

**FOWLER, MANET HARRISON.**  
**Manet Harrison Fowler papers, 1913-1960**

Emory University  
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**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Fowler, Manet Harrison.  
**Title:** Manet Harrison Fowler papers, 1913-1960  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 978  
**Extent:** 1.25 linear ft. (3 boxes) and 3 oversized papers (OP)  
**Abstract:** Papers of Manet Harrison Fowler, an African American musician and educator from Fort Worth, Texas.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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**Administrative Information**

**Restrictions on access**

Unrestricted access.

**Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

**Source**

Purchase, 2004.

**Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Manet Harrison Fowler papers, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

**Processing**

Processed by Elizabeth Russey, July 1, 2005.

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**Collection Description**

**Biographical Note**

Manet Harrison Fowler (1895-1976) was an African American musician and educator from Fort Worth, Texas. She graduated from the Tuskegee Institute in 1913 and studied at the Chicago

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College of Music. She taught at Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College and became one of the first directors of the Mt. Gilead choir and president of the Texas Association of Negro Musicians. In June 1928 Fowler founded the Mwalimu School in Texas, which she later relocated to Harlem in New York City. The school was an active participant in the Harlem Renaissance, emphasizing African culture and language. Well-known African and African American educators, authors, musicians, and artists taught at the Mwalimu School including Hall Johnson, Carter G. Woodson, Winifred Hall Allen, and John Scott.

Manet Harrison Fowler was the wife of Stephen Hamilton Fowler. They had five children: Manet Helen (b. 1916), Stephen Hamilton (b. 1918), George Harrison (b. 1920), Carroll Lacy (b. 1924), and Rosemarie Fowler (b. 1927).

### **Scope and Content Note**

The collection contains the personal papers of Manet Harrison Fowler from 1913-1960. The papers include photographs, printed material, and correspondence mostly related to Fowler's participation in African American musical organizations. Her correspondence from 1930-1960 describes concerts and rehearsals at the Mwalimu School in New York, an organization she founded. The collection also contains photographs of students and teachers at the Mwalimu School in Texas and New York, a printer's block depicting the school's logo, and a brochure describing school activities. There is also material in the papers concerning the National Association of Negro Musicians and the Texas Association of Negro Musicians, including photographs of local musical groups, minutes, and conference programs

Other items in the Fowler papers include scrapbook pages created by Manet Harrison Fowler, a class photograph from the Tuskegee Institute in 1913, photographs of Fort Worth Colored High School, photographs of YMCA programs in Fort Worth, Texas during the 1930s, published writings by Manet Harrison Fowler, including a musical she wrote for the National Baptist Convention in 1930, and correspondence and a photograph of her father, S. H. Fowler. The papers also include photographs of musical groups at Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College, where she taught music, and some issues of *The Prairie View Standard*.

### **Arrangement Note**

Arranged by record type.

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## Container List

### Correspondence

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Fowler, Manet Harrison, 1930-1960
1	2	Fowler, Stephen Hamilton, 1931-1934

### Music

OP4		Fowler, Manet Harrison, Come, Let us Sing!, Alumni song, "a symphonic poem," Dedicated to the honor students of I.M. Terrell High School, Fort Worth, Texas
1	3	Fowler, Manet Harrison, with music by Hal Johnson, "Mwalimu Song," undated

### Photographs

1	4	African Continental Art and Cultural Center, African fashion show
1	5	African men making a fire, undated
1	6	Bennet, Will Henry, undated
1	7	Boys conference held in Dallas, Texas, March 1923
1	8	Baptist Young Peoples Union musicians, undated
1	9	Cole, Helen P., undated
1	10	Davis, Bert Etta, undated
1	11	Dei, Kwame, undated
1	12	Fort Worth Colored High School, undated
1	13	Fort Worth Music Association on parade float, undated
1	14	George, Maude Roberts, undated
1	15	I.M. Terrell High School, Fort Worth, Texas, undated
1	16	I.M. Terrell High School, Fort Worth, Texas, circa 1960 [20 photographs]
1	17	Kole, Johani Durodola, undated
1	18	Mwalimu School [photographer: Winifred Hall Allen], undated
OP1		Mwalimu School, Fort Worth, Texas, undated
1	19	Nathaniel Dett Music Club, Galveston, Texas, undated
1	20	National Association of Negro Musicians parade float, Fort Worth, Texas, undated
1	21	New Testament Baptist Missionary Church, undated
1	22	Prairie View College Co-eds All Girls Orchestra, undated
OP2		Tuskegee Institute class photograph, 1913
1	23	YMCA Board, Fort Worth, Texas, [ca. 1930]
1	24	YMCA (colored branch), Fort Worth, Texas, 1935
1	25	YMCA Youth Health Conference, Fort Worth, Texas, December 17-19, 1933
1	26	unidentified

1 27 unidentified [Eva A. Jessye?] [photographer: Addison Scurlock]

**Printed material**

- 1 28 Afro Arts Theatre presents Inez "Community Profile" Green in its 4th Annual Summer Festival Concert, New York City, July 17, 1959
- 1 29 Anniversary Services for Pastor CC Harper and Wife, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, July 17-24, 1949
- 1 30 Rev. AL Boone palm card, undated
- 1 31 Brooklyn Law School Commencement program, June 12, 1960 [George Harrison Fowler, graduate]
- 1 32 Bulletin of the National Association of Negro Musicians, undated
- 1 33 Fowler, Manet Harrison, "Did You Ever See a Dream Coming?" National Urban League, 1946
- 1 34 Fowler, Manet Harrison, program, Chicago, [ca. 1930] [photocopy]
- 1 35 Historical Pageant, held at Green Point Track, Cape Town, South Africa, January 11-12, 1935 [celebration of 100th anniversary of the emancipation of slavery in South Africa]
- 1 36 I.M. Terrell High School music and debate programs featuring Manet Harrison Fowler, 1930-1932
- 1 37 I.M. Terrell High School Graduation programs, 1950, 1951, 1953
- 1 38 *Inwood Chatter*, published by Students of Inwood Junior High School, New York, 1968
- 1 39 Jefferson School Camp brochure, undated
- 1 40 Jefferson School of Social Science, catalogs, 1942, 1944, 1945, 1947
- 2 1 Mwalimu 6th Annual Piano Recital, New York, June 6, 1943
- 2 2 Mwalimu Culture League, certificate of membership, undated
- 2 3 Mwalimu presents Downtown Debut Song Recitals, New York, 1940-1941
- 2 4 Mwalimu School brochure, undated
- 2 5 National Association of Negro Musicians, 14th Annual Convention program, Indianapolis, Indiana, August 12-17, 1933
- 2 6 National Association of Negro Musicians, 16th Annual Convention program, August 25-29, 1935
- 2 7 National Association of Negro Musicians history, 1919-1929
- 2 8 National Association of Negro Musicians, International Artist Concert tickets, August 29, 1929
- OP3 National Baptist Convention newspaper clippings, Chicago, August 1930
- 2 9 New York Tuskegee Alumni Association, 20th Annual Founders Day Exercises, New York, April 3, 1938
- 2 10 North Texas Music Conference, newspaper clipping, 1937
- 2 11 "Our African Diamond," Practical Bible Training School, 1926
- 2 12 *The Prairie View Standard*, vol. 36, no. 1, September 1945

- 2 13 *The Prairie View Standard*, vol. 36, no. 6, February 1946
- 2 14 *The Prairie View Standard*, vol. 36, no. 8, April 1946
- 2 15 *The Prairie View Standard*, vol. 37, no. 1-2, September-October 1946
- 2 16 *The Prairie View Standard*, vol. 38, no. 3, November 1947
- 2 17 *The Prairie View Standard*, vol. 28, no. 7, March 1948
- 2 18 *The Prairie View Standard*, vol. 38, no. 8, April 1948
- 2 19 Programs featuring Manet Harrison Fowler at the piano, 1942-1961
- 2 20 Testimonial Dinner in honor of Ferdinand C. Smith, New York City, September 20, 1944
- 2 21 Texas Association of Negro Musicians, "About Music and Musicians in Texas," undated
- 2 22 Texas Association of Negro Musicians, 2nd Annual Convention program, Fort Worth, Texas, June 8-12, 1927
- 2 23 Texas Association of Negro Musicians, 3rd Annual Convention program, San Antonio, Texas, June 14-17, 1928
- 2 24 Texas Association of Negro Musicians, 5th Annual Session program, Houston, Texas, June 12-15, 1930
- 2 25 Texas Association of Negro Musicians, minutes, 1926-1928
- 2 26 "The Voice: A Pageant of the Origin, Growth, and Accomplishments of the Negro Baptists of America," [written by MHF], National Baptist Convention, Chicago, August 1930

### Writings

- 2 27 "Anticipation," essay, manuscript
- 2 28 Class of 1912 Reunion research notes
- 2 29 "Creating Languages," essay, manuscript
- 2 30 "Debts," essay, manuscript
- 2 31 "Essay on the 'Cock,'" manuscript
- 2 32 Fragments
- 2 33 "Hallucinations? Ghosts," manuscript
- 2 34 "Home Sweet Home," essay about composer John Howard Payne [missing page 3]
- 2 35 "The New Minister," manuscript
- 2 36 "On Capitalism," essay, manuscript
- 2 37 "On Jackets for Book Covers," essay, manuscript
- 2 38 "On Keeping: Things, Ideas, Self," essay, manuscript
- 2 39 "Speech to the Seniors," manuscript, 1962 [I.M. Terrell High School, Fort Worth, Texas]
- 2 40 "Symbols, Oaths, Books," essay, manuscript
- 2 41 Titles and descriptions of songs for all occasions
- 2 42 "The Unknown," essay, manuscript, March 10, 1975

2 43 "What the Negro Is - What They are Not," essay, manuscript

**Ephemera**

2 44 Scrapbook pages [loose], undated

3 1 Business card

3 2 Pins, National Baptist Convention, Chicago, August 1930

3 3 Printer's block, Mwalimu School

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