

MS-669: Virginia Hamilton “A Hometown Celebration” Scrapbook

Collection Number: MS-669

Title: Virginia Hamilton “A Hometown Celebration” Scrapbook

Dates: 2005-2006

Creator: Banta, Gratia

Scope and Content:

Virginia Hamilton, a distinguished African-American author from Yellow Springs, Ohio, was a distinguished author of children and young adult books. This scrapbook commemorates a celebration of Hamilton’s life that was held on October 29, 2005, at the Yellow Springs Community Library. Hamilton’s husband Arnold Adoff and children Jaime and Leah assisted with the event. The event was an all-day affair that featured speakers and workshops for young writers. The scrapbook includes reproduced photographs, clippings, guest book, and marketing materials surrounding the event.

Quantity/Physical Description: 0.5 linear foot (1 scrapbook)

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 restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use:

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 Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright.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-669, Virginia Hamilton: A Hometown Celebration Scrapbook, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

The scrapbook was donated to Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University Libraries, by the creator Gratia Banta, by way of Stephanie Bange, Director of the Educational Resource Center at Wright State University, in December 2013.

Arrangement:

The collection consists of one scrapbook arranged in its original order (roughly chronological).

Other Finding Aid:

The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at <https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms669.pdf>.

Processed by:

Finding aid written according to DACS standards by Abbey Search, October 2019.

Biographical/Historical Note:

Virginia Hamilton, was a distinguished author of children and young adult books, as well as an African-American woman from Yellow Springs, Ohio. She is known for including complex ideas and understanding for African Americans in her writing. Virginia became interested in literature and writing at a young age in Yellow Springs. She began reading as an escape from the Depression then entered a contest at the Yellow Springs Library. That was the first prize Virginia won as a writer, the prize was a collection of fairy tales. Hamilton was a very creative young woman. She was not only a writer, but she entered public speaking competitions, she sung at different events, and she wrote the class play while she was a senior in high school. She went on to win many awards for her writings which total over forty novels and collections of stories. She wrote about her past and her love for Ohio. Virginia was closely tied to Yellow Springs and the Yellow Springs Library, which is why the library put on the memorial they did. She is the only children's book author who has won a MacArthur grant. She has also won a plethora of other awards for her writings.

Hamilton's family was centered in Yellow Springs, but she left for New York and became a publisher. After fifteen years, she returned to Yellow Springs with her husband, Arnold Adoff, to raise their two children, Jaime and Leigh. Hamilton died in 2002 of breast cancer.

The scrapbook creator, Gratia Banta, was an artist and a librarian at Germantown Public Library. Stephanie Bange, the facilitator of the donation, was the Director of the Educational Resource Center at Wright State University at the time of the scrapbook's donation in 2013.

Subject Terms**Persons/Families**

Hamilton, Virginia, 1936-2002

Organizations/Corporate Names

Yellow Springs Library Association
Yellow Springs Community Foundation
Greene County Public Library

Places

Yellow Springs (Ohio) -- Authors

Subjects (General)

African American authors
Writers' workshops

Material Types

Newspaper clippings
Photographs
Scrapbooks