

The Whitney Library
New Haven Colony Historical Society

Manuscript Register

MSS #272

**TAMARA L. COMPTON PAPERS
[MARY HUNTER WOLF]**

Arranged and described

by

Bonnie Campbell and Wendy Hallabeck

1999

Introduction

Mary Hunter Wolf founded the first interracial theatre in Chicago and was one of the first women to direct a Broadway play. She also founded the Center for Theatre Techniques in Education and other related arts-in-education programs in the greater New Haven area. Mary Hunter Wolf founded the Center for Theatre Techniques in Education in 1966 as an educational branch of the American Shakespeare Theatre, with the purpose of using theatre to stimulate creative thinking and sharpen the ability to learn. She used New Haven as a demonstration site for the Talent Search Model Program, identifying culturally diverse students in urban areas with potential to become gifted adults. She also established a working relationship with the Educational Center for the Arts (ECA). Throughout her years of involvement with the New Haven community, she served on the boards for the Arts Council of Greater New Haven and the City Spirit Artists Program.

This collection consists of material gathered by Tamara L. Compton for her dissertation (1992) on Mary Hunter Wolf. The collection includes correspondence (1989-1993) with Mary Hunter Wolf and her former colleagues, small audio tapes of interviews conducted in 1991-1993, and larger audio tapes of interviews from 1986. Also included are research materials regarding her life and her professional theatre work such as scripts and theatre programs, materials regarding her work with the Center for Theatre Techniques in Education and other related arts-in-education programs in the greater New Haven area, copies of research notes on Mary Hunter Wolf's life and professional work, and a copy of Tamara L. Compton's dissertation on Mary Hunter Wolf.

MSS #272 TAMARA L. COMPTON PAPERS [MARY HUNTER WOLF]

Box

1

Contents

Dissertation "Mary Hunter Wolf -- director, producer, educator : building communities through theatre" by Tamara L. Compton
 Chicago stagebill yearbook 1947 / William Leonard ed. -- Chicago : Chicago Stagebill, 1947.
 The happy journey to Camden and Trenton / Thornton Wilder. -- New York : Samuel French, 1962.
 High button shoes / Stephen Longstreet. -- New York : Samuel French, 1949.
 In the valley and other Carolina plays / Paul Green. -- New York : Samuel French, 1928.
 No exit and three other plays / Jean-Paul Sartre. -- New York : Vintage, 1976.
 Soviet and East European performance / Daniel Gerould and Alma Law, editors. -- [s.l. : Center for Advanced Study in Theatre Arts], 1991.

Scripts
 All the way home / Lynn Riggs
 Los Moros
 Only the heart (1944)
 Out of dust / Lynn Riggs

Correspondence from Paul Green archives
 Photo copies of research material from archives and published sources
 Audio tapes of interviews with Mary Hunter Wolf
 Accordion file of correspondence and tapes including letters from Agnes de Mille and Jerome Robbins
 Broadway playbills

2

Earth horizon / Mary Austin. -- New York : The Literary Guild, 1932.
 Mary Austin : song of a maverick / Esther Lanigan Stineman. -- New Haven : Yale University Press, 1989.

Notebooks of research
 Chicago days and first years in New York City c. 1928-1936
 American Actors Company
 Miscellaneous biographical information and background on women
 In theatre
 Family background : early life until age 21
 Miscellaneous shows, television, American Shakespeare Festival
 Theatre
 Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers and miscellaneous related information
 Broadway shows
 New stages and additional Broadway shows

BoxContents

- 3 Research and interview notes taken after the dissertation was completed
- Transcript of tapes 12 and 13 of an interview with Mary Hunter Wolf
- Transcript of interview of Mary Hunter Wolf by Sally Reis
- Photocopies of material regarding educating gifted females
- Rough draft of Victor B. Miller's "A Community of Learning"
- Information about the Center for Creative Youth
- Academic preparation for college : what students need to know and be able to do / College Board, 1983.
- Notebooks
- Minutes of Center for Theatre Techniques in Education, Inc.
 - Description of program activities
 - Reactions to programs
- Mary Hunter Wolf chronology
- Statistical summary of Broadway directors (1894-1983)
- Quotes about Mary Hunter Wolf
- Drama Tech booklets
- Counseling using theatre techniques booklet
- Material related to the Center for Theatre Techniques in Education and arts in education
- Bananas and fifty four other varieties : a book of activities to do with kids / Millie Grenough et al. -- New Haven : s.n., 1980.
- Connecticut's common core of learning / Connecticut State Board of Education. -- [s.l. : s.n.], 1987.
- Developmental identification of the gifted / John Dixon, et al. -- Stratford : Center for Theatre Techniques in Education, 198-.
- Explore your child's gifts / Susan Hill. -- [s.l. : Center for Theatre Techniques in Education, State Department of Education, and New Haven Public Schools], 1982.
- A guidebook to theatre for the technical school / Robin Keefe ed. -- [s.l. : State Department of Education and the Center for Theatre Techniques in Education], 198-.
- More ideas for kids : classroom principles and activities in the creative arts for use with handicapped students. -- [s.l. : s.n.], 19--.
- New approaches to teaching Shakespeare / Mary Hunter Wolf and Victor B. Miller. -- Stratford : Center for Theatre Techniques in Education, 198-.
- Talent search and development in the visual and performing arts : user's guide / Lynne D. Niro and Mary Hunter Wolf. -- Hamden : Center for Theatre Techniques in Education, Inc., 198-.
- Theatre's different demands : an approach to the classroom teaching of plays / Mary Hunter Wolf and Victor B. Miller. -- [s.l. : s.n.], 198-.

Box

3

Contents

The urban-rural exchange : exploring two American cultures through the arts / Alice B. Hadler, John Dixon, and Sharyn A. Esdaile. -- [s.l. : Advocate Press], 1981.

Words from the heart volume 5 : an anthology of creative writings by the students from Betsy Ross Arts magnet school / Ivy Russell ed. -- [s.l. : s.n.], 19--.