
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PC 173
Buehman Studio
Fox Theater Photograph collection, ca.

DESCRIPTION

Photographs, taken by the Buehman Studio, of the Fox Theater in downtown Tucson including views of the exterior and interior, publicity, contests, crowds, actors and actresses, employees, and activities.

2 boxes, .5 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

Donated by the Buehman family as part of the Buehman Collection.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society - Tucson, Archives Department.

PROCESSING

This collection was processed by Diane Boyer in 1988.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Tucson's Fox Theater, at 21 W. Congress, opened with great fanfare on April 11, 1930. Local professional photographer Albert Buehman was on hand and took several photographs of the festivities. Albert Buehman was a second-generation Tucson photographer. Over the next decade, he took many other photographs of the theater; as well as a small number taken after 1940. The theater closed its doors in 1974 and is currently being restored.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection of professional photographs documents the Fox Theater in the 1930s. The images were primarily taken for publicity purposes and include views of the exterior, interior, promotions and contests, actors and actresses, advertising and display windows and crowds in attendance. Exterior views also show Congress Street and neighboring businesses such as Palace of Sweets, Grand Cafe, Arizona Daily Star, Fox Barber Shop and Goldberg Jewelers. Actors include Jean Harlow, Leo Carrillo posed in front of the Tucson Police Department, and Roscoe Ates, a comedian, posed in Porters Store.

There are images of contests including bicycle races for men and women escorted by police motorcycles, a rodeo queen contest, a popularity contest, and beauty contests. Popularity contest winners are shown with Mayor Henry O. Jaastad and C. Edgar Goyette departing on an American Airlines airplane. Another contest photograph includes Henry Jaastad, Monte Mansfeld, Isabella Greenway and Governor B.B. Moeur. A car give-away includes images of Joseph Roberts, Fire Chief, and Jesus Camacho, Policeman. Employees include Roy Drachman, Grace Drachman, Constant F. Weinzapfel, Oran Sarrels, Herb Nixon, Harold Box, William Marteny, and others. A few earlier photographs, 1910-1920s, are present including images of Emmanuel Drachman and Daved Diamos.

There are images of the Mickey Mouse Club including a Lions Club charitable food collection drive at Christmas, a parade, crowds of children, and decorated bicycles. There are images of the exterior showing the box office and marquees; some images show advertising of the building's air conditioning system.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

- f.1 Congress Street
(includes Palace of Sweets, Grand Cafe, Arizona Daily Star building, Goldberg Jewelers, Fox Barber Shop)
- f.2 Contests
(includes bicycle races for men and women, with police motorcycle escort, popularity contest winners departing on American Airlines plane, C. Edgar Goyette, Mayor Henry O. Jaastad, 1930s bathing suits)
- f.3 Employees - Groups (some identification)
(Includes Roy and Grace Drachman, Constant F. Weinzapfel, Oran Sarrels, Harold Box, William Marteny, etc.)
- f.4 Exteriors
Views of box office and marquees - some images have "Dry-Air-Cooled" and "Its always cool inside", "Its healthfully cool"
- f.5 Interiors
Lobby displays, Herb Nixon, organist and the band, a fashion display by area merchants

Box 2

- f.6 Mickey Mouse Club
Lions Club charitable food collection, parade, decorated bicycles, crowd of children
- f.7 Miscellaneous
Includes photos of Daved Diamos and Emanuel Drachman
- f.8 Parades
- f.9 Publicity
Includes Joseph Roberts, Jesus Camacho, crowds at car give-away musicians, dancers, opening night crowds, advertising
- f.10 Actors and actresses
Includes Jean Harlow, Roscoe Ates at Porters Store, Leo Carrillo at Tucson Police Dept.
- f.11 Display windows