

KOHS, ELLIS B., 1916- Ellis B. Kohs papers, 1943-1946

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Kohs, Ellis B., 1916-
Title: Ellis B. Kohs papers, 1943-1946
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 877
Extent: 1.5 linear feet (2 boxes) and 1 oversized papers box and 1 oversized papers folder (OP)
Abstract: Papers of composer and teacher, Ellis B. Kohs, relating mainly to his activities as director of the all-African American 334th Army Forces Services Band at Fort Benning (Georgia) during World War II.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access

Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance to access this collection.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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

Related Materials in Other Repositories

[Ellis B. Kohs papers](#), New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Source

Gift, 2001.

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Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Ellis B. Kohs papers, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by the Archives Institute, December 2003.

Collection Description**Biographical Note**

Ellis B. Kohs (1916-2000), composer and teacher, born May 12, 1916 in Chicago. Kohs received his early musical training at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and studied with Olga Samarof Stokowski at the Juilliard School in New York City. He earned an M.A. degree at the University of Chicago (1938) and then attended Harvard University. During World War II, Kohs served in the U.S. Army as director of the all-African American 334th Army Forces Services Band, at Fort Benning (Georgia).

After the war he taught at Wesleyan University (1946-1948) and the College of the Pacific (1938-1950), before joining the University of Southern California faculty in 1950. At USC, he served as chair of the department of theory and composition in the Thornton School of Music for more than 20 years. He died in Los Angeles on May 17, 2000.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of the papers of Ellis B. Kohs from 1943-1946. The papers include correspondence, requisitions, programs, newspaper clippings, photographs and original compositions. Much of the material relates to his activities as director of the all-African American 334th Army Forces Services Band at Fort Benning (Georgia) during World War II.

Arrangement Note

Arranged by record type.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Biographical information
1	2	Certificates
OP1	1	Composition: The Army Nurse Corps
OP1	2	Composition: Auf Meinem Lieben Gott (Bach)
OP1	3	Composition: The Automatic Pistol
OP1	4	Composition: In Thee is Joy (Bach)
OP1	5	Composition: Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach)
OP1	6	Composition: The Star Spangled Banner
OP1	7	Composition: Swanee River
OP1	8	Composition: Yanks of the 7th Recon
1	3	Correspondence
1	4	Military records
1	5	Radio Script: WRBL (Columbus, GA), November 7, 1943
1	6	Newspaper clippings
1	7	Photographs
OP2	-	Photograph, Reception Center Band, Ft. Benning, Georgia [2 copies]
1	8	Printed material, general
1	9	Printed material: Fisher, Carl, <i>Instructions for the Trumpet and Drum...Signal and Calls... United States Army and Navy</i>
1	10	Printed material: National Jewish Welfare League, <i>Prayer Book for Jews in the Armed Forces and Selected Jewish Songs for Members of the Armed Forces</i>
1	11	Printed material: War Dept., <i>Basic Field Manual: Soldier's Handbook and Basic Field Manual: The Band</i>
1	12	Programs
1	13	Requisitions-Supplies
1	14	Sheet music: Kohs, Ellis B., <i>Night Watch</i>
1	15	Special Orders
1	16	Writings: Kohs: re: About Army bandleaders, January 17, 1943
2		Military uniform
