

Dr. Maria Piers' Papers Collection

Arrangement of series within the collection:

- Academic and popular writing
- Academic Programs
- Atomic Age Film
- Correspondence and memos
- Ephemera
- External organizations
- Francis Parker documents
- News articles
- Oral History
- Professional Associations
- Programs and proposals
- Rene Spitz
- Roosevelt University
- Good Grieving film
- Family Focus
- Anna Freud booklet

Scope: undated, 1947, 1949, 1960-1992 (not all years represented)

Background information: Dr. Maria Piers was a co-founder of Erikson Institute, a former faculty member, and a dean from 1966-1977. She was a prolific author on a wide variety of child development subjects including, but not limited to, the importance of play in children's lives and the study of infanticide. In addition to writing and her work with Erikson Institute, she was an early supporter of quality children's television programming and produced content with National Educational Television. This collection features documents produced outside her deanship from 1966-1977. For documents produced during that time frame, please see the Papers of the Dean (Dr. Maria Piers) collection.

Accessing the collection: If you would like to visit the archives and peruse the collections, please contact libraryhelp@erikson.edu. The archives are located in the staff workroom (room 212) in the Edward Neisser Library at 451 N. LaSalle in Chicago, IL.

The Erikson Institute Archives is composed of a non-circulating repository open to the Erikson Institute community and interested public and a digital collection of photos hosted by CARLI Digital Collections. There are rare exceptions to the physical archives non-circulation policy; in

certain instances, borrowing privileges may be granted for the purposes of display or publication. All policies of the Erikson Institute Archives are subject to change. For more information, please contact the Archives by emailing libraryhelp@erikson.edu.

Series number: 41.1

Location: Box 27, Folders 1-16; box 56, folder 7

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Academic and Popular Writing

Series dates: undated, 1947, 1949, 1962, 1978-1979, 1981-86

Quantity: 17 manila file folders

Scope and content note: This series contains papers written by Dr. Maria Piers (co-founder of Erikson Institute, a former faculty member, and a dean from 1966-1977) when she wasn't serving as the dean of Erikson Institute. For papers and other items written during that time, please consult Papers of the Dean (Dr. Maria Piers) collection. The papers in this collection range from published book reviews, draft papers about infanticide, work on psychoanalysis and child development, art in schools, discipline, and play.

Series number: 41.2

Location: Box 27, Folder 17; Box 28, Folders 1-3, Box 45, folder 10; Box 56, folder 8

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Academic Programs

Series dates: undated, 1970s, 1980s

Quantity: 6 manila file folders

Scope and content note: This series contains reading lists for culture classes and human development classes at Erikson Institute, information about seminars, information about The Maria W. Piers Scholar Program, information about a course Maria taught at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and test questions.

Series number: 41.3

Location: Box 28, folder 4

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Atomic Age Film

Series dates: 1983, 1985

Quantity: One manila file folder

Arrangement: Chronological

Scope and content note: This series contains information about a film called "If the World Goes Away, Where Will the Children Play" by Jacqueline Rivet-River. It was an anti-nuclear film made from a child's point of view during the mid-80s. Peace Productions, the company that made the film, asked Dr. Maria Piers if she could sign on as a sponsor of the film. Maria wrote that she would like to, but had to make sure there weren't any professional conflicts with doing so.

Series number: 41.4

Location: Box 28, folders 6-18, box 45, folder 4; box 56, folder 9

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Correspondence and memos

Series dates: undated, 1978, 1982, 1983, 1984-1990, 1992-93, 1994

Quantity: 15 manila file folders

Arrangement: Chronological, save for two series of letters: one from 1982-1988 and 1994 that were accessioned at a later date and can be found in box 45, folder 4 and one from 1987-88 that can be found in box 56, folder 9.

Scope and content note: This series contains correspondence and memos between Dr. Maria Piers (co-founder of Erikson Institute, a former faculty member, and a dean from 1966-1977) and others outside of her time as the dean of Erikson. Please consult Papers of the Dean (Dr. Maria Piers) for correspondence and memos that occurred during her deanship. Several letters are in written in German and there are many handwritten notes within the collection.

Series number: 41.5

Location: Box 28, folders 19-21; Box 45, folder 1; Box 49

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Ephemera

Series dates: 1970s-1980s, undated (not all years represented)

Quantity: 4 manila file folders, one box

Arrangement: n/a

Scope and content note: This series contains various documents that Dr. Maria Piers (co-founder of Erikson Institute, a former faculty member, and a dean from 1966-1977) collected. Included are various news articles, several personal photographs of children, and a program for Dr. Gerhart Piers' (Dr. Maria Piers' husband) memorial service on October 21, 1978 at which Irving Harris (early funder of Erikson Institute) spoke. Box 49 contains Dr. Piers' rolodex. Included in box 45 is a certificate and letter from the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health offering Maria a Licentiate Membership of the Society in 1963. The Royal Society of Health was founded in 1876 and is under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and the Presidency of the Right Hon. the Lord Cohen of Birkenhead.

Series number: 41.6

Location: Box 28, folders 22-23; Box 45, folder 6, folder 9

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—External Organizations

Series dates: 1988, 1991-93

Quantity: 4 manila file folders

Arrangement: n/a

Scope and content note: This series was originally divided into two sub-series: PR/Communications and Publications. The PR/Communications folder has memos and bulletins from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Chicago Psychoanalytic Society (which Maria was a member of). The Publications folder has an annual report from the Chicago Community Trust. A third and fourth subseries were added for specific Chicago Community Trust interactions and Chicago Pscyhoanalytic Society records that were accessioned at a later date. The Chicago Community Trust folder contains a letter to Dr. Piers from the Chicago Community Trust thanking her for her involvement in evaluating a project from Evanston Hospital about child abuse and neglect. Included is a copy of the project as well. The Chicago Psychoanalytic Society folder contains information about dues payment, meeting minutes, and referral lists.

Series number: 41.7

Location: Box 28, folder 24; Box 45, folder 5

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Francis Parker documents

Series dates: 1984-1985

Quantity: Two manila file folders

Scope and content note: This series contains documents about a potential partnership between Erikson Institute and the Francis W. Parker School, an independent school in Chicago. Contained in the series are letters between Dr. Maria Piers (co-founder of Erikson Institute, a former faculty member, and a dean from 1966-1977) and Norma J. Nelson (Lower School Head of Francis Parker) as well as letters between William D. Geer (headmaster of Francis Parker) and Matthew Dillon (then-Director of Development for Erikson Institute) as well as drafts of the proposal. Francis W. Parker School proposed a plan that would have Erikson Institute graduate students interning in their Kindergarten program. This series also contains papers accessioned at a later date which include meeting minutes from the Educational Council meetings as well as information about diversity in Francis W. Parker School and foreign language education.

Series number: 41.8

Location: Box 28, folders 25-27

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—News Articles

Series dates: 1960s, 1980s, undated (not all years represented)

Quantity: Three manila file folders

Arrangement: n/a

Scope and content note: This series contains newspaper articles collected by Dr. Maria Piers (co-founder of Erikson Institute, a former faculty member, and a dean from 1966-1977), authored by Dr. Maria Piers, or work that she was quoted in.

Series number: 41.9

Location: Box 28, folders 28

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Oral History

Series dates: 1983

Quantity: One manila file folder

Arrangement: n/a

Scope and content note: This series contains a lengthy (35-page) interview conducted by Rose Stein (a librarian at Columbia University) with Dr. Maria Piers (co-founder of Erikson Institute, a former faculty member, and a dean from 1966-1977). This interview was conducted for the Austrian Project of the Oral History Research Office of Columbia University.

Series number: 41.10

Location: Box 28, folders 29

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Professional Associations

Series dates: 1979-1980, 1982-83, 1985-86, 1988

Quantity: One manila file folder

Arrangement: Chronological

Scope and content note: This series contains rosters of the Chicago Psychoanalytic Society as well as a list of the Board of Trustees for the Institute of Psychoanalysis in 1979. Edward Neisser (former Erikson trustee) and Barbara Bowman (Erikson co-founder, president from 1994-2001, and faculty member) were both trustees in 1979.

Series number: 41.11

Location: Box 29, folders 1-13

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Programs and Proposals

Series dates: 1969, 1974, 1982-1990, 1992, undated

Quantity: 13 manila file folders

Arrangement: Chronological

Scope and content note: This series contains programs and proposals written by Dr. Maria Piers (co-founder of Erikson Institute, a former faculty member, and a dean from 1966-1977) as well as by others that she collected. Programs of note include "Women in Poverty" (a report on a conference about the feminization of poverty held in Chicago on May 19, 1982), a copy of Erikson Institute's Ethnographic Evaluation Program from 1984, and an evaluation of Continental Bank and Quaker Oats Working Parent Seminars, which was part of a program created by Erikson Institute in 1983 to address "the corporate community and family needs".

Series number: 41.12

Location: Box 29, folder 14

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Rene Spitz

Series dates: 1969, 1973-1974, 1982, 1987

Quantity: One manila file folder

Arrangement: Chronological

Related collections/items: Photo of Rene Spitz during a visit to Chicago in CARLI Digital Collections:

http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/eri_photos/id/135/rec/1

Scope and content note: This series contains information and writings about the passing of Rene Spitz (an Austrian-American psychoanalyst and colleague of Dr. Maria Piers'), the "ccc-address" that Rene Spitz gave on September 22, 1969, and the creation of the Spitz Scholarship Fund at Erikson Institute and later plans for Rene Spitz's centenary.

Series number: 41.13

Location: Box 29, folder 15

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Roosevelt University

Series dates: 1981, 1985-1986, 1989

Quantity: One manila file folder

Arrangement: Chronological

Scope and content note: This series contains a Winter 1985 copy of the *Roosevelt Today* newspaper, a Spring 1989 schedule of classes for Roosevelt University in Chicago, and three quizzes written by Dr. Maria Piers.

Series number: 41.14

Location: Box 45, folder 2

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Good Grieving film

Series dates: 1989

Quantity: One manila file folder

Related series: Lorraine Wallach Papers—Research and Writing (box 43, folder 2)

Scope and content note: This series contains information about making a film for children about grief. Also included is a draft script by Jackie Rivet-River (who worked on the Atomic Age film).

Series number: 41.15

Location: Box 45, folder 3

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Family Focus

Series dates: 1985

Quantity: One manila file folder

Scope and content note: This series contains letters and information about Board of Directors meetings for Family Focus, a Chicago-based nonprofit. Dr. Maria Piers was on the Board of Directors.

Series number: 41.16

Location: Box 45, folder 7-8

Series description sheet

Series title: Dr. Maria Piers' Papers—Anna Freud Booklet

Series dates: 1980s

Quantity: Two manila file folders

Scope and content note: This series contains letters, background research, and information about Erikson Institute's production of "Anna Freud remembered: Recollections of her friends and colleagues" published in 1983, which can be found in box 8, folders 21-23.

