



ArchivesSpace

Guide to the Nettie Jones Papers UP002734

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Walter P. Reuther Library

5401 Cass Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202

URL: <http://reuther.wayne.edu>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Walter P. Reuther Library
Creator:	Jones, Nettie
Title:	Nettie Jones Papers
ID:	UP002734
Date [inclusive]:	1971-2017
Physical Description:	3 Linear Feet 3 SB
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	Material entirely in English.
Abstract:	This collection documents the career and personal life of author Nettie Jones.

Citation Style

"Nettie P. Jones Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University"

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History

Nettie Pearl Jones, an African American author, was born in Arlington, Georgia in 1941 to working class parents. Her father was in the US Army where he fought in the European Theatre in WWII; and her mother migrated north to Detroit to find work in the automotive industry. For the earliest years of her life, her grandparents in the South raised her. When she was four years old, she and her sister Bernice were taken to Detroit to live with their mother.

Jones attended Central High School and from there received a Bachelors degree in Secondary Education in 1963 from Wayne State University. She holds a Masters in Education from Marygrove College and continued her studies at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City majoring in Advertising and Communications. In 1990 she attended the University of Chicago Divinity School, focusing on Arts in Ministry. In the 1950s, Frank Yerby and Richard Wright were the only novelists of color available to her at her library. This inspired Jones to seek out others, only to find that there were very few at that time.

She professes that her writing was greatly influenced by the techniques of advertising copy taught to her while attending the Fashion Institute of Technology; and she accredits her sparseness of style to Ernest Hemingway.

In addition to several works in progress, Nettie Jones' published works include the novels: *Fish Tales*, 1984, and *Mischief Makers*, 1989. As well as various other short stories, articles, reviews, video scripts, and autobiographical works such as: *Jack in the Box*, 1987; *When Crack Comes Home*, 1989; *Nettie Unbound*, 1989; *Reed to Reed*, 1989; *Abubakari's Quest*, 1992; *A Way Back Home*, 1994; and *African American Women Speak Out on Anita Hill*, 1995. Throughout her career as an author, she has received numerous awards. Her honors include and are not limited to: an Ado Fellowship from the New York Guide to the Council of the Arts in 1983, she was a multiple time recipient of awards from the Michigan Council of the Arts, a National Endowment of the Arts Individual Award in 1989, and a multiple time recipient of the Carnegie Fund for Authors Award.

Along with her distinguished career as writer, Nettie Jones has taught and worked in many schools, colleges, and universities across the United States. She has also had the opportunity to work with several notable people such as: Toni Morrison, Gayl Jones, and Faith Childs.

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Scope and Content

This collection documents the career and personal life of author Nettie Jones.

Series 1: Personal Life and Career, 1971-2017. Series consists of correspondence, journals, newspaper clippings, literary reviews, research, notes, photographs, and biographical material that reflect Nettie Jones' personal life and the development of her career and growth as an author.

Series 2: Published and Unpublished Works, 1974-2017. Series 2 is comprised of manuscripts, drafts, contracts, and published versions of several of her works which document the phases of her writings and the trajectory of her career.

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged in 2 series - Series 1 (Box 1) and Series 2 (Boxes 1-3). Folders in series 1 are arranged alphabetically by subject and folders in series 2 are arranged chronologically.

Series 1: Personal Life and Career, 1971-2017 (Box 1)

Series 2: Published and Unpublished Works, 1974-2017 (Box 1-3)

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Walter P. Reuther Library

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Acquisition

This collection was donated to the Walter P. Reuther Library by Nettie P. Jones in 2016 and 2017.

Processing History

Processed and finding aid written by Elizabeth Nicholson on September 14, 2017.

Access

Collection is open for research.

Use

Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library "Rules for Use of Archival Materials." Restrictions: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.

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Controlled Access Headings

- African American women

- African American authors

Collection Inventory

Series 1

Title/Description	Instances	
Biographical Materials; 1970-2017	Box 1	Folder 1
Correspondence; 1999-2013	Box 1	Folder 2
Correspondence; 1976-2015	Box 1	Folder 3
Correspondence- Agents; 1995-1988	Box 1	Folder 4
Correspondence- Draft; 2010	Box 1	Folder 5
Grant and Fellowship Applications; 1988-2016	Box 1	Folder 6
Journals; 2011-2012	Box 1	Folder 7
Journals; 2012-2013	Box 1	Folder 8
Literary Reviews; 1984-2004	Box 1	Folder 9
New York University Gallatin School of Individualized Study; undated, 2009	Box 1	Folder 10
Photographs; various dates	Box 1	Folder 11
Research, Notes, and Interests; 1980-2013	Box 1	Folder 12
Research, Notes, and Interests; undated, 1995-2013	Box 1	Folder 13

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Series 2

Title/Description	Instances	
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; undated (1 of 2)	Box 1	Folder 14
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; undated (2 of 2)	Box 1	Folder 15
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1978	Box 1	Folder 16
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1979 (1 of 2)	Box 1	Folder 17
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1979 (2 of 2)	Box 2	Folder 1
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1980 (1 of 2)	Box 2	Folder 2
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1980 (2 of 2)	Box 2	Folder 3
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1981 (1 of 2)	Box 2	Folder 4

"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1981 (2 of 2)	Box 2	Folder 5
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1982 (1 of 2)	Box 2	Folder 6
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1982 (2 of 2)	Box 2	Folder 7
"Fish Tales": Manuscripts; 1983	Box 2	Folder 8
"Fish Tales": Galley Proof; 1983-09-13	Box 2	Folder 9
"Fish Tales": Published Novel; 1983	Box 2	Folder 10
"Fish Tales": Contracts and Copyright; 1982, 1998	Box 2	Folder 11
"Fish Tales": Prologue; 2013	Box 2	Folder 12
"Mischiefs Makers": Novel; 1989	Box 2	Folder 13
"Mischiefs Makers": Contracts and Copyright; 1987-1997	Box 2	Folder 14
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; undated	Box 2	Folder 15
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 1996	Box 2	Folder 16
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 1998	Box 2	Folder 17
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2001	Box 2	Folder 18
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2003	Box 2	Folder 19
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2004	Box 2	Folder 20
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2010	Box 3	Folder 1
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2011	Box 3	Folder 2
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2012	Box 3	Folder 3
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2013	Box 3	Folder 4
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2015	Box 3	Folder 5
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2017-02-08, 2017-02-11	Box 3	Folder 6
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2017-02-27	Box 3	Folder 7
"Detroit: Beauty In This Beast": Manuscripts; 2017-04-16	Box 3	Folder 8
The Grand Hotel Advertising Campaign for Jackie Lewis; 1974-1975	Box 3	Folder 9
"When Crack Comes Home": Detroit Free Press Magazine; 1989	Box 3	Folder 10
"Abubakari's Quest"; 1992	Box 3	Folder 11
"A Way Back Home": Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series, vol. 20; 1994	Box 3	Folder 12
"Anita at the Battle of the Bush: Thomas on the Hill: Dark Town Strutters Ball"; 1995, 2013	Box 3	Folder 13
"Damsels in Distress": Drafts; 1996	Box 3	Folder 14

Work as a Publicist; 2001	Box 3	Folder 15
Cookbook and Recipes- Jackie Lewis/Jackie's on the Reef: Drafts; 2005	Box 3	Folder 16
"Jamaica Memoir": Drafts; 2011-2012	Box 3	Folder 17
Autobiographical Writing: Draft; 2012	Box 3	Folder 18
"Street Scene on Sibley": Draft; 2012	Box 3	Folder 19
"Knock the Door Down Nettie Pearl": Drafts; undated, 2013	Box 3	Folder 20
"The Ancestors- Paternal Lineage: Recalled": Draft; 2013	Box 3	Folder 21

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