts Collection:**

Box 1

- 16 Pin - NDSU - "HTSIBWRT" - Blue Key Production - May 5-6-7 – 1966 [Blue Key Spring Musical] (Donated by Herschel Lashkowitz - 1989)
- 34 Ribbon - Bison Brevities - April 4th-5th, 1940

Box 1A

- 42 Pin - Blue Key - n.d. (donated by Mary Wallum - pin of Everett J. Wallum)

Box #77

- \*T-Shirt - Bison Brevities 1990 – Blue Key – black with white and maroon lettering and design
- \*Sweat-Shirt – Brevs 1992 – 60 years – “Now for something completely different...” white with yellow and blue lettering and design
- \*T-Shirt – Brevs 1992 – 60 years – “Now for something completely different...” – white with yellow and blue lettering and design
- \*Sweat-Shirt – Bison Brevities 1991 – gray/white with black and green lettering and design
- \*Sweat-Shirt – “Blue Key presents Bison Brevities ‘93” – gray/white with black and maroon lettering and design
- \*T-Shirt – “Blue Key presents Bison Brevities ‘93” – gray/white with black and maroon lettering and design (2)
- \*Long-Sleeve T-Shirt – “Brevin in 97 – The greatest show on earth’ – gray/white with black, yellow and red lettering and design
- \*T-Shirt – Blue Key International Honor Society – gray/white with blue and yellow lettering and design

Box #78

- \*Plaque – Blue Key Homecoming Show – Spirit Award – 1979-1981
- \*Plaque – to Blue Key from MDA “In appreciation...” – 1989-1990
- \*Plaque – Blue Key – Homecoming Show – 1<sup>st</sup> Place – The Human Float Contest – n.d.
- \*Plaque – Blue Key – 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Booth Competition – 61<sup>st</sup> Little “I” – February 1987

Box #79

- \*Plaque – Blue Key Doctor of Service – general
- \*Plaque – Distinguished Educators Award – 1969-1970 – 1984-1985
- \*Plaque – Gimme My Nickel Back - Bison/Sioux Challenge – 1997, 1998

Blue Zippered Case to Hold Papers

Rolled Up Poster for Alumni Reunion-October 2007

Folder & Pad-Blue Key Logo

Plaque Engravings-Brevities, Judges Special-1987-2000

Plaque Engravings-Brevities, Best Curtain Act-1977-2000

Plaque Engravings-Brevities, Best Production Act-1977-2000

Plaque Engravings-Brevities, Best Individual Performer-1978-2000

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