

BAKSHIAN, ARAM JR.: Files, 1981 – REAGAN LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

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BAKSHIAN, ARAM JR.: Files, 1981. (1 l.ft.;Box 1-4)

Office of Public Liaison: Special Assistant to the President (Arts, Humanities, Education/Academia, International Affairs), 1981

Office of Speechwriting, 1982-1983 ([See separate inventory](#))

Biography

Aram Bakshian (1944-2022) was a native of Washington, DC. In addition to his political positions, he had been a free-lance writer, art critic, magazine editor, Harvard University lecturer, and corporate consultant.

His political experience prior to the Reagan Administration included work as an aide to Congressman William Brock (1966-70), a special assistant to the chairman, Senator Bob Dole, of the Republican National Committee (1971), a speechwriter and aide for Presidents Nixon and Ford (1972-75), and a consultant to Treasury Secretary William Simon (1976-77). Prior to joining the Reagan Administration, Bakshian was working on the lecture circuit and as a Senior Fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government.

In the Reagan White House, Bakshian served in the Office of Public Liaison from March to November 1981, then was Director of the White House Office of Speechwriting until September 1983. In 1987, President Reagan nominated him to a term on the National Council on the Humanities. The term ended in 1992, and that same year, he began in his position as Editor-in-Chief of the periodic journal *American Speaker*; He retired from the magazine in 2009. From 2014-2021, Bakshian became the contributing editor to the journal, *The National Interest*.

Bakshian died on September 14, 2022 of pancreatic cancer.

Scope Note

When Aram Bakshian left the Public Liaison office, many of his files were utilized by his successor as education liaison, William K. Triplett. A substantial amount of material from Bakshian's files was incorporated into [Triplett's files](#), and remains part of the Triplett staff file collection.

This collection consists wholly of an alphabetical correspondence file and some subject folders on education liaison. The Reagan Library has located a small amount of material for Bakshian from his time in the Speechwriting office. Please see his [separate collection](#) for this material. In addition, many Reagan Presidential record collections (*e.g.*, Office of Speechwriting: [Speech Drafts](#)) contain scattered material pertaining to Bakshian's work in this office. There are no series

for this collection.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

[A – AC]
[AD – AO]
[AP – AZ]
[B – BO]
[BR – CAFE]
[Cafesjian, Gerard L.] (1)(2)
[CAFET – CAM]
[CAN – CLEA]
[Cleary, James W.]
[CLEAS – DEK]
[DEL – ES]
[ET – FO]
[FR – GH]
[GI – GZ]
[H – HAV]

Box 2

[HAW – HN]
[HO – I]
[J – JOH]
[JOI – KRAN]
[Krannich, Ronald L.]
[KRANO – LAPL]
[LaPlante, Clifford C.] (1)(2)
[LAPLB – LZ]
[M – MAL]
[MAM – McF]
[McG – MI]
[MJ – NOVA]
[Novack, Michael (Houston Independent School District)] (1)-(4)

Box 3

[NOVAD – PD]
[PE – PRIE]
[Prieto, Michael A.]
[PRIEU – ROF]
[ROG – RUE]
[RUF – SB]
[SC – STEE]
[STEF – TQ]
[TR – WALQ]
[WALR – Williams, O]

[Williams, P – Z]

Box 4

Education Constituency (1)-(5)

American Association of Administrators

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

American Association of University Women

Institute for Educational Affairs

Association of Independent Liberal Arts Colleges for Teachers Education

[Gallaudet College] (1)-(3)

[Emmanuel College]

Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges

Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations (1)(2)

Council of the Great City Schools

National Consortium for Public Policy Education

National Association of Elementary School Principals

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities [empty]

National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges

National Schools Boards Association Energy Youth Awards Program

A Presidential Classroom for Young Americans

Box 5

Parent-Teacher Association

University of Southern California – DC Semester

Tax Credits

Office of Education

National Commission on Excellence in Education