

Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute Records A&M 4211

Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute Records

1999-2013



Title Statement

Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute Records A&M 4211

Publication Statement

Publisher: West Virginia and Regional History Center

1549 University Ave.
P.O. Box 6069
Morgantown, WV 26506-6069
Business Number: 304-293-3536
wvrhcref@westvirginia.libanswers.com
URL: <https://wvrhc.lib.wvu.edu>



Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-06-18 13:57:33 -0400.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

A&M 4211

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

[Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

[Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

[Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

[Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

[Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

[Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

[Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/6229

Unit Date

1999-2013

Language

English .

Abstract

The Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute (BRNI) is one of the world's premier research institutes in the areas of human memory and diseases and disorders that impact human memory. Founded in 1999, it was named for U.S. Senator Jay Rockefeller's mother, who died from complications of Alzheimer's. In 2016, West Virginia University acquired the Institute and agreed to consolidate all of its neurosciences research under a new WVU Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute.

Creator

Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute

Extent

7.15 Linear Feet 4 records cartons, 15 in. each; 3 flat storage boxes, 3 in. each; 1 document case, 5 in. each; 1 poster tube, 3.25 in.; 2 objects, 7 in. total; 1 framed item, approx. 1.5 in.

Physical Location

West Virginia and Regional History Center / West Virginia University / 1549 University Avenue / P.O. Box 6069 / Morgantown, WV 26506-6069 / Phone: 304-293-3536 / URL: West Virginia & Regional History Center

Repository

West Virginia and Regional History Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research. All or part of this collection is stored offsite. Please make an appointment prior to visiting.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Transfer from the Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute, 2016

Processing Information

Processed by Danielle Emerling and Casey DeHaven, 2016

Preferred Citation

[Description and date of item], [Box/folder number], Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute Records, A&M 4211, West Virginia and Regional History Center, West Virginia University Libraries, Morgantown, West Virginia.

Biographical / Historical

The Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute (BRNI) is one of the world's premier research institutes in the areas of human memory and diseases and disorders that impact human memory. Founded in 1999, it was named for U.S. Senator Jay Rockefeller's mother, who died from complications of Alzheimer's. In 2016, West Virginia University acquired the Institute and agreed to consolidate all of its neurosciences research under a new WVU Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute.

Blanchette Ferry Hooker Rockefeller was born in New York City on October 2, 1909, and was known for her numerous contributions to community service, the arts, and education during her lifetime. She graduated from Vassar College in 1931 with a degree in music, and in 1932, she married John D. Rockefeller Jr., the eldest child of Standard Oil founder John D. Rockefeller. Blanchette was a major benefactor of the Museum of Modern Art, serving as president twice and leading a fundraising campaign that allowed the Museum to double the size of its gallery space. She also served as a member of the National Council on the Humanities and was a member of the New York Philharmonic Symphony Society, among other cultural institutions. She died from Alzheimer's disease complicated by pneumonia on November 30, 1992, at the age of 83.

Her philanthropic deeds, as well as her grace and charm, were remembered by her son, Jay, at her funeral. During his career as a U.S. Senator from West Virginia (1985-2015) he championed health care issues, and following his mother's death, established the Institute to combat Alzheimer's, which he called a "dreadful, wicked, inexorable nightmare."

In 1999, he broke ground on BRNI in Morgantown, West Virginia. BRNI's primary research mission focused on preventing, diagnosing, treating, and curing neurologic, psychiatric, and other cognitive disorders affecting the human brain. Areas of study included Alzheimer's, stroke and central nervous system injury, mood disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other disorders affecting auditory and visual processing. The Institute also sought to foster private sector partnerships that would facilitate bringing drug discoveries more quickly to doctors and patients and would encourage new investments and jobs in West Virginia.

Following BRNI's filing for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy code, West Virginia University acquired the Institute in 2016. WVU agreed to bring all of its neurosciences research under the umbrella of WVU Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute and to pursue team-based research, including the existing teams researching addiction, strokes, cognitive neuroscience, and sensory neuroscience. WVU also announced the formation of two new centers for brain health and for neurodegenerative diseases.

"Introduction to BRNI," A&M 4211, Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute records, West Virginia & Regional History Center, West Virginia University Libraries.

Teltsch, Kathleen. "Blanchette Rockefeller, 83, Philanthropist, Dies." The New York Times, accessed December 13, 2016.

WVU University Relations. "West Virginia University agrees to acquire BRNI, continue research." WVU Today, accessed December 13, 2016.

Scope and Contents

The Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute records primarily contains press materials. Photographs, newspaper clippings, videos, and remarks from opening ceremonies, galas, and other events are included.

Keywords

Rockefeller, Blanchette Hooker, 1909-1992

Arrangement

The records are arranged chronologically within each box.

Description of Subordinate Components

BRNI groundbreaking photos

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30983

Unit Date 1999

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

Language English.

Introduction to BRNI

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30984

Unit Date 1999

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 2 (Folder)

Language English.

BRNI miscellaneous publications

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30985

Unit Date 1999-2004

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)
Language English.

BRNI opening ceremony

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30986
Unit Date 2000 July 23-24
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 4 (Folder)
Language English.

BRNI events

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30987
Unit Date 2001-2004
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 5 (Folder)
Language English.

BRNI gala media/press articles

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30988
Unit Date 2002-2006
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 6 (Folder)
Language English.

BRNI miscellaneous articles and photos

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30989
Unit Date 2002-2003
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 7 (Folder)
Language English.

BRNI press clips, miscellaneous

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30990
Unit Date 2003-2013
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 8 (Folder)
Language English.

BRNI fundraising

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30991
Unit Date 2004-2008
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 9 (Folder)
Language English.

BRNI newspaper clippings and articles

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30992

Unit Date 2004-2009

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 10 (Folder)

Language English.

BRNI newspaper clippings and articles

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30993

Unit Date 2004-2013

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 11 (Folder)

Language English.

Miscellaneous BRNI newspaper clips and articles

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30994

Unit Date 2004

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 12 (Folder)

Language English.

Photos of second annual BRNI gala, Charleston, West Virginia

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30995

Unit Date 2005 June 25

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 13 (Folder)

Language English.

Scope and Contents

Includes original photo album

BRNI miscellaneous news clippings and articles

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30996

Unit Date 2005

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 14 (Folder)

Language English.

BRNI first symposium opening remarks

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30997

Unit Date 2006 June 9

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 15 (Folder)

Language English.

Photos of Illuminations events, symposium, Partners in Science Thank You dinner, Charleston, West Virginia

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30998

Unit Date 2006 June 9

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 16 (Folder)

Language English.

Scope and Contents

Includes original photo album

BRNI skin test/diagnostic press

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/30999

Unit Date 2006 August

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 17 (Folder)

Language English.

BRNI Miscellaneous clippings and memos

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31000

Unit Date 2008-2009

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 18 (Folder)

Language English.

BRNI annual report

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31001

Unit Date 2010

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 19 (Folder)

Language English.

Photo album: BRNI Morgantown Muse

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/244591

Unit Date 2007 October

Graphic Materials 1 (Box)

Language English.

VHS - "BRNI video 8:30 (re-edit)"

Unit ID AM4211_vhs_0001

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31015

Unit Date undated

Moving Images 2 (Box)

Language English.

VHS - "BRNI - Imagine. Discover. Cure."

Unit ID AM4211_vhs_0002

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31016

Unit Date undated

Moving Images 2 (Box)

Language English.

VHS - "BRNI Groundbreaking"

Unit ID AM4211_vhs_0003

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31017

Unit Date undated

Moving Images 2 (Box)

Language English.

VHS - "BRNI" (2 copies)

Unit ID AM4211_vhs_0004, AM4211_vhs_0005

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31018

Unit Date undated

Moving Images 2 (Box)

Language English.

Scope and Contents

Includes duplicate VHS

VHS - "Dr. Alkon, CNN Today, 3:36" (2 copies)

Unit ID AM4211_vhs_0006, AM4211_vhs_0007

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31019

Unit Date 2001 January 15

Moving Images 2 (Box)

Language English.

Scope and Contents

Includes duplicate VHS

VHS - "Doctors on Call, 'Alzheimer's"

Unit ID AM4211_vhs_0008

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31021

Unit Date 2003 December 11

Moving Images 2 (Box)

Language English.

VHS - "The Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute Groundbreaking Ceremony" (2 copies)

Unit ID AM4211_vhs_0009, AM4211_vhs_0010

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31020

Unit Date 2004 November 8

Moving Images 2 (Box)

Language English.

Scope and Contents

Includes duplicate VHS

Blanchette Ferry Hooker Rockefeller Biography plaque

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31024

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 3 (Box)

Language English.

Extent Glass plaque

BRNI groundbreaking ceremony photo

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31026

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 4 (Box)

Language English.

Photographs of Blanchette Ferry Hooker Rockefeller

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31028

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 4 (Box)

Language English.

BRNI skin test newspaper clipping

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31025

Unit Date 2002 September 27

Mixed Materials 4 (Box)

Language English.

Miscellaneous BRNI Alzheimer's newspaper article

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31027

Unit Date 2003 September 21

Mixed Materials 4 (Box)

Language English.

Miscellaneous BRNI newspaper clippings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31029

Unit Date 2003

Mixed Materials 4 (Box)

Language English.

Grand opening album

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/197546

Unit Date October 17, 2008

Graphic Materials 4 (Box)

Language English.

Grant certificate

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64852

Unit Date Undated

Mixed Materials 5 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

Language English.

Alzheimer's Association memory walk, certificate of appreciation

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64853

Unit Date 2010

Mixed Materials 5 (Box)

Container 2 (Folder)

Language English.

21st Annual Healthcare Advertising Awards

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64854

Unit Date Undated

Mixed Materials 5 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

Language English.

24th Annual Healthcare Advertising Awards

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64855

Unit Date Undated

Mixed Materials 5 (Box)

Container 4 (Folder)

Language English.

BRNI Stamps and envelopes

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64857

Unit Date 2008

Realia 5 (Box)

Container 5 (Folder)

Language English.

Extent 1 of 3

BRNI Stamps and envelopes, 2 of 3

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64858

Unit Date 2008

Realia 5 (Box)

Container 6 (Folder)

Language English.

Extent 2 of 3

BRNI Stamps and envelopes, 2 of 3

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64859

Unit Date 2008

Realia 5 (Box)

Container 7 (Folder)

Language English.

Extent 3 of 3

Green, blue, and white decorative box

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64856

Unit Date Undated

Realia 5 (Box)

Language English.

National Capital Chesapeake Bay Emmy Awards, Outstanding Program Achievement

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64860

Unit Date 2010

Realia 5 (Box)

Language English.

Scope and Contents

Documentary- Topical, Not Fade Away, Air date: September 21, 2009, Retirement Living TV

United Way Award for Great Beginnings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64861

Unit Date 2010

Realia 5 (Box)

Language English.

Appreciation for investment in WV's future plaque from WV Council for Community and Economic Development

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64862

Unit Date 1999

Realia 5 (Box)

Language English.

Morgantown Muse: fighting Alzheimer's disease in our community award

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64863

Unit Date 2007

Realia 6 (Box)

Language English.

Circular painting of a Panda Bear in wooden stand

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64864

Unit Date Undated

Realia 6 (Box)

Language English.

Gold plate with Chinese imagery and writing

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64865

Unit Date Undated

Realia 6 (Box)

Language English.

Extent In square red box.

White vase with roosters, rabbits, birds, and trees

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64866

Unit Date Undated

Realia 7 (Box)

Language English.

Small Silk Banner for the BRNI

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64870

Unit Date Undated

Realia 8 (Poster Tube)

Language English.

Large Silk Banner for BRNI, Be Part of the Cure for Alzheimer's Patients

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64871

Unit Date Undated

Realia 8 (Poster Tube)

Language English.

Extent 2 item

Framed: Portrait of Blanchette Rockefeller

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64867

Unit Date Undated

Graphic Materials 9 (Box)

Language English.

Framed: Retirement Living TV's Original, Emmy Winning, Documentary "Not Fade Away," poster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64868

Unit Date Undated

Graphic Materials 9 (Box)

Language English.

Framed: Large, framed Alzheimer's Stamp

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64869

Unit Date 2008

Graphic Materials 1 (Frame)

Language English.

Large detailed diorama of Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute at WVU

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64872

Unit Date 2004 April

Mixed Materials 1 (Object)

Language English.

Extent Diorama is 31.5 L x 25.5 W x 10 H.

Fragile and degrading

This item is degrading rapidly and items are falling off. One side of the windows on the building have fallen off but the panels are still with the diorama. Other windows are starting to come loose as well and will most likely fall off in the future. The trees are degrading and have left residue underneath all of the trees. Recommend limited use to prevent further degradation.

Scope and Contents

Small diorama of BRNI at WVU

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/64873

Unit Date Undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Object)

Language English.

Myrna Schlegal photos, BRNI

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31003

Unit Date 2002 October 10

Language English.

Molecule photo

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31010

Unit Date 2002 October 22

Language English.

The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's, 2003

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31022

Unit Date 2003
Language English.

BRNI Gala photographs preview

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31008
Unit Date 2004 June 4
Language English.

Coach Martz, Kathy Mattea, and BRNI video

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/197728
Unit Date 2004 June 4
Language English.

Scope and Contents

Three videos about Coach Mike Martz' personal drive to fund Alzheimer's research, Kathy Mattea performance, and a general information video about BRNI.

Blanchette Photos

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31005
Unit Date 2004 June 15
Language English.

BRNI video

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/197727
Unit Date 2004 July 26
Language English.

Conditions Governing Use

A general information video about the Blanchette Research Neuroscience Institute (BRNI).

Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute groundbreaking ceremony video

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31014
Unit Date 2004 November 8
Language English.

BRNI gala photos 1 of 2

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31007
Unit Date 2005 June 25
Language English.

BRNI gala photos 2 of 2

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31006
Unit Date 2005 June 25
Language English.

BRNI "Discovery Hope" video

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31012

Unit Date 2005 August 8

Language English.

BRNI photo

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31011

Unit Date 2008 October 14

Language English.

Not Fade Away preview

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31023

Unit Date 2009

Language English.

Not Fade Away video

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31004

Unit Date 2009

Language English.

West Virginia Public Broadcasting, BRNI, Outlook Show #279

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/31002

Unit Date 2009 July 9

Language English.