BENNETT, JR., LERONE, 1928-2018
Lerone Bennett, Jr. papers, 1956-2018 (bulk 1966-2002)

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
rose.library@emory.edu

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Bennett, Jr., Lerone, 1928-2018
Title: Lerone Bennett, Jr. papers, 1956-2018 (bulk 1966-2002)
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1240
Extent: 15 linear feet (16 boxes), 1 oversized papers box (OP), 1 oversized bound volume (OBV), and AV Masters: 1 linear foot (1 box, originally box 10)
Abstract: Papers of African American author and journalist Lerone Bennett, Jr., including correspondence, writings by Bennett, subject files, printed material, photographs and audiovisual material.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Special restrictions apply: Use copies have not been made for audiovisual material in this collection. Researchers must contact the Rose Library at least two weeks in advance for access to these items. Collection restrictions, copyright limitations, or technical complications may hinder the Rose Library's ability to provide access to audiovisual material.

Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance for access to unprocessed born digital materials in this collection. Collection restrictions, copyright limitations, or technical complications may hinder the Rose Library's ability to provide access to unprocessed born digital materials.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source
Purchased original acquisition from Lerone Bennett, Jr., 2012. Purchased additions from Brad Emalfarb, 2018.
Custodial History
The Rose Library purchased the original acquisition from Lerone Bennett, Jr. in 2012. The Rose Library purchased additions to the collection from Brad Emalfarb, a collector and dealer in manuscripts materials, in 2018. These additions included additional correspondence, photographs, and speeches.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Lerone Bennett, Jr. papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Appraisal Note
Curator of African American Collections, Randall K. Burkett, acquired the collection as part of the Rose Library's holdings in African American history and culture in 2012.

Curator of African American Collections, Pellom McDaniels III, acquired additions to the collection in 2018.

Processing
Arranged and described at collection level by Rose Library staff, 2012. Additions arranged and described by Brenna Edwards, 2019.

Collection Description

Biographical Note
Lerone Bennett, Jr. (1928-2018), African American author and journalist, is a native of Mississippi and a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. After his graduation in 1949, he worked as a reporter for the Atlanta Daily World, and in 1953 he moved to Chicago to work for Johnson Publishing. In the course of his career he was an editor for both Jet and Ebony, eventually rising to executive editor of Ebony in 1987. He has also written numerous books, including Before the Mayflower (1962), What Manner of Man (1967) and Forced into Glory: Abraham Lincoln's White Dream (2000).

Scope and Content Note
The collection consists of the papers of Lerone Bennett, Jr., including correspondence, writings by Bennett, subject files, printed material, photographs and audiovisual material. Audiovisual material in the collection consists of both sound and video recordings.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Biographical information; correspondence; family papers; photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Martin Luther King and Benjamin Mays material [including writings by Bennett about both]; printed material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Writings by Bennett: book length</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Writings by Bennett: articles, speeches, lectures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Writings by Bennett: articles, speeches, lectures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Subject files [including John Johnson]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Writings by Bennett: articles, speeches, lectures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Photographs; Frederick Douglass research files; mixed files</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Photographs; mixed files</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| AV1 | -      | Chicago Feedback with James Van Der Zee, Lerone Bennett Jr., and Marva Collins, WTTW Chicago  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id prjs1] |
| AV1 | -      | C-SPAN2 Chicago State, Booktv, Lerone Bennett, October 26, 2002, and Carol Berkin, November 13, 2002 [original: S-VHS]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp916] |
| AV1 | -      | Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: A Tribute, The Oprah Winfrey Show, guests Lerone Bennett Jr., Dorothy Cotton, C.T. Vivian, Ralph Abernathy, January 16, 1989  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id pq1f1] |
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id pq1kk] |
| AV1 | -      | *Festac '77*, tape 1 of 4, side A, 1977 [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpvv5] |
| AV1 | -      | *Festac '77*, tape 1 of 4, side B, 1977 [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpvw9] |
| AV1 | -      | *Festac '77*, tape 2 of 4, side A, 1977 [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpw23] |
| AV1 | -      | *Festac '77*, tape 2 of 4, side B, 1977 [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpw0t] |
| AV1 | -      | *Festac '77*, tape 3 of 4, side A, 1977 [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpxxf] |
| AV1 | -      | *Festac '77*, tape 3 of 4, side B, 1977 [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpw1z] |
| AV1 | -      | *Festac '77*, tape 4 of 4, side A, 1977 [original: audio cassette]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpv1t] |
| AV1 | -      | *Festac '77*, tape 4 of 4, side B, 1977 [original: audio cassette] |
AV1 - *Great Moments in Black History*, 14 Segments, November 29, 1988 [original: VHS]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpvzk]

AV1 - *Hands On Atlanta: Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Summit*, undated [original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpbrq2]

[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rrns0]

AV1 - *Harold's Journey*, Harold Washington, undated [original: VHS]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rrns0]

[original: DVD]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rrbr6]

AV1 - Kennedy-King College Commencement Exercises, 1990 [original: VHS]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp8wj]

AV1 - *Lerone Bennett Jr. on The Today Show*, February 1983  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rrprj5]

[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpric5]

AV1 - News stories on the first national observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 20, 1986 [original: Betamax]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rrt1r]

AV1 - *Reception for Lerone Bennett Jr., SUNY at Stony Brook, Africana Studies Program*, February 16, 1988 [original: VHS]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpr1m]

AV1 - *A Salute to Greatness: Tribute to Leon M. Despres*, September 10, 2002  
[original: VHS]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rpr82]

AV1 - *Tribute to Katherine Dunham*, Dance Black America Bam, 1983 [original: VHS]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rrknf]

AV1 - *Tuskegee Airmen*, Final Audio Mix, color and credits are temporary, undated [original: VHS]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rrnv8]

[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rnkwd]

[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rp073]

11 - John Johnson, Gwendolyn Brooks

OP1 1 Printed material by Bennett
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBV1</th>
<th>Scrapbook</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>African Topics: FESTAC (Second World African Festival of Arts and Culture), Sixth Pan Africa Conference, African Study Group; and Honors and Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Chicago politics; materials on Harold Washington, Howard Thurmond, Martin Luther King (including the King Center and the King Memorial), and Robert Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Writings by Bennett: Forced into Glory: Abraham Lincoln's White Dream reviews and research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP1</td>
<td>Photograph, linocut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Appointment book; AV materials; born-digital materials; notebooks; speeches, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Correspondence; journals; speeches; photographs, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Photographs, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>