The Empire State Association of the Deaf (ESAD) is an independent, nonprofit organization that advocates on local and state levels for the rights of deaf and hard-of-hearing citizens. Founded in 1865 as the Empire State Association of Deaf Mutes by the graduates and former pupils of the New York Institution for the Deaf, it is the oldest state association of the deaf. ESAD became affiliated with the National Association of the Deaf in 1941 and received its incorporation papers in 1942.

ESAD is governed by its executive board which consists of three officers - president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer; eight branch directors; two directors-at-large; and executive secretary.

The ESAD records currently held at the RIT archives consist of 22 boxes and 1 oversize folder, approximately 30 linear feet of materials. The records range in date from the 33rd biennial convention of 1936 in Binghamton to 2006 issues of the Empire State News newsletter. The Association does not maintain central offices; this collection therefore reflects business that was conducted via the mail and at board meetings and conventions held in various locations.

The records include correspondence between board members and branch representatives, meeting minutes, and convention proceedings dating from the late 1930s to the mid 1990s. The records from the 1970s and 1990s are less complete than the other decades. Financial records consist of treasurers’ reports, ledger books, bank statements, tax-exempt documents, and spreadsheets. The evolution of the ESAD’s constitution and bylaws can be traced from a photocopy of the 1867 version to that of 1997. There is a list of members’ names and addresses from 1940; additional membership information dates from the 1960s and 1980s and is arranged by branch.

**Box #1 (CS.N. Shelf 193)**

labeled: Directories

3 binders - contact lists for various regional deaf organizations

various published directories

folder:

- NICD info
  - National Information Center on Deafness
  - Gallaudet U.

**Box #2 (CS.N. Shelf 199)**

labeled: Memberships 1970s, ESAD VPs, Letters - 1950-1960s, 1940

folders:

- ESAD 1939-1940
  - Correspondence: Herbert C. Merrill, William M. Lange
ESAD Folder List

reg. legislation preventing deaf people from obtaining drivers licenses
largely reg. financial matters, various bills
proposed amendment to ESAD constitution and bylaws
resolutions adopted at 35th biennial convention, Syracuse, Aug. 17, 1940

1950

    correspondence: Thomas A. Hinchey, Darwin Culver
    administrative matters
    board letters (numbered)
    38th biennial convention, Buffalo, Aug. 23-27, 1950
    financial statements

1948 – 1956 Bound Book

    board letters and reply postcards
    resolutions adopted at the 1952 convention, Utica
    Buffalo Convention info 1956
    correspondence: Darwin Culver, secretary

1959

1960 - 62
Correspondence 1942

    1943
    1940
    1944
    1945
    1946

Vice President (1973-5, Friedman)
Vice President Correspondence
ESAD Executive Board Meeting Aug 13-15, 1975
State Participation in the White House Conference on the Handicapped, 1976
NAD Convention 1976
Reports at Meetings - financial reports, etc. 1976
1982 - 7 state branches
1986
Constitutions & Bylaws Past

    2 photocopies of very early constitutions, one 1867, one undated

Box #3 (CS.N. Shelf 187)
Treasurer’s Reports 1938-1965
various board meetings, conventions, executive secretary reports 1979-87
Branch City Memberships
1934, 1938 - Albany 35th Convention
1936-1938
1936-1940 Executive Bd.
Programs & Objections (1974-75)

Box #4 (CS.N. Shelf 211)
labeled: Hlibok Papers
ESAD Folder List

folder: Legis. Bills
    smoke detectors
newspaper articles
magazine articles
newsletters

Box #5 (CS.N. Shelf 205)
New York State Assembly Acts 1983-1984
    having to do with deaf issues
Report from the Senate Select Committee on the Disabled
1984 Legislation Workshop
New York State Assembly Task Force on the Disabled Legislative Summary 1983-1984
New York Center for Law & the Deaf - Section 504 workshop, 1980: correspondence
Lexington School for the Deaf, Jackson Heights, NY - teacher strike Oct 1979:
    correspondence
Manual of procedures for serving profoundly hearing impaired defendants, victims, and
    witnesses
Binder: 1972-1973
    Empire State News, treasurer’s reports, correspondence reg. board meetings,
    legislation
folders:
1948 Convention NYC
    president’s report, changes made in ESAD bylaws at 1948 convention, financial
    reports
1948 (index at front of folder)
    President Hinchey correspondence
1947
    correspondence, board letters, Gallaudet Home Commemorative Stamps
1968 Convention Albany
    proceedings
1962 Convention Rochester
    proceedings
Church Mission to Deaf-Mutes 1954-1971
    Gallaudet Home Fund, William Lange, chairman
1949 Thomas Hinchey, president
    correspondence, treasurer’s report
    Bill No. 302 - proposed act to amend the Vehicle & Traffic Law in relation to
    requiring physical and examination for operators
Captioned Films for the Deaf
OVR Advisory Committee on Deafness (Office of Vocational Rehabilitation)
Manual Communication
    cued speech articles
NYCAAD
NAD Reorganization 1937-38
Education
Box #6 (CS.N. Shelf 193)
Binder: budget record
1987 - legislation, Office of Advocate for Disabled
3 red binders: (indexes inserted in front covers of each)
   ESAD minutes, reports, board letters - 1962-1967
   “ “ “ -1948-1956
folders: (Albert Hlibok)
1st VP
2nd VP
Awards
Ways & Means
Board Mtgs 85-86-87
Bd Mtg May 17, 1986
ESAD Conv. Rochester 1987
State Pageant
Hlibok Activities
   programs from various functions
Lobbying Registration
April 25 Meeting (1987)
Correspondence/Issues
Gallaudet Home Fund
Kim Lucas/Lucy Lewis
Secy-Treas. Solazzo
Minutes/Votes (1984)
Fund Raiser Regist. & BBB
UDS/ES News
Law Committee
Resolutions
Education Commission
Albert J. Hlibok:
   presentation by letter to the Commission on the Education of the Deaf, Washington
   DC, July 10, 1987

Box #7 (CS.N. Shelf 205)
in box: Commission on Education of the Deaf Fall Seminar - March 17, 1987
   statements of all presenters at Seminar (includes Dr Lee[pres. Gallaudet] and
   Dr. Castle)
accordion folder: Mental Health Association of the Deaf
   “history of” statement, executive director’s report 1963-1964, photographs (?)
clothbound scrapbook: (handwritten index inside front cover)
   33rd Convention Binghamton 1936
   34th Convention Albany 1938
   35th Convention Syracuse 1940
   letters 1940
   board action 1941
   Incorporation Act (1941)
   36th convention journal 1946 - proceedings
letters board members 1946-48
37th convention proceedings 1948
red binder: State Commission for the Deaf & Hearing Impaired
white binder: Regional Legislation
black binder:
  Statewide Relay Service
  Smoke Detector
  Interpreter
  Captioning on TV
  ASL as Foreign
  PSC
  Jury
  Driving Test
  National
  Other Bills

**Box #8 (CS.N. Shelf 205)**
misc. files 1980's
ESAD Constitution & Bylaws (1980)
" " (1981)
Legislative Issues
NYC Board of Education
Annual Report - Gallaudet Home Fund
NYSCRID (New York State Chapter Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf)
NYSCRID 1987 Convention
ESAD 1981 Convention

**Box #9 (CS.N. Shelf 206)**
1999
Richard Reisner - correspondence, financial statements, membership dues
Insurance Info - policy, billing
'98 - '99
Financial Planning Statement of Accounts
'97
1997 tax return
1998 financial summary
Elder Camp
DWR (Deaf Women of Rochester)
Youth Camp
Board Letters 1986
1987 Convention Minutes

**Box #10 (CS.N. Shelf 181)**
folders:
(?/?) dues
(envelope) bills (?)
(envelope) paid bills
ESAD Folder List

Financial Reports 1975, 76  
Ledgers October 1973 - July 1981 (Ken Cobb)  
1983 Miss Deaf New York Pageant  
1983 ESAD Constitution & Bylaws  
1985 Convention Reports  
Receipts 1984  
IRS Tax Exempt Documents  
Expense Forms 1982-1984  
1985 Financial Reports  
NAD Correspondence 1976-1982  
1984 Board Meeting  
1984 Board Letters  
1984 Gen. Correspondence  
Financial Reports 1985-1986

Box #11 (CS.N. Shelf 199)  
Black binder: STCAD  
Southern Tier Civic Association of the Deaf (Binghamton/Elmira)  
(3-page index included)  
minutes 1984-1987  
directors info. (see index)  
STCAD constitution 1985  
ESAD constitution 1985  
PAN Political Action Network  
Black address book (6 x 8 ½”)  
New York City Civic Association of the Deaf NYCCAD  
names & addresses of members, local & ESAD, & dues paid 1965-1974  
ledger book: NYCCAD  
financial reports 1967-1969  
3 ledger account books: ESAD  
Aug 1952 - Aug 1956  
Aug 1956 - Jul 1962  
Oct 1962 - Jul 1965  
loose papers in box:  
(?) NYCCAD correspondence 1970-1972

Box #12 (CS.N. Shelf 200)  
labeled ESAD Minutes  
programs from biennial conferences:  
1995 Albany  
1997 White Plains  
1999 Olean  
folders:  
Minutes  
Report of NAD Region I Conference 1990  
ESAD Folder List

Convention 1989 Auburn
Officers’ meeting Rochester 1989
Convention 1987 Rochester

(blank)
Board of Directors meeting 1991 Poughkeepsie

Board Mtgs Minutes
Poughkeepsie 1991
Report of First VP Alan Hurwitz 1991
Auburn 1988
Buffalo Civic Association of the Deaf - branch director’s report 1988
Elmira 1988
Binghamton 1986
Rome 1987
ESAD budget 1987-1989

loose in box:
ESAD Constitution & Bylaws (?)1997
ESAD Policy Manual 1999
issues of Empire State News 1998-1999

Box #13 (CS.N. Shelf 193)
ESAD Exec. Board Mtg Buffalo 1985
" " Albany 1983
Constitution & Bylaws 1983
United Deaf Services:
contract with 1984, correspondence with
Bylaws 1982
Certificate of Incorporation 1941 (photocopy)
Legislative Report 1980
ESAD Tax Exempt 1981
Legis./Task Force 1983
Correspondence, mtgs 1974-75
Convention 1974 Syracuse
NYS Coalition (NYSCOD)
ESAD Treas. Report 79-80(81)
Releases from NAD
Convention 1981 Suffern
Convention 1971 Albany
Convention 1975 Syracuse
Political Action Group - Bylaws & Structure Committee 1983
Correspondence & financial 1982-83

Box #14 (CS.N. Shelf 199)
Bylaws 1983
Fundraising 1986
ESAD & NAD Pageants
Board Meeting 1986 Binghamton
Board Meeting 1987 Auburn
JR ESAD Camp
United Deaf Services  
Convention 1985 Buffalo

**Box #15 (CS.N. Shelf 187)**  
2 slide carousels with note: Camp Program 1986-87  
loose papers in box:  
Board of Directors meeting 1989 Syracuse  
photocopy of July 1869 “The Deaf-Mute’s Friend” - notice reg. 1869 convention Ithaca  
photocopy of “The Hundred Years with the ESAD”  
in envelope:  
   Ledger pages Aug 1969 - Jul 1973  
folder:  
   letters  
      Lange correspondence 1962, 1977  
      Tracy Hurwitz correspondence  
      State of New York Council on the Handicapped  
      NAD correspondence  
      board letters  
loose papers:  
   adult education project  
   financial report ESAD convention 1979 Albany  
   board meeting minutes 1978, 1979  
   Buffalo Civic Association of the Deaf  
   New York City Civic Association of the Deaf  
unlabeled:  
   proceedings - convention & board of directors meeting 1950 Buffalo  
   treasurer’s report 1950-1952  
   convention program 1946 Rochester  
   handwritten list of branch member (Rochester, Buffalo, etc.) 1951  
   typed list of ESAD members 1940  
   ESAD membership cards of Rev. & Mrs. Merrill 1940  
   Resolutions 1948 convention  
   board letters 1951, 1952  
   Resolutions 1946 convention  
   ESAD documents 1946-1956

**Box #16 (CS.N. Shelf 200)**  
treasurer’s reports monthly 1984-1995  
tax documents 1990s  
legal documents  
receipts & cancelled checks 1995  
bank statements

**Box #17 (CS.N. Shelf 181)**  
multiple copies of each:  
ESAD Folder List

Box #18 (CS.N. Shelf 206)
NAD convention programs

Box #19 (CS.N. Shelf 200)
membership info by regional association - names, addresses, dues paid
folders:
  Albany 1983-1996
  Auburn 1984-1992
  Buffalo 1981-1995
  NTID 1983-1985
  NYC 1983-1995
  SWAD Olean 1993-1995
  Poughkeepsie 1987-1992
  Rochester 1985-1994
  Syracuse 1985-1991

Box #20 (CS.N. Shelf 187)
miscellaneous pamphlets, publications, books, legislative documents

Box #21 (CS.N. Shelf 206)
ESAD & NAD convention programs
International Catholic Deaf Association

ESAD Collection
This collection was given to us by Kathy Dollinger-Meyer, NTID
on 4/6/2007. They were originally donated by Alice Guinane in
2006.
ESAD Collection - Documents:

BOX 22

Folder 1: Contains information about the ESAD-Gallaudet fund, who it
was given to, application procedures, etc.
Folder 2: By-Laws & Amendments folder various copies of ESAD’s by-
laws and amendment certificates with specific changes to those by-
laws being explained
Folder 3: Financial Documents folder all financial documents received
Folder 4: Letterheads & Logos folder several copies of the ESAD
letterhead and various examples of different related logos
Folder 5: Correspondence folder copies of letters/e-mails related to
ESAD, primarily from ESAD board members and position holders
Folder 6: Administrative documents & misc.contains descriptions of
administrative positions within ESAD, minutes, information on
scholarship funds, the Miss Deaf New York pageant, copies of various
forms, etc.
ESAD Folder List

*NAD folder contains by-laws for NAD itself and its subsidiary organizations in other states (*Archivist decision to remove this file; not relevent to collection*)

ESAD Collection - Publications:

BOX 23

**Empire State News** - issues, by volume and number:
  v. 58 n. 1 Autumn 1997
  v. 61 n. 3 Spring 2001
  v. 61 n. 4 Summer 2001
  v. 62 n. 1 Autumn 2001
  v. 62 n. 2 Winter 2001-02
  v. 62 n. 3 Spring 2002
  v. 62 n. 4 Summer 2002
  v. 63 n. 1 Autumn 2002
  v. 63 n. 2 Winter 2002-03
  v. 63 n. 3 Spring 2003
  v. 64 n. 1 Autumn 2003
  v. 65 n. 1 Summer 2005
  v. 66 n. 1 Autumn 2005
  v. 66 n. 2 Spring 2006
  v. 67 n. 1 Autumn 2006

*See Hliobok collection of ESAD and RCAD papers [RITDSA.0086] for more copies of Empire State News.

October 1982
  v. 54:4 Sum 1993
  v. 58:5-7 Wi, Sp, Su 1999
  v.59:1 Aut 1999
  v.60:2-3 Wi,Su 2000
  v.61: 1,2,4 Aut, Wi, Su 2001

**ESAD Biennial Convention journals:**
36th Biennial Convention, 1946, Powers Hotel, Rochester, NY
37th Biennial Convention, 1948, Pennsylvania Hotel, New York, NY
56th Biennial Convention, 1987, Holiday Inn, Rochester, NY
57th Biennial Convention, 1989, Holiday Inn, Auburn, NY
58th Biennial Convention, 1991, Radisson Hotel, Poughkeepsie, NY
59th Biennial Convention, 1993, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY
60th Biennial Convention, 1995, Holiday Inn, Albany, NY
62nd Biennial Conference, 1999, St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY
63rd Biennial Conference, 2001, Buffalo, NY
64th Biennial Conference, 2003, New York, NY

Other related publications:
ESAD Directory of Services 1990-92
ESAD 58th Biennial Convention calendar for 1992

Oversize Folder: Photographs: (housed in a large folder, some photos are oversized)

2. 19x8 ½” color, a group of 48 men (ESAD members) posing outside, ca. 1990-2000.
3. 17x7” b&w, a group of @84 men and women (ESAD members) posing outside on the steps of a large building, ca. 1967. On back of photo: Glen S. Cook & Son, Commercial Photographers PO Box 48, Albany, NY 12201, Sep 2, 1967.
4. 16x6 ½” b&w, a large group of @220 men and women (ESAD members) posing on the steps of a large building, n.d. ca. 1940-1950. On the front of the photo there is a small imprint on the lower right corner that says: Gene W. Logan, Syracuse, NY.
5. 14x7” b&w, a large group of @126 men and women (ESAD members) pose outside, 1965. On front & back of photo: E.S.A.D. Convention 1965, Randolph House, Syracuse, N.Y.
6. 28 ½”x8” b&w, a group of @85 men and women (ESAD members) posing on the steps of a large building, 1948. On front of photo is written: 37th Biennial Convention, Empire State Ass’n of the Deaf, Hotel Pennsylvania, Sept. 2-6, 1948. Empire 105511. NY.
7. 25x10” b&w, a group of @125 men and women posing on a city street in front of a large monument, 1950. On front of photo is written: 38th Biennial Convention, Empire State Association of the Deaf, Hotel Statler, Aug. 23-27, 1950.
8. 13 ½”x10” b&w directional sign reads: Empire State Association of the Deaf with → pointing in the direction of the office?. Also has 4 hands showing the signs (fingerspelling) for E.S.A.D. Sign has 3 holes on top side with string laced through them to hang the sign.
9. 4”x6” – 1950 officers and directors with a hand-written note by Alice Guinane about the individuals in the photograph.