

Title: Pelikan, Alfred G. Papers

Reference Code: Mss-1040

Inclusive Dates: 1923 – 1976

Quantity: 000.03 cu. ft.

Location: Sm Mss

Abstract: Alfred G. Pelikan earned acclaim as a painter, author, and educator. He was born in Breslau, Poland, in 1893, and he immigrated to the U.S. in 1911. He studied with the Art Students League in New York and earned a Master's degree from Columbia University in 1926. From 1920 until 1923, he was director of the School of Art & Industry in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and from 1923-1925 he was an instructor in the College of Architecture at the University of Michigan. Pelikan came to Milwaukee in 1925 to become director of the Milwaukee Art Institute (until 1941) and also as art director for Milwaukee Public Schools (until 1962). He developed a curricular program to introduce modern art to the children in Milwaukee's public school system and also published *The Art of the Child* in 1931. He was a member of the Royal Society of Art in London, the Academie Latine in Paris, the International Institute of Arts and Letters, and Wisconsin Painters and Sculptors. He also was an avid sailor and was a member of the South Shore Yacht Club and U.S. Naval Institute and served as a past commander of the Coast Guard League. He passed away in 1987.

Scope and Content: The collection includes Pelikan's resume, brief histories of Milwaukee's art scene and the Art Institute, a 1938 Wisconsin Artists calendar, two silk screen drawings by Pelikan of Jones Island, a program in honor of School Superintendent Milton Potter's retirement in 1943, two copies of the May 1975 *The Royal Society of Arts Journal*, and other miscellaneous correspondence and clippings. In addition, the collection has a brief history of the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve and Auxiliary in Division V and a 1976 NROTC bulletin.

Access and Use: No restrictions

Language: English

Notes: See also the library card catalog for art books by Pelikan and the photo collection for Pelikan's portraits of Milton C. Potter, Walter Kohler, Daniel Hoan, Paul Clemens, Max Friedman and Dudley Craft Watson.