

**Norman Rockwell Museum  
Costume and Clothing collection  
RC.2011.23**

**Finding aid prepared by Venus Van Ness**



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Norman Rockwell Museum Archives - Reference Center Collection  
2012

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Norman Rockwell Museum Archives - Reference Center Collection
<b>Title</b>	Norman Rockwell Museum Costume and Clothing collection
<b>Date</b>	1884-1973/unknown
<b>Extent</b>	66.0 Linear feet
<b>Contact</b>	Norman Rockwell Museum Archival Collections, The Norman Rockwell Museum, 9 Glendale Road, Route 183 Stockbridge, MA 01262, 413-931-2251 Venus@nrm.org
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	This collection, consisting mainly of textiles, is large and varied and contains both personal objects once belonging to Rockwell, as well as props used for several of his well known works.

### Preferred Citation

Norman Rockwell Museum Costume and Clothing Collection, Norman Rockwell Archives, Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

## Historical note

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This collection was compiled from a series of individual donations made to the museum over a period of several years. Some items were donated by Rockwell personally, and others were donated by former models and acquaintances. In 2011 it was decided to combine these individual items in order to create one cohesive collection.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection, consisting of 66 linear feet, contains objects dating back to 1884. Familiar items include the leather jacket worn by Carl Hess in “Freedom of Speech” and the prom dress worn by Sylvia Knight in “After the Prom.”

Personal items belonging to Rockwell include several pairs of his eyeglasses. Notably, one pair has custom made bifocal lenses, which are divided vertically instead of horizontally. Rockwell used these while painting so that he could shift his gaze easily between his models and the canvas.

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## Arrangement

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There is no particular arrangement to the collection. Many items are stored individually.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Norman Rockwell Museum Archives - Reference Center Collection 2012

### Access

This collection is open to researchers by appointment.

## Copyright

Norman Rockwell Museum abides by US copyright law. Even though Norman Rockwell personally contributed his paintings and archival materials to the Museum, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3), publicity/personality rights to his name and likeness belong to the Rockwell family, managed by the Norman Rockwell Licensing Company. Some materials in both collections created prior to 1923 are considered to be in the public domain.

The collections are in the legal care and custody of the Museum and its staff, and are governed by an independent Board of Trustees. There is no legal affiliation between the Museum and various intellectual property rights holders of materials kept by the Museum or with Rockwell's family.

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## Provenance

Materials gifted by numerous donors including Anne Lamone White, Richard Waring Rockwell, Betsy Holtzinger, and Anne Pelham.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Personal Name(s)

- Norman Rockwell, 1894-1978

### Subject(s)

- Costumes and clothes