

Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter Collection

MS-301

Paul Laurence Dunbar Library
Special Collections and Archives
Wright State University
Dayton, Ohio

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Introduction

The Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter Collection was accessioned into the Dunbar Library's Special Collections and Archives on December 5, 2000. The collection includes the personal papers of Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter (a.k.a. Allen James or Rosemary Hadler), a music editor, literary writer, musical composer, and professor. The collection was donated by the Women's Literary Club of Dayton Ohio. The materials in the collection date from 1931 to 1995 and fill 12 Hollinger boxes for a total of approximately 6 linear feet.

The collection is an excellent source of information on church music. It includes original musical compositions, articles written about church music, lecture and workshop materials on hymnology and handbells, an annotated bibliography of hymns, a notebook that Lorenz Porter kept while majoring in music at Wellesley College, and her dissertation on camp meeting spirituals. The collection also includes many original literary writings by Lorenz Porter including essays, short stories, word games, jokes, and speeches. Incoming and outgoing correspondence is also included.

The collection is arranged into eight series. There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

- Series I: Correspondence
- Series II: Original Writings Unpublished
- Series III: Original Writings Published
- Series IV: Courses and Workshop Materials
- Series V: Published Interview
- Series VI: Published Music
- Series VII: Rosemary Hadler
- Series VIII: Unpublished Music

Biographical Sketch

Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter (1907-1996) was born in 1907. Her grandfather, E.S. Lorenz founded the Lorenz Music Publishing Company in Dayton, Ohio in 1890. The company, which publishes church music, is still in operation today. Ellen Jane attended Wellesley College and majored in music. She then began teaching music in Akron, Ohio. Next she went to Paris to study musical composition under the famed teacher, Nadia Boulanger. Finally, in 1932, Ellen Jane returned to Dayton and began work as a cub editor at the Lorenz Music Publishing Company. She also began writing many original musical compositions that were published by the Lorenz Company. She wrote under the names Ellen Jane Lorenz, Allen James, and Rosemary Hadler. She became Editor in Chief in 1940 and remained in that position until her retirement in 1963. She then went back to college and earned her Master's degree, writing her thesis on the E.S. Lorenz collection of hymnals. At age 71, she earned her Ph.D. with a dissertation on camp meeting spirituals. Following that she taught Sacred Music at the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio and summer courses in Hymnology and Handbell Ringing at Seattle Pacific University. Ellen Jane was a respected authority on handbells. Her hobby in later life was creative writing and she wrote many essays, poetry, and plays and socialized with other like-minded individuals in the Women's Literary Club of Dayton. Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter died in 1996.

Scope and Content Note

The Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter Collection is rich in information on church music, especially handbells and hymnology. In addition, it contains many of her original literary writings such as poetry, essays, plays, and short stories.

Series I- Correspondence

This series contains the incoming and outgoing correspondence of Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter from 1979 to 1995. Incoming correspondence contains several letters from her adopted son, but most of the correspondence in this series relates to submissions of her creative writing for publication.

Series II- Original Writings Unpublished

This series includes many examples of the unpublished writings of Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter. It includes speeches delivered between 1956 and 1992, essays, short stories, plays, jokes, word games, an annotated bibliography of hymnals, a notebook she kept while attending Wellesley College, and her doctoral dissertation.

Series III- Original Writings Published

This series includes original writings of Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter, which appeared in published form between 1946 and 1991. They include letters to the editors of newspapers and magazines, an article about the founder of the Lorenz Music Publishing Company, E.S. Lorenz, articles hymnology, and a booklet on handbells.

Series IV- Courses and Workshop Materials

This series included materials used by Lorenz Porter to teach college courses on hymnology and workshops on handbell ringing. It includes lecture notes, handouts, and research materials.

Series V- Published Interview

One item is included in this series. It is a biographical interview with Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter, conducted and written by Howard Zettervall and printed in the November 1982 issue of *Chorister Guild LETTERS*.

Series VI- Published Music

This series includes published church music written, compiled, or arranged by Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter or under her pseudonym, Allen James. The inclusive dates are 1931-1982.

Series VII- Rosemary Hadler

This series includes work done by Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter under her pseudonym—Rosemary Hadler. It includes original published music, which was written, compiled or arranged under the name of Rosemary Hadler. It also includes published writings on music written under this pseudonym, as well as copies of *The Younger Choirs: A Magazine for the Junior and Youth Choirs of Church*, a publication of the Lorenz Music Publishing Company, edited by Lorenz Porter under the name of Rosemary Hadler.

Series VIII- Unpublished Music

This series includes original, unpublished musical compositions by Ellen Jane Lorenz Porter including a Japanese suite for flute and piano, lullabies, orchestrations, a string quartet score, chamber music, and a flourish for brass.

CONTAINER LISTING

Series I: Correspondence

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Incoming Correspondence	1/1979-9/1993
	2	Outgoing Correspondence	1/1986-3/1995

Series II: Original Writings Unpublished

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
	3	Speeches	1956-11/1978
	4	Speeches	4/1980-4/1992
	5	Speeches	n.d.
	6	Speeches	n.d.
	7	Speeches	n.d.
2	1	Essays	n.d.
	2	Short Stories	n.d.
	3	Short Stories	n.d.
	4	Poetry	n.d.
	5	Poetry	n.d.
3	1	Essays on Music	n.d.
	2	Essays on Music	n.d.
	3	Essays on Music	n.d.
	4	Essays on Music	n.d.
	5	Plays	n.d.
	6	Plays	n.d.
4	1	Annotated Bibliography of Hymnals	n.d.
	2	Wellesley Notebook	n.d.
	3	Wellesley Notebook	n.d.
	4	Dissertation	4/1978
	5	Word Games	n.d.
	6	Word Games	n.d.
	7	Joke Book	n.d.

Series III: Original Writings Published

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	1	Original Writings	n.d.
	2	Original Writings	11/1946-1991

Series IV: Course and Workshop Materials

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	3	Handbells	n.d.
	4	Hymnology	n.d.
	5	Hymnology	n.d.

Series V: Published Interview

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	6	Published Interview	11/1982

Series VI: Published Music

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
6	1	Published Music	1931-1936
	2	Published Music	1937-1939
	3	Published Music	1940-1942
	4	Published Music	1943-1946
	5	Published Music	1947-1949
7	1	Published Music	1950-1952
	2	Published Music	1952-1954
	3	Published Music	1955
	4	Published Music	1956-1957
	5	Published Music	1958-1960
	6	Published Music	1961-1965
8	1	Published Music	1968-1975
	2	Published Music	1976-1977
	3	Published Music	1980-1984
	4	“Allen James” Published Music	1950-1963
	5	“Allen James” Published Music	1964-1982

Series VII: Rosemary Hadler

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
9	1	Original Writings	1963-1979
	2	The Younger Choirs Magazine	1958-1966
	3	The Younger Choirs Magazine	1966-1969
	4	Published Music	1940-1967
	5	Published Music	1967-1977

Series VIII: Unpublished Music

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
10	1	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	2	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	3	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	4	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	5	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	6	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	7	Unpublished Music	n.d.
11	1	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	2	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	3	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	4	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	5	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	6	Unpublished Music	n.d.
12	1	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	2	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	3	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	4	Unpublished Music	n.d.
	5	Unpublished Music	n.d.