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UMass Educational Television Collection

1994-2000
6 boxes (9 linear feet)
Call no.: RG 13/1/3

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Read collection overview

In 1993, UMass Educational Television was created by Dean Bailey Jackson and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Jay Carey to establish a creative media outreach project for the School of Education. Professor Liane Brandon was asked to be the Director with Associate Dean Jay Carey as Co-director. Working in collaboration with staff member Scott Perry, they designed UMass Educational Television to provide the public with innovative, original, educational programming using the resources of the School of Education and the University, and to serve as a hands-on learning laboratory for students and teachers. They became the only School of Education in the country to produce original educational programming for cable/home audiences. Despite the positive reception of the programs produced, funding for the UMass Educational Television was cut and production ceased in 2003

The UMass Educational Television collections consists of many of the original programs developed and created by this media outreach project, which was part of the School of Education: Try This At Home, Fresh Ink, Who Knows? Pet Tales, Valley Vignettes, Hi Mom!, and Fine Print. Show flyers, posters, production files, and awards provide insight into the creation and reception of programs.

Background on UMass Educational Television

In 1993, UMass Educational Television was created by Dean Bailey Jackson and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Jay Carey to establish a creative media outreach project for the School of Education. Professor Liane Brandon was asked to be the Director with Associate Dean Jay Carey as Co-director. Working in collaboration with staff member Scott Perry, they designed UMass Educational Television to provide the public with innovative, original, educational programming using the resources of the School of Education and the University, and to serve as a hands-on learning laboratory for students and teachers. They became the only School of Education in the country to produce original educational programming for cable/home audiences.

They creative work for UMass Educational Television from 1993 through 2003 was extremely productive and satisfying for all involved. It also was very well received. They researched and created 12 original series (totaling approximately 50 half hour episodes), two specials and many shorter pieces. Their productions were carried by local and regional cable, with many see in over 40 cities and towns throughout Massachusetts and Connecticut. The Fine Print series was in national distribution until 2010 through The Cinema Guild, a highly respected educational distributor. More than 50 articles about their work appeared in newspapers and magazines throughout the state helping to promote positive awareness of the School and the University.

In their years of operation, they trained 75 undergraduate interns and 14 graduate Teaching Assistants. They filmed over 50 faculty members from 22 departments and involved well over 100 residents of Western Massachusetts in their productions.

In 2002, they began production of an important new video project entitled Safe Schools. This project was designed to help teachers and administrators address issues of harassment and homophobia in schools. Working with the Massachusetts Department of Education Schools Program as well as with students, teachers, and school administrators throughout the state, they taped interviews with 12 experts and filmed in eight high schools.

During the editing of Safe Schools, Interim Dean Andrews Effrat decided to eliminate funding for UMass Educational Television due to budget cuts to the University. This sparked a letter of protest to the Chancellor, Provost and Dean which was signed by faculty from many departments across campus. The Safe Schools project, despite the efforts that went into production, was never completed. UMass Educational Television ceased production in June 2003.

Scope of collection

The UMass Educational Television collections consists of many of the original programs developed and created by this media outreach project, which was part of the School of Education: Try This At Home, Fresh Ink, Who Knows? Pet Tales, Valley Vignettes, Hi Mom!, and Fine Print. Show flyers, posters, production files, and awards provide insight into the creation and reception of programs.

Inventory

Fine Print
1998

Provides an intimate look at writers, writing, and the creative process. In each half-hour episode, distinguished UMass authors read from their work and talk candidly about their lives, their work, why they write, how they got started, how they react to editors and critics, and the joys and struggles of writing. This series was in distribution through The Cinema Guild, a highly regarded national distributor.

Martin Espada (Series One)
1998

Box 5

Julius Lester (Series One)
1998

Box 5

Paul Mariani (Series One)
1998

Box 5

Sonia Nieto (Series One)
1998

Box 5

Patricia Wright (Series One)
1998

Box 5

Agha Shahid Ali (Series Two)
1998

Box 5

Noy Holland (Series Two)
1998

Box 5

Jay Neugeboren (Series Two)
1998

Box 5

James Tate (Series Two)
1998

Box 5
John Edgar Wideman (Series Two)
1998
Box 5
Dara Wier (Series Two)
1998
Box 5
Hi Mom!
ca. 1997
Box 3

A campus collage: UMass students say hi to their folks and friends at home and talk about life and learning at the University. This video was requested by the University of Massachusetts Office of Admissions for use in their promotional video.

Try This At Home
1995-2000
Box 1-2, 4

Four series of interactive, entertaining and educational projects that kids and parents can do together at home using common household materials. Children experiment with fascinating (and safe) science projects, make nutritious and delicious food, and learn about nature in their neighborhood. The series aired on many cable stations and received Communicator and Videographer awards.

Science! with UMass Professor Dr. Dick Konicek
1995-1996

Includes: Bubble Gum (The Scientific Method), Cabbage (Acids and Bases), Oobleck (Physical Properties), Paste (Properties), Penny Boats (Water Displacement), and Pendulum (How and Why).

Art! with teacher Patty Bode
1996

Includes: Clay, Masks, Paper Mache, Paper Making, Plaster, Print Making, Puppets, Shadow Puppets, and Tie-Dye.

Cooking! with Cynthia Caldwell and Carl the puppet
1998

A series of entertaining and educational cooking shows for kids. The shows were hosted by cooking expert Cynthia Caldwell and "Carl" an irrepressible puppet. The show featured recipes that were fun and easy to make: bagel heads, nutty noodles, baby burgers, pop-pop-popsicles, rise and shine shakes, uh-oh-oatmeal, and many other innovative and (mostly) nutritious concoctions.

Includes: Around the World in Your Kitchen, "P" Foods (foods starting with the letter P), Quick and Easy Desserts, Teeny Tiny Food, Things Aren't Always What They Seem, Wake Up and Cook Breakfast, and Yummy After School Snacks.

Nature! with Colleen Kelley and Carl the puppet
2000

Renowned Hitchcock Center naturalist Colleen Kelley leads parents and kids on a series of exciting backyard expeditions. Joined by her irrepressible sidekick pupper Carl, the shows featured a fresh hands-on approach to learning. Shows provided fun and original activities that families could do together.

Includes: Blowin' in the Wind, Buggin' Out, Discovery Doodads, and Down 'n Dirty.

Fresh Ink
ca. 1996
Box 3

This half-hour "special" was an unusual and intimate look into the lives of teenagers through their writing. The poetry by regional high school students ranged from light and funny to serious, philosophical, ironic, and disturbing. Taped on local setting: schools, cars, a cemetery, a convenience store; the students wrote about sports, love, cars, turtles, drugs, domestic violence, death, and much more.

Pet Tales
1994
Box 3, 5

An offbeat series about people's relationships with their pets hosted by Dr. Katz, a veterinarian with unique

insights regarding inter-species relationships.

Who Knows?
1994-1999

This series featured 37 UMass professors and staff from 22 different departments answering questions sent in by the viewing audience; it was shown on cable in over 40 cities and towns.

Show 1: Maria Tymoczko, R. Mark Leckie, Stella Volpe

Box 2-3

Maria Tymoczko, Comparative Literature, "Why do we have pumpkins at Halloween?"; R. Mack Leckie, Geology, "Why is there salt in the ocean?"; Stella Volpe, Nutrition, "Why do we love coffee so much?"

Show 2: Matthew Kelty, Tom Arny, Todd Crosset

Box 2-3

Matthew Kelty, Forestry and Wildlife Management, "How can you tell the age of a tree?"; Thomas Arny, Physics and Astronomy, "Why do we see only one side of the moon?"; Todd Crosset, Sports Studies, "What is the history of Lacrosse?"

Show 3: Mark Russell Smith, Frank Rife, James Averill

Box 2-3

Mark Russell Smith, Music, "How do string instruments create sound?"; Frank Rife, Exercise Science, "What sports are best for your health and body?"; James Averill, Psychology, "Do Animals Laugh?"

Show 4: James Averill, Bernard Rubinstein, Neil Carlson

Box 2-3

James Averill, Psychology, "Why do we laugh?"; James Averill, Psychology, "Do Animals Laugh?"; Bernard Rubinstein, Biology, "Why do leaves change color in the autumn?"; Neil Carlson, Psychology, "Why do we sleep? and dream?"

Show 5: Tom Arny, Matthew Kelty, R. Mark Leckie, James Averill

Box 2-3

Thomas Arny, Physics and Astronomy, "Why do we see only one side of the moon?"; Matthew Kelty, Forestry and Wildlife Management, "How can you tell the age of a tree?"; R. Mack Leckie, Geology, "Why is there salt in the ocean?"; James Averill, Psychology, "Why do we laugh?"

Show 6: Mark Russell Smith, Stella Volpe, Frank Rife, Maria Tymoczko

Box 2-3

Mark Russell Smith, Music, "How do string instruments create sound?"; Stella Volpe, Nutrition, "Why do we love coffee so much?"; Frank Rife, Exercise Science, "What sports are best for your health and body?"; Maria Tymoczko, Comparative Literature, "Why do we have pumpkins at Halloween?"

Show 7: Janice Hanson, Kevin Nugent, Helen Page, Scott Jackson

Box 2-3

Janice Hanson, Communication, "What are some of the effects television has had on us?"; Kevin Nugent, Early Childhood Development, "Do babies have a sense of humor?"; Helen Page, Anthropology, "Are there any national parks which represent African-American History?"; Scott Jackson, Environmental Trainer, "Why are people so afraid of snakes?"

Show 8: Patricia Warner, John Cole, Sut Jhally, Matthew Kelty

Box 2-3

Patricia Warner, Consumer Studies, "Why has women's clothing been so restrictive?"; John Cole, Anthropology, "Did vampires really exist?"; Sut Jhally, Communication, "As a parent what would be the most important thing I can teach my kids about TV?"; Matthew Kelty, Forestry and Wildlife Management, "How do trees survive the winter?"

Show 9: Karen Searcy, Fergus Clydesdale, Thomas Arny, John MacDonald

Box 2-3

Karen Searcy, Biology, "Do all plants have flowers?"; Fergus Clydesdale, Food Sciences, "How much truth is there on food labels?"; Thomas Arny, Physics and Astronomy, "How do constellations get their names?"; John MacDonald, Forestry and Wildlife Management, "Do we have a lot of moose in Massachusetts?"

Show 10: David Kittredge, George Howe, Donald Kroodsma, Faith Thayer

Box 2-3

David Kittredge, Forestry and Wildlife Management, "How long does the average tree live?"; George Howe, Veterinary and Animal Science, "Why do cats purr?"; Donald Kroodsma, Biology, "Why do birds migrate?"; Faith Thayer, Entomology, "Why do spiders spin webs?"

Show 11: Kevin Nugent, Jarice Hanson, Scott Jackson, Stella Volpe

Box 2-3

Kevin Nugent, Early Childhood Development, "What are some ways that babies communicate?"; Jarice Hanson, Communication, "What will life be like in the 21st century?"; Scott Jackson, Environmental Trainer, "Are there poisonous snakes in Massachusetts?"; Stella Volpe, Nutrition, "Are fat-free foods really better for you?"

Show 12: Patricia Warner, Sut Jhally, Richard Yuretich, John Edman

Box 2-3

Patricia Warner, Consumer Studies, "Why do women wear high heels?"; Sut Jhally, Communication, "What can you tell me about cigarette companies aims their ads at children?"; Richard Yuretich, Geology and Geography, "Why doesn't the ocean freeze?"; John Edman, Entomology, "Why do bees sting, but mosquitoes bite?"

Show 13: John MacDonald, Bob Andres, Stella Volpe, Bernard Rubinstein

Box 2-3

John MacDonald, Forestry and Wildlife Management, "Do we have bears in Massachusetts?"; Bob Andres, Engineering, "What is ergonomics?"; Stella Volpe, Nutrition, "Is it healthier to be vegetarian?"; Bernard Rubinstein, Biology, "How do plants survive in the wild?"

Show 14: Ann Lewis, Jarice Hanson, John Rhodes, Nancy Cohen

Box 2-3

Ann Lewis, Forestry and Wildlife Management, "Are there carnivorous plants in Massachusetts?"; Jarice Hanson, Communication, "Why don't we have many drive-ins anymore?"; John Rhodes, Geoscience, "Do we have volcanoes in Massachusetts?"; Nancy Cohen, Nutrition, "Why do we Hungry?"

Show 15: Katherine Fite, Joe Hamill, Ernest Dzendolet, Bonnie Strickland

Box 2-3

Katherine Fine, Psychology, "Do animals see the same as humans?" And "Why do cats land on their feet?";

Joe Hamill, Exercise Science, "Do expensive sneakers enhance your performance?"; Ernest Dzendolet, Psychology, "Do all people have the same sense of taste?"; Bonnie Strickland, Psychology, "What is Spring Fever?"

Show 16: Lt. MacNamara, Katherine Fite, William M. Bulger, Todd Fuller

Box 2-3

Lt. MacNamara, Aerospace Studies, "How do airplanes fly?"; Katherine Fine, Psychology, "Do animals see the same as humans?"; William M/ Bulger, President, "What does a University President do?"; Todd Fuller, Professor of Forestry and Wildlife Management, "Why do wolves have such a bad reputation?"

Valley Vignettes
ca. 1994-2000
Box 2-3

A collection of short pieces featuring local color, characters, history, events, and miscellany. These portraits followed episodes of Who Knows.

Pottery
1996
Book binding
1996
Maple syrup
1996
Glassblowing
1996
Silk screening
1996
Bowling
1996
Pizza
1996
Program files, flyers, posters, awards
ca. 1994-2000
Box 6

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Gift of Liane Brandon, Jay Carey, Scott Perry, 2006.

Processing Information

Processed by SCUA staff, December 2023.

Language:

English

Copyright and Use ([More information](#))

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Search terms

Subjects

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Contributors

- UMass Educational Television [main entry]
- Brandon, Liane
- Carey, Jay
- Perry, Scott
- UMass Educational Television
- University of Massachusetts at Amherst. School of Education

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