

Katzman American Studies Collection (AC150)

Introduction:

The Katzman American Studies Collection comes from Dr. Katzman's, Professor Emeritus of American Studies at the University of Kansas, personal collection and features 140 African American history and reference books, art prints, and historic documents.

Descriptive Summary:

Creator: David Katzman

Title: Katzman American Studies Collection

Date Range: 1910-1992

Size: 1.5 linear feet (1 Box)

Collection Number: AC150

Donor Information:

David Katzman, December 2025

Citation Note:

Katzman American Studies Collection (AC150), Black Archives of Mid-America, Kansas City, Missouri

Subjects:

Minstrel Music

Art

National Association of Colored Women

Administrative Information:

Reproduction Restrictions: None

Access Restrictions: None

Original Language Statement:

The Black Archives of Mid-America follows the widespread practice of using the language provided by speakers and writers of historical documents. Using the speaker's or writer's

language can be very informative and provide pivotal contextual information about cultural and societal customs of previous time periods. As a result, researchers may encounter descriptive language, which often includes verbiage that contains obvious bias, or outdated and stereotypical terminology, and/ or content. Contemporary readers and researchers might find this language harmful or offensive.

Biographical Sketch:

Dr. David Katzman, Professor Emeritus of American Studies at the University of Kansas, got his PhD from Michigan University before joining KU in 1969. His research focuses on race, ethnicity, and religion. Dr. Katzman has also been a visiting professor in Ireland, England, Japan, and Hong Kong. He is also an elected fellow of the Society of American Historians, and Director of the Kansas Jewish History Project, which explores Jewish history in Kansas between 1854 and the late 20th century.

His personal papers and research can be found in the David Katzman Papers Collection Call Number: RH MS 1186, at the Kenneth Spencer Research Library Archival Collections: <https://archives.lib.ku.edu/repositories/3/resources/2302>.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection includes a collection of books located in the Special Collection Library at the Black Archives. An itemized list is available upon request. Researchers may also request access to the books.

This collection also includes a one-of-a-kind political pamphlet for Arsanian M. Williams (1875?–1954). Williams lived in St. Louis, MO, and founded the St. Louis Association of Colored Women's Clubs in 1910, served as the president of the St. Louis Association of Colored Women's Clubs and the Missouri Association of Colored Women's Clubs from 1924 to 1926, and the vice president at large of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs from 1938 to 1940, before running for President of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs in 1940.

Collection Inventory:

- f. 1 Art Print: Mount Calvary by William Henry Johnson
- f. 2 Art Print: The Dance by Emilio Cruz
- f. 3 Art Print: The Seine by Henry Osawa Tanner
- f. 4 Art Print: Domino Players by Hoarce Pippin
- f. 5 Art Print: Self-Portrait by Melvin Gray Johnson
- f. 6 Art Print: Mother Courage by Charles White
- f. 7 Art Print: Iris, Tulips, Jonquils, and Crocus by Alma Thomas
- f. 8 Art Print: The Street by Jacob Lawrence
- f. 9 Art Print Portfolio, 1990
- f. 10 Poster: “The Intelligence of Forms” exhibit at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, 1991-1992
- f. 11 Sheet Music” Play That Barber Shop Cord by Bert Williams, 1910
- f. 12 Exhibit Book: James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938) by the Smithsonian, 1970-1971
- f. 13 Exhibit Book: “A Glimmer of Their Own Beauty” Black Sounds of the Twenties by the Smithsonian, 1971
- f. 14 Pamphlet: Arsanian M. Williams, President for NACW, 1940
- f. 15 Newspaper Clipping: New York Times Book Review of “Roll, Jordan, Roll”, Sept 1974
- f. 16 CD-ROM: African Americans in Cinema The First Half Century by Indiana University, 2004

Processed by Laura Darnell, Archivist, January 2026.

Sources:

“Arsanian M. Williams (1875?-1954) | Missouri Encyclopedia.” n.d. Missouriencyclopedia.org.

<https://missouriencyclopedia.org/people/williams-arsania-m>.

“Collection: David Katzman Papers | Kenneth Spencer Research Library Archival Collections.”

2015. Ku.edu. 2015. <https://archives.lib.ku.edu/repositories/3/resources/2302>.