

Violetta Mareia June Frisby Mullendore Collection

Section 4, Pages 91 - 120

A photograph album containing photographs and newspaper clippings about the June Frisby Academy of Music located in Wichita, Kansas. Also included in the collection is her obituary and a wedding invitation. The musicians are often in costumes--Hawaiian, Colonial, etc. Some of the photos include a person in "black face", a form of comedic theater based on stereotyped caricatures of African Americans. Black face comedy was a prominent form of American popular culture from the mid-19th century until the civil rights movement in the 1960s.

Creator: Mullendore, Violetta Mareia June Frisby

Date: 1926 - 1930

Callnumber: 2013-105

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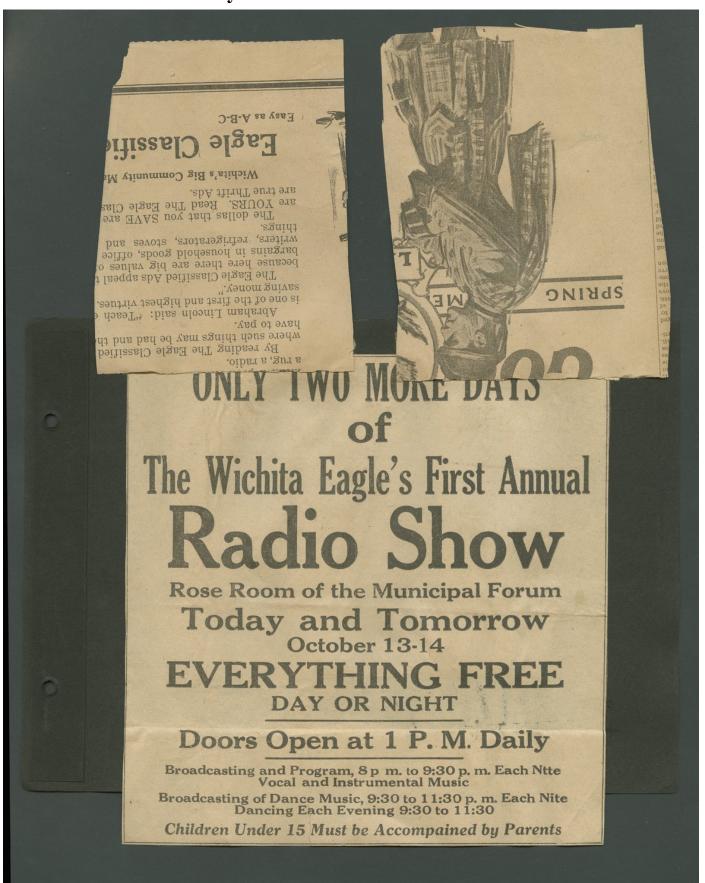
















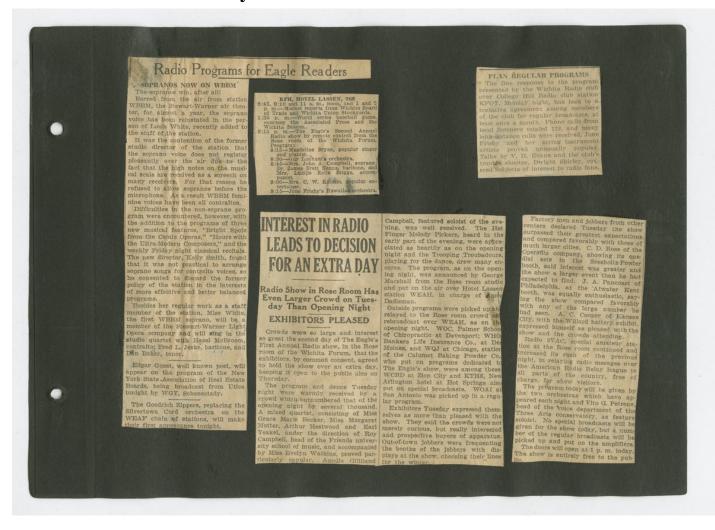




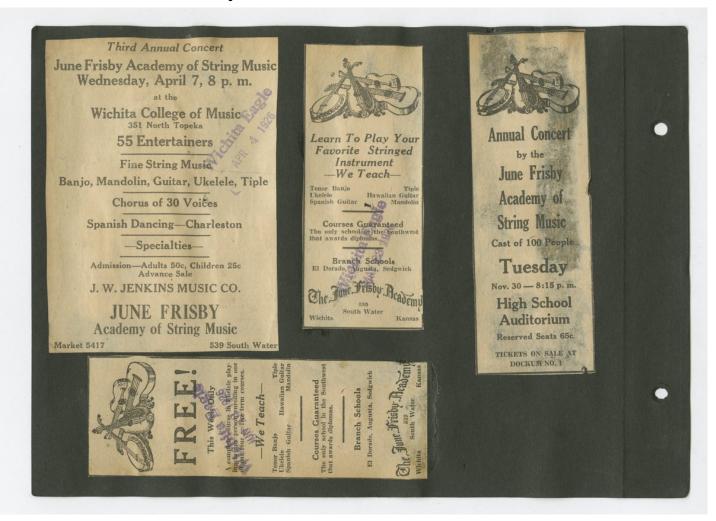




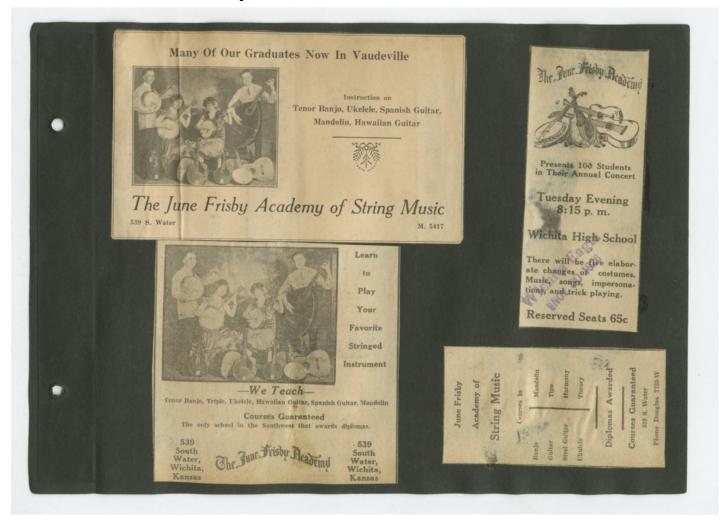








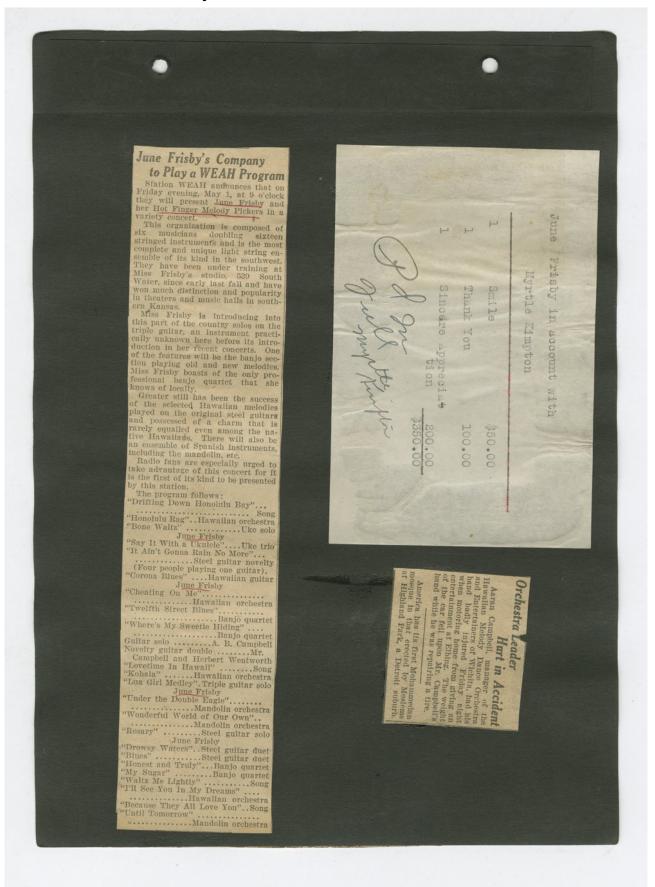




























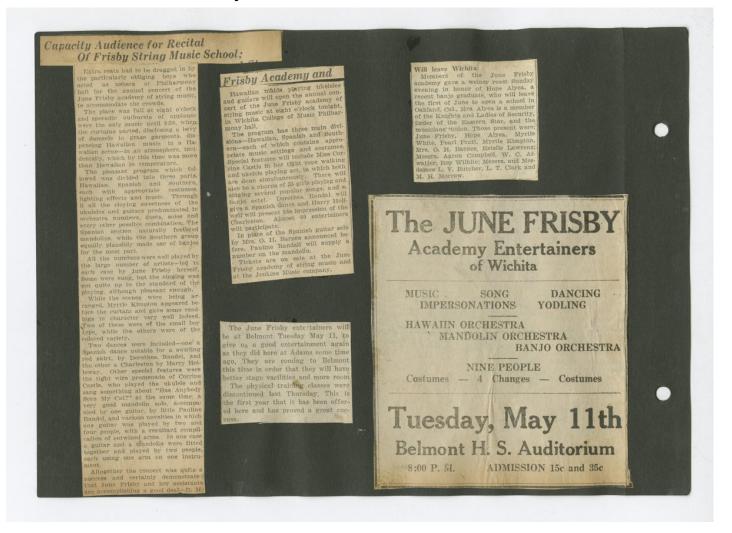












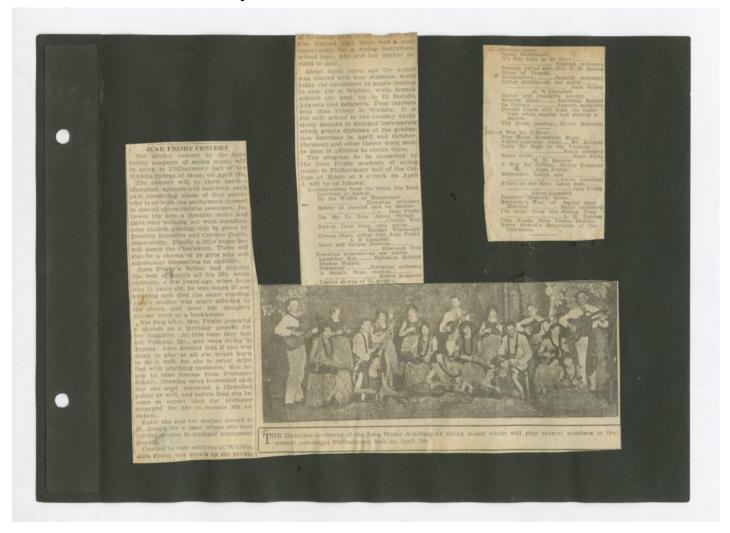




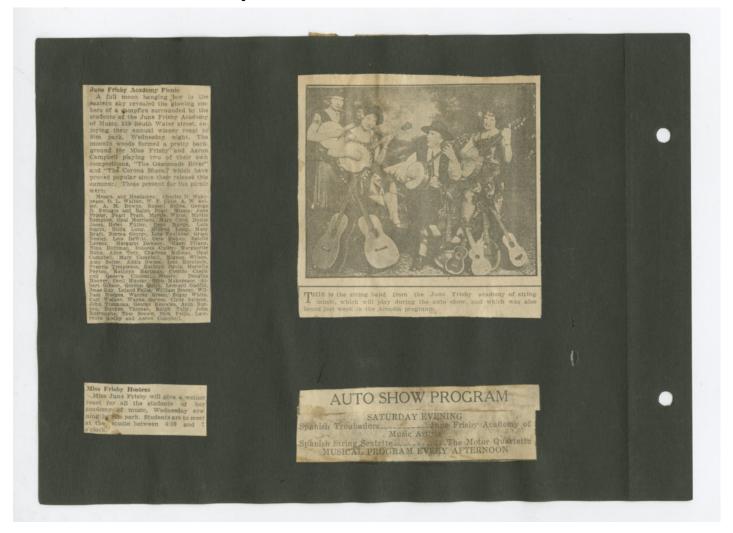




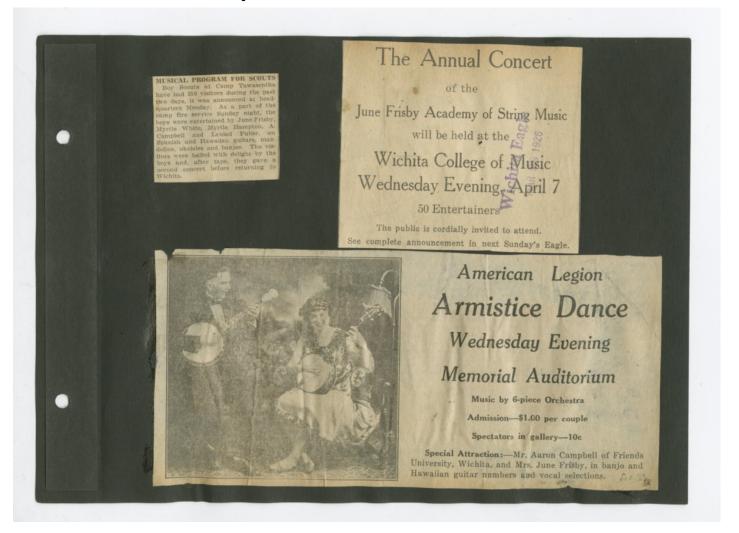












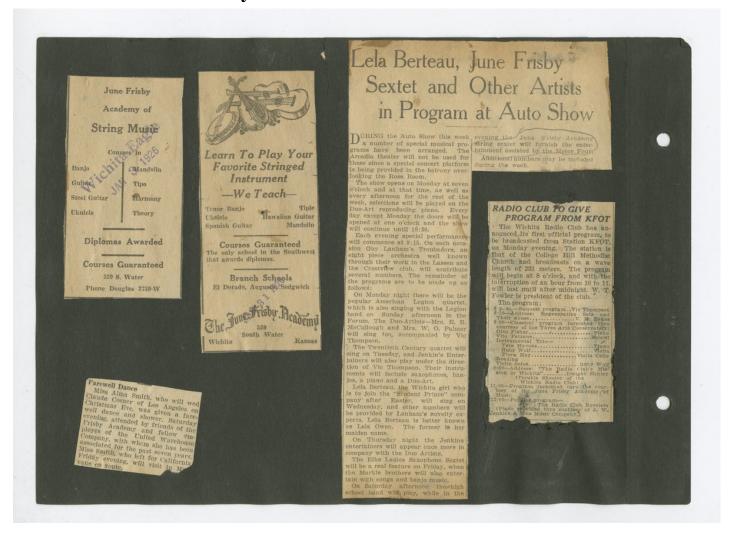














Violetta Mareia June Frisby Mullendore Collection

June Mullendore, 77, Shared Love of Music

Lisa Austin Staff Writer

When June Frisby came to Wichita in the early '20s, she brought a love for music that she shared with hundreds of children over the next five decades.

The owner and founder of the June Frisby Academy of Music, Violetta Mareia June Frisby Mullendore, died Thursday. She was 77.

"She did so much for her students," said Doris Buss, who started studying with Mrs. Mullendore during the '30s and kept a close friendship since then. "She was a marvelous teacher. She made sure you knew what you were doing. You couldn't bluff your way through."

Starting the June Frisby Academy as a one-woman enterprise, Mrs. Mullendore opened the school in 1922, soon after she moved here to study music at Wichita University. She expanded the staff as enrollment grew to more than 400. The top students, however, could learn to play accordion, plano, marimba, organ and the whole range of string instruments from Mrs. Mullendore herself.

THE ACCORDION was her favorite instrument, said her husband, Floyd, who married her in 1965. Mrs. Mullendore's father, director of the town band in Trenton, Mo., taught her to play.

"She was the one that got the accordion to be popular in Wichita," Floyd Mullendore said. "She put on concerts all around the area and students just flocked in."

She tutored Myron Floren, accordionist for Lawrence Welk, when he stayed in Wichita one summer during the 1950s. And she continued to teach accordion and marimba even after she sold the academy in 1966 to the Wichita Business College. The school closed 10 months later.

BUT IT was Mrs. Mullendore's caring as well as her musical talent that made the June Frisby Academy thrive, Mr. Mullendore says. During the late '20s, she took in a couple of students whose mother had tuberculosis, and she cared for them for the next six years, he said. And as long as she ran the school, her ensembles played for charitable groups and hospitals whenever they were invited.

"She always took a complete personal interest in every one of us," said Buss, who now has a musical group of her own, the Doris Buss Trio. "She instilled a competitive-type thing with all the different students and made us all want to do our best for her."

Mrs. Mullendore is survived by her husband. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Byrd-Snodgrass Funeral Home. Services will be 2 p.m. Monday at the First United Methodist Church, which stands on the first site of the June Frisby Academy.

A memorial has been established with the American Cancer Society.

MULLENDORE --e-Violetta M.
(June), age 77, of 1465 Perry,
of died Thursday Funeral services will be Monday at 2:00
E. M. at The First United
Methodist Church. Dr. Richard
B. Wilke & Dr. Herbert B.
Cockeril will officiale. Interment in Wichita Park Cemetery. A memorial has been
established in her name &
memory with The American
Cancer Society.

EYRD-SNODGRASS







