

HUGHES, LANGSTON, 1902-1967.
Thyra Edwards' collection of
Langston Hughes material, 1935-1941

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

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Hughes, Langston, 1902-1967.
Title: Thyra Edwards' collection of Langston Hughes material, 1935-1941
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1145
Extent: .25 linear ft. (1 box)
Abstract: Correspondence, writings, and printed material sent to Thyra Edwards, African American social worker and activist, by Langston Hughes, African American poet and playwright.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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

Related Materials in Other Repositories

[Langston Hughes papers](#), Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University and [Thyra Edwards papers](#), Chicago History Museum.

Source

Purchase, 2010.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Thyra Edwards' collection of Langston Hughes material, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Laura L. Carroll, April 2010.

Emory Libraries provides copies of its finding aids for use only in research and private study. Copies supplied may not be copied for others or otherwise distributed without prior consent of the holding repository.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Langston Hughes (1902-1967), African American poet, playwright, and novelist, born in Joplin, Missouri. Thyra J. Edwards (1897-1953) [later Gitlin], African American social worker, teacher and activist, lived in Chicago, Illinois during the 1930s and 1940s. She edited *The People's Voice* and the *Negro Digest*, to which Hughes frequently contributed.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of correspondence, writings, and printed material sent to Thyra Edwards by Langston Hughes from 1935-1941. The bulk of this collection includes draft of poems Hughes sent to Edwards with typed or holograph notes and commentary. In the correspondence Hughes discusses his illness in 1941, the state of African American publications in the 1940s, and other topics related to his creative work. Printed material includes a broadside, an invitation and several poems and an essay which appeared in publications such as the *The Crisis* and *The People's Voice*.

Arrangement Note

Arranged by record type.

Container List

Correspondence

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	1940-1941

Musical score

1	2	"America's Young Black Joe," words by Langston Hughes, music by Elliot Carpenter
---	---	--

Printed material

1	3	Carmel's Seventh Annual Bach Festival, program, July 21-27, 1941
1	4	"Columbia" poem in unidentified publication
1	5	Invitation to recital and reception honoring Langston Hughes at Abraham Lincoln Center, Chicago, October 6, 1941 [2 copies]
1	6	"Mother to Son," poem in <i>The People's Voice</i> , May 9, 1942
1	7	"The Need for Heroes," essay in <i>The Crisis</i> , June 1941 [includes pages in which poems "The Negro Speaks of Rivers" and "NAACP" appear]
1	8	"The Negro Speaks of Rivers," broadside, includes envelope addressed to Thyra Edwards, May 16, 1941

Writings

1	9	"America's Young Black Joe," poem, typescript, undated
1	10	"Ballad of Sam Solomon," poem, typescript, 1941
1	11	"Domestic Happenings," poem, typescript, undated
1	12	"Explain It, Please," poem, typescript, May 1941
1	13	"Guest of Honor," radio skit, typescript, [1941]
1	14	"Harlem Sweeties," poem, typescript, undated
1	15	"Let's See Some Changes Made," poem, typescript, undated
1	16	"Love Again Blues," poem, typescript, undated
1	17	"Merry-Go-Round," poem, typescript, undated
1	18	"The Mitchell Case," poem, typescript, undated
1	19	"Mother and Child," poem, typescript, undated
1	20	"NAACP," poem, typescript, June 1941
1	21	"Negro: Everywhere," poem, typescript, 1941
1	22	"Rarin' to Fight," poem, typescript, May 1941
1	23	"Southern Negro Speaks," poem, typescript, undated
1	24	"This Puzzles Me," poem, typescript, undated
1	25	"Three Songs About Lynching," lyrics, 1935 [2 copies]
1	26	"What the Negro Wants," essay, with correspondence to Thyra Edwards, typescript, undated

1 27 "Why Such a Difference," poem, typescript, undated

Other

1 28 Board binder titled "Unpublished poems of Langston Hughes"
