FINDING AID FOR
Louis Szathmáry papers

DePaul University, Special Collections and Archives
2350 N Kenmore Ave., Chicago, IL 60614
archives@depaul.edu 773-325-7864
Collection Description

Louis Szathmáry papers
Date Range:  1960-2001
Quantity:  1 LF, 3 boxes

Creator
Szathmáry, Louis

History
A native of Hungary who came to the United States in 1951, Louis Szathmáry wrote five cookbooks and amassed what has been considered the world's largest collection of artifacts related to food. Considered the first celebrity chef, Szathmáry was the chef-owner of The Bakery Restaurant in Lincoln Park for 26 years. In addition to his successful career in the food industry, he was an avid book collector interested in both culinary and Hungarian titles. Szathmáry donated more than 15,000 volumes on the history and culture of the Hungarian people to the University of Chicago Library in 1991. He donated his large collection of food-related artifacts to Johnson & Wales University's Culinary Arts Museum. The University of Iowa Libraries have in their Szathmáry Culinary Collection more than 20,000 items owned by Szathmáry, including books, pamphlets, and manuscripts.

Scope
The Louis Szathmáry papers consist of photographs and publications demonstrating Chef Louis Szathmáry's fame as a restaurateur and a bibliophile. It also includes correspondence, promotional materials, and documentation of events and exhibits honoring Szathmáry at Johnson & Wales University's Culinary Arts Museum.

Arrangement
This collection is organized into four series: 1. General; 2. Book Collection; 3. Johnson & Wales University; 4. Publications and Videotapes. Most series are arranged chronologically; see series-level descriptions for individual arrangement details.

Provenance
Accession 2001.16; 2002.58

Location
3/34/G

Restrictions
This collection is open for research use.

Language
In English, Czech, and German
Series Descriptions

Series 001: General
Date Range: 1960-1997
Quantity: 0.16 LF

Scope:
The General series contains biographical materials, photographs, correspondence, a resume, and promotional materials related to Chef Louis Szathmáry.

Arrangement:
Materials are arranged chronologically.

Restrictions:
None

Container List
Box   Folder Title                                       Date
001.001 Photographs                                     1960-1962
001.002 Photographs                                     [1960s-1990s]
001.003 Photographs: Unidentified                      [1970s-1990s]
001.004 Photograph: Nelson Algren                       1975
001.005 Unidentified Cartoons of Chef Louis             1976
001.006 Photographs and Memorabilia                     1978
001.007 Photographs: Identified                         1984-1994
001.008 Chef Louis Gourmet Kitchen Tool and Utensil Merchandising Program 1986
001.010 Brochures and News Clippings                   1988-2001
001.011 Christmas Concert Program                       1989
001.012 Photographs: Szathmáry Lane Presentation       [1990]
001.013 The Szathmáry Year Annual Letter                1990-1992
001.014 Resume                                         1992
001.015 Correspondence                                  1993
001.016 Dirona Hall of Fame Awards Program              1994
001.017 University of Oxford's Department of Engineering Science Photographs 1995
001.018 Miscellaneous Items from Hungary                1995-1997
001.019 Uncredited Eulogy                              1996

Series 002: Book Collection
Date Range: 1982-1997
Quantity: 0.16 LF

Scope:
The Book Collection series contains select titles from Louis Szathmáry's personal library. An avid book collector, Szathmáry donated the majority of his collection to the University of Chicago Library in 1991.
Arrangement:
Materials are arranged chronologically.

Restrictions: None

Container List
Box   Folder Title                                                   Date
001.020 From Chicago Kitchens: A Checklist of Selected Chicago     1982
         Cookbooks Collected by Chef Louis Szathmáry
001.021 My Budapest: Portrait of a European City (University of     1989
         Chicago exhibition catalog)
001.022 The Beautiful Books of Hungary, 1473-1992 (exhibit at the   1993
         Providence Public Library)
001.023 Building Collections: Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of the 1995
         Joseph Regenstein Library
001.024 Time Well Spent (Biblio Magazine)                           1996
001.025 American-Hungarian/Hungarian-American Relations through    1997
         100 Books
001.026 Bookplates                                                 undated
001.027 Nostalgia Ink Catalog                                      undated

Series 003: Johnson & Wales University
Date Range: 1980s-2001
Quantity: 0.1 LF

Scope:
The Johnson & Wales University series contains documentation of exhibits and events honoring Louis Szathmáry at Johnson & Wales University's Culinary Arts Museum and Archives. Szathmáry donated his large collection of food-related artifacts and memorabilia to the Culinary Arts Museum.

Arrangement:
Materials are arranged chronologically.

Restrictions: None

Container List
Box   Folder Title                                                   Date
001.028 Unidentified Photographs                                    [1980s-1990s]
002.001 Culinary Archives and Museum Exhibits                      1990-1996
002.002 The Culinewsletter                                          1991
002.003 East Side Monthly: Rhode Island Smithsonian Institution of 1991
         Food
002.004 Hungarian Gala Dinner                                       1993
002.005 New England Gala Dinner to Honor Louis Szathmáry            1994
002.006 200 Years of American Culinary Imprints, 1796-1996          1996
002.007 Floor Plans                                                1997
002.008 JS&W Magazine: On the President's Plate                    2001
Series 004: Publications and Videotapes
Date Range: 1960s-2000
Quantity: 0.5 LF
Scope:
The Publications and Videotapes series contains magazine articles written about Louis Szathmáry's work and restaurants; photographs; cookbooks written by Szathmáry; and a promotional videotape from the Johnson & Wales University Culinary Arts Museum. See series 3, Johnson & Wales University, for additional information about Szathmáry's ties to the Culinary Arts Museum.

Arrangement:
Materials are arranged by subject or format, then chronologically.

Restrictions:
None

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