

## Cloteele Raspberry Collection (AC57)

### ***Introduction:***

The Cloteele Raspberry Collection is a collection focusing on the life of Cloteele Raspberry, especially in the later parts of her life. Raspberry was a clothing designer in Kansas City. The collection contains documents and ephemera from her life, as well as some fabric and clothing that she worked on.

### ***Descriptive Summary:***

Creator: FIC  
Title: Cloteele Raspberry Collection  
Date Range: 1950-1980  
Bulk Dates: 1950-1970  
Size: 3.87 Linear Feet (3 Boxes)  
Collection Number: AC57

### ***Donor Information:***

Found in Collection.

### ***Citation Note:***

Cloteele Raspberry Collection (AC57), Black Archives of Mid-America, Kansas City, Missouri.

### ***Administrative Information:***

Reproduction Restrictions: Unrestricted.  
Access Restrictions: Unrestricted.

### ***Biographical Sketch:***

Cloteele Raspberry was a famous fashion designer from Kansas City, Missouri. She was born in Texas and moved to KCMO at a young age. She went to school for 18 years, dropped out of Lincoln Junior College, and then became a full time seamstress. Later, she taught sewing at a YMCA.

In 1957, Raspberry graduated from the Boldins School of Design with an associate's degree. She then proceeded to do work for the National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers (NAFAD) during the 1950s and 1960s, including leading and helping girls who were part of NAFAD's junior program.

***Scope and Content Note:***

Series 1: National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers (NAFAD): Cloteele Raspberry joined this organization after graduating with her associate degree. This series contains ephemera from the 1960s when she was participating in their events.

Series 2: Photographs: This series contains photographs mostly showing Raspberry designs, along with one photo of Cloteele Raspberry herself.

Series 3: Autobiography: This series contains some parts of Cloteele Raspberry's autobiography. There is one part that focuses on her life after 1957, and another part that focuses on her life after 1979.

Series 4: News: This series contains news related to Raspberry in some way. There is a newspaper clipping showing one of Raspberry designs as well as a Newsmax Magazine.

Series 5: Scrapbook: This collection contains pieces from a scrapbook in the collection. There are three photos from the scrapbook, as well as the scrapbook itself.

Series 6: Ephemera: This series contains a framed artwork. The artwork appears to show a Black woman, possibly Cloteele Raspberry.

Series 7: Clothing: This series contains clothing and fabric. The fabric was presumably used in the creation of clothing, and there is a black dress in the collection as well.

***Collection Inventory*****Series 1: National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers (NAFAD)**

- f. 1 1958-9<sup>th</sup> Annual NAFAD
- f. 2 1961-79<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Church Bulletin
- f. 3 1963-14<sup>th</sup> Annual NAFAD
- f. 4 1964-NAFAD Program
- f. 5 1965-Fall Fashion West Designer Showcase
- f. 6 1966-NAFAD Directory
- f. 7 1966-17<sup>th</sup> Annual NAFAD
- f. 8 1967-18<sup>th</sup> Annual NAFAD

f. 9 1965-66-18<sup>th</sup> Annual NAFAD + Various Papers

**Series 2: Photographs**

f. 10 Photographs-Raspberry Designs

f. 11 Photograph

**Series 3: Autobiography**

f. 12 Autobiography (post 1957)

f. 13 Autobiography Draft (post 1979)

**Series 4: News**

f. 14 Newsweek (post 1967)

f. 15 Newspaper Clipping (n.d.)

**Series 5: Scrapbook**

f. 16 Life Flight Poster (Scrapbook)

f. 17 Newspaper Clippings (Scrapbook)

f. 18 3x3 Photo (Scrapbook)

f. 19 Scrapbook

**Series 6: Ephemera**

f. 20 Framed Artwork

**Series 7: Clothing**

f. 21 Black Fabric

f. 22 Black Dress

**Processed by Geri Sanders, March 2017. Updated by David Rocha, AmeriCorps VISTA Member, March 2024.**