A Finding Aid to the
Sh'ma Records

Manuscript Collection No. 245

Sh’má
a journal of Jewish responsibility
Collection Summary

Title                     Sh'ma Records
Dates                    1970-1984
Collection Number        MS-245
Repository               The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Other/Variant Title      Sh'ma (New York, N.Y. : Periodical)
Creator                  Sh'ma (New York, N.Y. : Periodical)
Extent                   6.4 linear feet (16 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch
Since 1971, the "journal of Jewish responsibility" known as Sh'ma has been on the cutting edge of Jewish pluralistic dialogue. From its modest beginnings, under the tutelage of Eugene Borowitz, the magazine has tried to be one thing: a forum for the frank exchange of ideas.

The magazine grew out of Borowitz's creative urge at the end of the 1960s. Afraid that American society was becoming entrenched in the Vietnam morass, and in a general decline in values, he was compelled to produce a journal that might spark renewed interest in substantive religious, moral, and ethical debate.

In the 1970s, Sh'ma's ability to conduct pluralistic dialogue was unique. Often, it was the only place that leaders with opposing religious views and practices could come to share thoughts and ideas as equals.

In 1993, Borowitz relinquished editorial control to a panel of three senior editors and a managing editor. In addition, financial ownership was handed over to the Center for Jewish Learning and Leadership (CLAL). Borowitz continues to teach Jewish theology at the New York campus of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Scope and Content
The Sh'ma records consist of artwork, correspondence and manuscript drafts of the journal. In addition, a portion of the collection is devoted to financial statements and paperwork. There is the correspondence between editor Eugene Borowitz and editors, writers, and donors of Sh'ma. This series also includes the journal's financial paperwork, and drafts of the journal's submissions.

Original copies of Sh'ma can be found throughout the collection and also in the nearprint files of the American Jewish Archives.

Arrangement
The collection is arranged in two (2) series: A. Records; B. Records. Each series represents a separate donation by the editor. Records are primarily correspondence, arranged in chronological order and other reports.

Terms of Access
The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Preferred Citation
Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Sh'ma Records and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-245. Sh'ma Records. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance
Received from Eugene B. Borowitz, New York, N.Y., 1985.

Processing Information
Processed by Jeff Brown, August 2001.

Index Terms

Subjects               Jewish periodicals
Personal Names         Borowitz, Eugene B.

Extent  4.8 linear feet (12 Hollinger boxes)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Rabbis. Cooperation, 1970
Box 1. Folder 2. Unusable types, 1974 August
Box 1. Folder 3. Tape transcription on discussion on Jewish "Establishment" (unused), 1970
Box 1. Folder 4. Borowitz reserve articles.
Box 1. Folder 5. Promotional advertisements.
Box 1. Folder 6. Promotional advertisements.
Box 1. Folder 7. Budget reports, subscription charts, promotional material.
Box 2. Folder 1. Financial data.
Box 2. Folder 3. Tax returns, 1972-1976
Box 2. Folder 5. National Endowment for Humanities applications, 1980
Box 2. Folder 7. Art-design, 1970
Box 2. Folder 8. Artists, 1978
Box 2. Folder 9. Mailing permits.
Box 2. Folder 10. Fellows meetings, 1975-1976
Box 2. Folder 15. Contributors, 1970
Box 3. Folder 1. Contributors, 1974-1975
Box 3. Folder 2. Contributors, 1976
Box 3. Folder 3. Contributors, 1977
Box 3. Folder 4. Contributors, 1978
Box 3. Folder 5. Contributors, 1979
Box 3. Folder 7. Contributors, 1982
Box 3. Folder 8. Correspondence regarding concerns, 1970
Box 3. Folder 9. Correspondence regarding concerns, 1970
Box 3. Folder 10. Correspondence, 1970
Box 3. Folder 11. Correspondence, 1971 January-May
Box 4. Folder 1. Correspondence, 1971 January-August
Box 4. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1971
Box 4. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1971 September-November
Box 4. Folder 4. Correspondence, 1971 December
Box 4. Folder 5. Correspondence, 1971
Box 4. Folder 6. Correspondence, 1972 January-February
Box 4. Folder 7. Correspondence, 1972 March-August
Box 4. Folder 8. Correspondence, 1972 September-December
Box 5. Folder 1. Correspondence, 1972
Box 5. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1972 January-March
Box 5. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1973 April-August
Box 5. Folder 4. Correspondence, 1973 September-December
Box 5. Folder 5. Correspondence, 1973
Box 5. Folder 6. Correspondence, 1974 January-March
Box 6. Folder 1. Correspondence, 1974 April-July
Box 6. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1974 August-December
Box 6. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1974
Box 6. Folder 4. Correspondence, 1975 January-February
Box 6. Folder 5. Correspondence, 1975 March-June
Box 7. Folder 1. Correspondence, 1975 July-September
Box 7. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1975 November-December
Box 7. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1975
Box 7. Folder 4. Correspondence, 1976 January-March
Box 7. Folder 5. Correspondence, 1976 April-June
Box 7. Folder 6. Correspondence, 1976 July-December
Box 8. Folder 1. Correspondence, 1976
Box 8. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1977 January-March
Box 8. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1977 April-June
Box 8. Folder 4. Correspondence, 1977 July-September
Box 8. Folder 5. Correspondence, 1977 October-December
Box 8. Folder 6. Correspondence, 1977
Box 9. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1978 April-June
Box 9. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1978 July-September
Box 9. Folder 5. Correspondence, 1978

Extent 1.6 linear feet (4 Hollinger boxes)
Box 15. Folder 12. Correspondence.
Box 15. Folder 15. Memos to contributing editors, 1981-1993
Box 16. Folder 1. Promotional materials.
Box 16. Folder 8. Contributors, 1992