

MS-242: Joyce Sweeney Papers

Collection Number: MS-242

Title: Joyce Sweeney Papers

Dates: 1973-2017

Creator: Sweeney, Joyce

Summary/Abstract:

Sweeney is a writer of young adult fiction and a graduate of Wright State University. Her papers include typed manuscripts of several of her published works, journals, scrapbooks, college class papers, and correspondence.

Quantity/Physical Description: 7.65 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access:

There are no donor-imposed restrictions on accessing material in this collection; however, due to preservation concerns, only reference copies of original audio and video materials can be accessed in the reading room. Items without reference copies can be digitized at the request of a patron for the cost of creating a digital copy. Please provide us **at least two weeks advance notice** if you would like to request an audio or video reference copy. Call (937) 775-2092 or email us at archives@www.libraries.wright.edu. Use of digitized content is subject to conditions governing use.

Restrictions on Use:

Any existing intellectual property rights and literary copyrights are retained by the author, Joyce Sweeney. Other copyright restrictions may apply. Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-242, Joyce Sweeney Papers, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

The collection was donated to Special Collections and Archives by Joyce Sweeney in May 1992, with many additions received since then. Originally, the collection was placed on deposit, but it was deeded to Special Collections and Archives in 2017.

Other Finding Aid:

The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection_guides/guide_files/msXXX.pdf. It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

This collection contains original analog audio/video materials, which must be digitized prior to access, due to preservation concerns.

Publication Note:

Joyce Sweeney is the author of several publications, which are listed in greater detail below in the Scope and Content Note, as well as the Container Listing.

Processed by:

Processed by Kathryn Goetz, June 1993; with additions by Matthew Pacer, September 1994; Ximena Chrisagis, January 1997; and Jeri Kniess, March 2012. Finding aid revised according to DACS standards by Lisa Rickey, November 2017.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged into 5 series as follows:

- Series 1: School Papers, circa 1973-1979
- Series 2: Manuscripts, 1978-2006, undated
- Series 3: Published Short Stories and Poetry, 1974-2017
- Series 4: Scrapbooks, 1974-1992
- Series 5: Miscellaneous Information, 1976-2011, undated

Biographical/Historical Note:

Joyce Sweeney was born Joyce Hegenbarth in Dayton, Ohio. She graduated from Wright State University, summa cum laude, and earned graduate credits at Ohio University in English and Creative Writing.

Since she was eight years old, Joyce had dreamed of becoming a writer. Determined and driven to be a writer, Joyce spent years developing her own writing style. Growing up as an only child with one parent, she adjourned to her fantasies about family life. Despite the limitations of widowhood and family finance, Joyce's mother provided two trips to Europe, enhancing her daughter's imagination and broadening her scope of the world.

At seventeen, Joyce earned twenty-five dollars with the publication of her first short story, "Where Do You Belong in the Jungle?" in *New Writers Magazine*. She continued to write fiction and became an accomplished writer of short stories. Joyce took first place in the Annual College Scholarship Internship Contest sponsored by *Playgirl* magazine. Her college literary magazine,

Nexus, published her short story “Grass.” “Shattered Suns” appeared in *Green’s Literary Magazine*. In 1983, *Co-Ed* magazine published “Spanish Horses”.

Also in 1983, Joyce won the Delacorte Press Books for Young Readers First Young Adult Novel Contest for *Center Line*. Since winning this competition, she has published 13 novels, including *Face the Dragon*, *The Dream Collector*, *Shadow*, *Waiting for June*, *Players*, *Headlock*, and *The Guardian*. In fact, *Shadow* won such an acclaim that in 1995, the Young Adult Library Association (YALSA) of the American Library Association recommended *Shadow* as one of its Books for Reluctant Young Adult Readers.

Since her auspicious beginning she has continued to publish appealing novels for teens on a variety of topics, among them friendships, family relationships, and self-discovery. Four of those novels have been named Best Books for Young Adults, four have been Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, and *Booklist* included *Players* among its Top Ten Sports Books in 2002.

Mrs. Sweeney lives and works in Coral Springs, Florida, where she consistently participates in book signings, visits schools, and attends special events pertaining to writing and young adult literature.

Scope and Content Note:

The Joyce Sweeney Papers fall into five series: (1) School Papers; (2) Manuscripts; (3) Published Short Stories and Poetry; (4) Scrapbooks; and (5) Miscellaneous Information.

Series 1 contains Joyce Sweeney’s school papers. These papers were written for classes she took at Wright State University and Ohio University. The papers date from approximately 1973 to 1979. Many of these school papers are undated, so educated guesses, often going by class numbers, were used to fit them in as close to chronological order as possible.

Series 2 holds Joyce Sweeney’s manuscripts. Those manuscripts which are dated, and many were not, were written between 1978 and 2006. Sweeney handwrites all of her first drafts on spiral-bound notebooks, most of which are included here, as well as some original handwritten short stories. In addition, typewritten manuscripts and notes about these novels are filed in the manuscript series, from her first published novel, *Center Line*, to her most recently published, *The Guardian*. In this section, there are multiple copies of some of her novels, showing the progress from handwritten first draft through copyediting and proofing. Publisher’s typesetting printouts and correspondence from them is also included for several novels. Some of the typed manuscripts have been divided into two parts for archival storage purposes because they are too voluminous to fit into a single file folder; Sweeney herself did not assign these divisions. Because many of the manuscripts are undated, it was difficult to arrange them chronologically. Therefore, the undated manuscripts are arranged in approximate chronological order based on the publication dates of the novels. All manuscripts are included in this series except for the typewritten short story “Where Do You Belong in the Jungle?” This work is filed with Scrapbook #1 inbox number 5, file number 2. It is filed with this scrapbook in accordance with respect for original order since that is where Mrs. Sweeney placed it.

Here is a list of Joyce Sweeney's current publications, with the year each work was published:

Center Line, 1985
Right Behind the Rain, 1987
The Dream Collector, 1989
Face the Dragon, 1990
Tiger Orchard, 1993
Piano Man, 1994
Shadow, 1994
Free Fall, 1996
The Spirit Window, 1998
Players, 2000
Takedown, 2004
Waiting for June, 2006
Headlock, 2006
The Guardian, 2009

Series 3 consists of copies of Mrs. Sweeney's short stories published in *New Writers*, *Nexus*, *Playgirl*, *Green 's*, and *Co-Ed* Magazines; these were published from 1974 to 1983. The series also includes an issue of the periodical *Blue Violin*, in which Sweeney's poem "Meditation" appears. There are also two chapbooks of poetry, published in 2008 and 2017. The full date span of this series is 1974 to 2017.

Series 4 includes the contents of seven scrapbooks. Many of the papers in these scrapbooks were being discolored and deteriorated by the adhesive which held them in place. To prevent further decay, these papers were separated from their scrapbooks and placed in acid-free file folders. The scrapbooks are arranged approximately in chronological order. They date from 1974 through 1992. The subject matter of these scrapbooks varies. Some papers relate to legal matters involved with publishing; others are mail from adoring fans. The correspondence between the young Joyce Sweeney and her agent is interesting. Mrs. Sweeney's enthusiasm and delight at getting her work published is evident in her letters. Contents also include birthday cards, letters, notes and newspaper articles about Mrs. Sweeney and her books.

Series 5 is labeled "Miscellaneous Scrapbook Information." The materials contained in this series are similar to many of the materials found in the scrapbooks in Series 4. However, because Mrs. Sweeney had not arranged or labeled them as scrapbooks, they could not be filed with the scrapbook materials. Series 5 contains materials and correspondence from the conferences and workshops in which Mrs. Sweeney participated. Correspondence from students, fans, and publishers are also included here. It appears that Mrs. Sweeney visits public schools in her area with regularity to discuss her career. There are many touching letters exchanged between Mrs. Sweeney and these children, as well as an oversized thank you letter from 1995. This Series also includes varied information such as advertisements, articles, and press releases concerning Mrs. Sweeney and her published works. Some of these items are oversized and stored as such. These items are listed at the end of the workshop/conference materials in this series. There are some

audiovisual materials located at the end of this series. These are VHS tapes and 2 mini cassettes. Materials in Series 5 date from 1976 to 2011, with some undated.

Subject Terms

Persons/Families

Sweeney, Joyce

Subjects (General)

Young adult literature -- Authorship

Collection Inventory

Box	File	Description	Date
Series 1: School Papers			[Circa 1973-1979]
1	1	“The Fortune Teller” and “The Flea Market”	[Circa 1973-1979]
1	2	“Landlocked” and “The War is Lasting Forever”	[Circa 1973-1979]
1	3	“As I Lay Dying and the Mission of the Twelve” and “The Fall of Eve”	[Circa 1973-1979]
1	4	“Glittering Evil” and “The Blithedale Romance: Emerson v. Hawthorne”	[Circa 1973-1979]
1	5	“The Franklin’s Tale and the Triumph of Pragmatism” and “Katherine Mansfield”	[Circa 1973-1979]
1	6	“Great Wits and Madness: The Role of the Astronomer in Rasselas”	[Circa 1973-1979]
1	7	“Introduction and Teaching Guide to Flannery O’Connor”	[Circa 1973-1979]
1	8	“Lisa”	[Circa 1973-1979]
Series 2: Manuscripts			1978-2006, Undated
1	9	Book cover mock-ups	Undated
1	10	<i>Center Line</i> – Handwritten (completed novel published in 1985)	1980 Sep
1	11	<i>Center Line</i> – Copyedited Transcript	1983 Aug 4
1	12	<i>Center Line</i> – Uncorrected Proof	1984 Apr
1	13	<i>Center Line</i> – copyedited transcript, with letter, (Part 1)	1984, 1986
1	14	<i>Center Line</i> – copyedited transcript, (Part 2)	1984
2	1	<i>Center Line</i> – Screenplay, with original copyright and letter	1987, 1999
2	2	<i>Right Behind the Rain</i> – Handwritten (completed novel published in 1987)	1978 May
2	3	<i>One-Handed Catch</i> – Handwritten, later renamed <i>Dream Collector</i> (completed novel published in 1989)	Undated
2	4	<i>Face the Dragon</i> – Handwritten (completed novel published in 1990)	Undated
2	5	<i>The Tiger Orchard</i> – Handwritten (completed novel published in 1993)	Undated
2	6	<i>The Tiger Orchard</i> – First Pass, Author’s Set, (Part 1)	1992 May 14
2	7	<i>The Tiger Orchard</i> – First Pass, Author’s Set, (Part 2)	1992 May 14
3	1	<i>Piano Man</i> – Handwritten (completed novel published in 1994)	Undated

Box	File	Description	Date
3	2	<i>Piano Man</i> – Typescript	Undated
3	3	<i>Where Water Sleeps</i> – Handwritten, later renamed <i>Free Fall</i> (completed novel published in 1996)	Undated
3	4	<i>Where Water Sleeps</i> – Copyedited Transcript, later renamed <i>Free Fall</i> , (Part 1)	Undated
3	5	<i>Where Water Sleeps</i> – Copyedited Transcript, later renamed <i>Free Fall</i> , (Part 2)	Undated
3	6	<i>Free Fall</i> – Final Copyedited Transcript, (Part 1)	1995 Mar 22
3	7	<i>Free Fall</i> – Final Copyedited Transcript, (Part 2)	1995 Mar 22
4	1	<i>Free Fall</i> – Final Pass, Author’s Set, (Part 1)	1995 Oct 3
4	2	<i>Free Fall</i> – Final Pass, Author’s Set, (Part 2)	1995 Oct 3
4	3	<i>Free Fall</i> – First Pass, Reader’s Set, (Part 1)	1995 Nov
4	4	<i>Free Fall</i> – First Pass, Reader’s Set, (Part 2)	1995 Nov
4	5	<i>Free Fall</i> – Copyedited Typescript, (Part 1)	1996 Sep
4	6	<i>Free Fall</i> – Copyedited Typescript, (Part 2)	1996 Sep
4	7	<i>That’s Where You’ll Find Me</i> – Handwritten, later renamed <i>The Spirit Window</i> (completed novel published in 1998)	Undated
5	1	<i>The Spirit Window</i> – First Pass, Reader’s Set, with letter, (Part 1)	1997 Jun, 1998 Apr
5	2	<i>The Spirit Window</i> – First Pass, Reader’s Set, (Part 2)	1997 Jun
5	3	<i>The Spirit Window</i> – Copyedited Typescript, (Part 1)	Undated
5	4	<i>The Spirit Window</i> – Copyedited Typescript, (Part 2)	Undated
5	5	<i>The Spirit Window</i> – Final Copy, (Part 1)	1997 Jun
5	6	<i>The Spirit Window</i> – Final Copy, (Part 2)	1997 Jun
5	7	<i>The Spirit Window</i> – Origin, First Pass, with letter (Part 1)	1999 Feb 17, 1999 Jun 25
6	1	<i>The Spirit Window</i> – Origin, First Pass, (Part 2)	1999 Feb 17
6	2	Research for <i>Players</i>	1998
6	3	<i>Players</i> – Handwritten (completed novel published in 2000)	Undated
6	4	<i>Players</i> – Copyedited Typescript	Undated
6	5	<i>Surfacing</i> – Handwritten, later renamed <i>Waiting for June</i> (completed novel published in 2006)	Undated
6	6	<i>Waiting for June</i> – typed, Advance Reading Copy	2003 Mar 31
7	1	<i>Waiting for June</i> – Copyedited Typescript, with letter	2003 Jun 5
14	1	<i>Waiting for June</i> – Final edition Typescript, with cover (Oversize)	2003
7	2	<i>Some Kid</i> – Handwritten, later renamed <i>Headlock</i> (completed novel published in 2006)	Undated
7	3	<i>Headlock</i> – Advance Reading Copy	2002
7	4	<i>Headlock</i> – First Pass, Author’s Set, Master Proof	2006 Feb 23
7	5	<i>The Guardian</i> – Handwritten (completed novel)	Undated

Box	File	Description	Date
		published in 2009)	
Series 3: Published Short Stories and Poetry			1974-2017
8	1	“Where Do You Belong in the Jungle?”, in <i>New Writers Magazine</i> , Vol. II, No. 1	1974
8	2	“Female Perceptions,” Interviews, published in <i>Nexus</i> (Wright State University Literary Magazine)	1975
8	3	“Grass,” published in <i>Nexus</i>	1976
8	4	“Raindance,” published in <i>Playgirl</i> magazine	1976 Sep
8	5	“Shattered Suns,” published in Green’s Magazine	1978 Spring
8	6	“Spanish Horses,” published in <i>Co-Ed</i> magazine	1983 Apr
8	7	“Meditation,” <i>Blue Violin: Book I</i> , 2 copies	1996 Jan
8	8	“Some People Call me Maurice,” formatted	2005 Mar 21
8	9	“Something Old, Something New,” writing group edits	Undated
12	6	Chapbook: “Impermanence” (poetry)	2008
12	6	Chapbook: “Wake Up” (poetry)	2017
Series 4: Scrapbooks			1974-1992
8	10	Scrapbook #1	1974-1980
8	11	Scrapbook #2	1981-1983
8	12	Scrapbook #3	1982-1983
8	13	Scrapbook #4	1983 Dec - 1984 Apr
8	14	Scrapbook #5	1984
8	15	Scrapbook #6, (Part 1)	1985-1988
9	1	Scrapbook #6, (Part 2)	1985-1988
9	2	Scrapbook #7, (Part 1)	1988-1990
9	3	Scrapbook #7, (Part 2)	1988-1990
9	4	Loose Scrapbook Materials	1990-1992
Series 5: Miscellaneous Information			1976-2011, Undated
9	5	Articles About Sweeney	1997-1996, 2007, Undated
9	6	A.R.T.S. Teacher Recognition Award	2004
9	7	Correspondence: Cards and Notes	Undated
9	8	Correspondence: Complaints on <i>Free Fall</i>	1999-2000
9	9	Correspondence: Fan Mail	1993-2000
9	10	Correspondence: Fan Mail	2002-2008
9	11	Correspondence: letters from Joyce Sweeney	1995-2008
9	12	Correspondence: Publishers	1993-1996
10	1	Correspondence: Publishers	1997-1999
10	2	Correspondence: Publishers	2000-2008, Undated
10	3	Correspondence: Student Mail from class visitations	1995-1998

Box	File	Description	Date
OS 100	1	Correspondence: Student Mail from class visitations (Oversize)	1995
10	4	Correspondence: Student Mail from class visitations	2000
10	5	Correspondence: Student Mail from class visitations	2001, 2002, 2006
10	6	Correspondence: Workshops and Conferences	1993-1999
11	1	Correspondence: Workshops and Conferences	2000-2007, Undated
11	2	Correspondence: Writing Group	1997-2002, Undated
11	3	News Clippings	1976, 1983-1984, 1989
11	4	News Clippings	1990-1992, 1994-2000
11	5	News Clippings	2001-2011, Undated
11	6	Publisher's Catalogs and Reviews	1984-2011
11	7	Website Biography Interview: authors4teens.com	2002
11	8	WSU, "Outstanding Alumni Award," information	1991-1992
11	9	Workshop/Conference Materials: ALA – 103 rd Annual Conference Program, (see also OS, location 100, file 1)	1984 Jun 23-28
11	10	Workshop/Conference Materials: Exemplary Writer's Recognition Workshop	1988 Apr 22
12	1	Workshop/Conference Materials: General	1991-1994
12	2	Workshop/Conference Materials: General	1995-1996
12	3	Workshop/Conference Materials: General	1997-1999
12	4	Workshop/Conference Materials: General	2000-2007
12	5	Workshop/Conference Materials: General	2008-2010, Undated
14	2	Workshop/Conference Materials: General (Oversize)	Undated
OS 100	1	Workshop/Conference Materials: General (Oversize)	1984, Undated
		<u>Audio/Visual Materials</u>	
13	1	VHS: "DVB News 5/14/93" – VHS ordered by Joyce Sweeney	1993 May 14
13	2	VHS: "Joyce"	Undated
13		Mini Cassette Tapes (2): "JKS on WLRN FM"	1991 Apr 16
13	3	VHS: "Library Edition," Joyce Sweeney	Undated
13	4	VHS: Nova Southeastern University – GEM Program, ENG 635 Interview with Joyce Sweeney: Young Adult Author	Undated
13	5	VHS: Writer's Workshop #105, Joyce Sweeney, Young Adult Writing	Undated