

# Guide to the Mary Bryan Forsyth Collection, 1953-1981

## School for Advanced Research

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## Collection Summary

<b>Title</b>	Mary Bryan Forsyth Collection
<b>Dates (Inclusive)</b>	1953-1981
<b>Collection Number</b>	AC25
<b>Size</b>	27 folders in 3 document boxes
<b>Repository</b>	School for Advanced Research

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## Biography / History

Mary Sholes Bryan (1910-1986) was the grandchild of William Jennings Bryan. After graduating from high school, she studied at the Maryland Institute of Art in Baltimore and later under Frank Tenney Johnson at Grand Central School of Art in New York. In 1933, she married Alfred Smith Forsyth (d. January 11, 1985), a New York lawyer. They lived in Cappaqua, NY, for many years, moving to Pecos, NM, in 1972 and later to Santa Fe. She frequently used the name "Bryan Forsyth" in her work as an artist.

Mary Bryan Forsyth worked in several media. She painted a portrait of Crazy Horse as she thought he would look from the description in Mari Sandoz's biography and presented this portrait to Mari Sandoz. Sandoz liked it and suggested Mary Bryan Forsyth as the illustrator for her book, "Love Song to the Plains." Forsyth maintained a correspondence with Mari Sandoz for several years. Sandoz was selected by the Nebraska Hall of Fame in 1976, and Forsyth sculpted a bust of her that was dedicated by the Hall of Fame in 1980.

Other sculptures include busts of the Apache warriors Mangas Coloradas and Victorio. The bust of Victorio is now part of the New Mexico Museum of Art collection. The Art Library of the museum has information about the bust and about Forsyth's studio.

Mary Bryan Forsyth wrote and illustrated an unpublished book entitled Gift from the American Indian. She presented her research notes, illustrations, and text for this book, other material, and her collection of Sandoz's published books to the SAR Library.

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## Scope and Content

The Mary Bryan Forsyth Collection includes correspondence with and about Mari Sandoz, materials concerning Forsyth's interests and concerns about American Indian history and culture, her unpublished book, "Gift from the American Indian," and her sculpture.

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## Restrictions

## Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research by appointment.

## Copy Restrictions

Limited duplication of print materials allowed for research purposes. User is responsible for all copyright compliance.

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## Preferred Citation

Mary Bryan Forsyth Collection, School for Advanced Research

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## Access Terms

[Fadden, Ray \(Aren Adweks, Tehanetorens\) 1910-2005](#)

[Forsyth, Mary Bryan, 1910-1986](#)

[Sandoz, Mari Susette, 1896-1966](#)

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## Contents List

Description	Container
Letters from Mari Sandoz, 1957-1965	Box 1 Folder AC25.001
Letters from Judy McDonald, Executive Director, Mari Sandoz Heritage Society, 1977-1978	Box 1 Folder AC25.002
Letters from Caroline Sandoz Pifer, Mari Sandoz's sister, 1966-1981	Box 1 Folder AC25.003
Letters from Native Americans and Indian Museums, 1960-1965	Box 1 Folder AC25.004
Letters to Mary Bryan Forsyth on various topics	Box 1 Folder AC25.005
Draft of letters by Mary Bryan Forsyth	Box 1 Folder AC25.006
Mary Bryan Forsyth's illustration notes for Love Song to the Plains by Mari Sandoz	Box 1 Folder AC25.007
Draft of "Our Heritage from the American Indian" by Mary Bryan Forsyth	Box 1 Folder AC25.008
Miscellaneous items about Mari Sandoz	Box 1 Folder AC25.009
Mari Sandoz Heritage, scattered issues	Box 1 Folder AC25.010
Draft of comments by M. B. Forsyth at the Lincoln Book Fair, Lincoln, Nebraska, 1961, and information about the Book Fair	Box 1 Folder AC25.011
Draft of comments by M. B. Forsyth at the Redford Hills Women's Club, April 14, 1964 1964	Box 1 Folder AC25.012
Miscellaneous material	Box 1 Folder AC25.013
Prospectus for Forsyth's book entitled Gift from the American Indian sent to Prentice-Hall	Box 2 Folder AC25.014
Margin illustrations for Gift from the American Indian	Box 2 Folder AC25.015
Dummy cover for Gift from the American Indian, earlier draft	Box 2 Folder AC25.016.1
Dummy cover for Gift from the American Indian, later draft	Box 2 Folder AC25.016.2
Draft of materials in prospectus for Gift from the American Indian	Box 2 Folder AC25.017

Notes, clippings, and draft of chapter 1	Box 2	Folder AC25.018
Notes, clippings, and draft of chapter 2	Box 2	Folder AC25.019
Notes, clippings, and draft of chapter 3	Box 2	Folder AC25.020
Notes, clippings, and draft of chapter 4	Box 2	Folder AC25.021
Notes, clippings, and draft of chapter 5	Box 2	Folder AC25.022
Notes, clippings, and draft of chapter 6	Box 3	Folder AC25.023
Notes, clippings, and draft of chapter 7	Box 3	Folder AC23.024
Clippings and notes concerning the contributions of American Indians	Box 3	Folder AC23.025
Copy of manuscript by Ray Fadden (Aren Akweks), Secretary of the Akwesasne Mohawk Counselor Organization	Box 3	Folder AC25.026
Binder with Forsyth's notes for Gift from the American Indian	Box 3	Folder AC25.027

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