



Boston Children's Museum  
308 Congress Street  
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# ARCHIVES Finding Aid

**Accession #:**  
A 2005.01  
**Date(s) Accessioned:**  
July 27, 2017

## James Baird Notebook 1939-1942, [1940]

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### Descriptive Summary

**Collection ID:** A 2005.1

**Repository:** Boston Children's Museum Archives

**Title:** James Baird Notebook

**Creator:** James Baird, Birth Unknown - Living

**Dates:** Inclusive: 1939-1942, Bulk: 1940

**Extent:** .08 linear feet; 1 folder with 1 small notebook

**Language of Material:** English

**Abstract:** James Baird created this notebook as a child when he visited the Museum. He collected and documented materials about Museum events and programs that he was directly involved in including the Junior Museum Council from 1940 until 1942.

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### Conditions of Access and Use

**Conditions Governing Access:** Collection is open for research.

**Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:** All requests for permission to publish or quote for publication must be submitted in writing to the Archives. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Boston Children's Museum.

**Citation:** James Baird Notebook, Boston Children's Museum Archives, Boston, MA.

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### Acquisition Information

**Provenance:** The notebook was made by James Baird as a child between 1939 and 1942. He gifted the notebook to the Museum in either November or December 2005.

**Gift:** Gift of James Baird, 2005.

## Background Information

**Historical Note:** As a child between 1939 and 1942, James Baird collected papers and letters related to the activities he was involved with at the Museum when it was located at 60 Burroughs Street, Jamaica Plain.

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## Collection Information

**Scope and Content:** The James Baird Notebook consists of various letters and materials from the Museum, documenting James Baird's experiences as a child visiting the Museum and partaking in the Museum's activities. The notebook, titled by Baird as "Museum Notebook," captures his participation in the Museum Junior Council and other events and programs at the Museum between 1939 and 1942.

The Museum papers and James's inscriptions focus on the formation of the Museum Council which consisted of museum staff and the creation, activities, and cessation of the Museum Junior Council (1940-1942). Most of the letters and materials come from various Museum employees, who mailed the items to Baird. Some of the letters describe the roles of the Museum Junior Council, which included making exhibitions and providing program opportunities to the Museum's visitors. Baird held various roles on the Museum Junior Council from Acting Curator of Insects to Head of Exhibits Department. Lastly, the notebook contains materials related to Baird's other Museum involvements from the loan kits, various clubs, invitations to Museum holiday parties, and work schedules for different programs and events.

**Arrangement:** Materials within the notebook are kept in original order.

**Other Relevant Collections:** Museum Scrapbook Collection; Loan Kits Records; Early Museum History Records

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## Processing Information

**Processed by:** Brittany Contratto, July 26, 2017.

**Archivists Note:** Notebook was found during a 2017 inventory of the 2006 Centennial Collection. The notebook was found with two letters from 2005 relating to the transfer of the notebook from Baird to the Museum. This collection was given an archives accession number in July 2017 and separated from the 2006 Centennial Collection materials.

**Rules or Conventions of Finding Aid:** Prepared following Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DAC5)