THE MILES POETRY COMMITTEE COLLECTION

Papers, 1946-1974

.75 linear feet

Accession Number 150

The papers of the Miles Poetry Committee originally were given to the University Archives by Mrs. George Drury in November, 1964, and were open to researchers May, 1965. Additional material was added by Chester Cable in September, 1974.

The Miles Modern Poetry Room and Miles Poetry Committee were established in 1946 with funds collected by Dorothy Thompson Miles and friends of Theodore Miles, assistant professor of English, who was killed in World War II. As a memorial to Miles, the Miles Modern Poetry Room was established by Wayne University and was located in the General Library. The Room was formally opened in January, 1947, was used by the Committee and housed a continuing collection comprised primarily of books of poetry, manuscripts, and recordings of poets reading their works.

Since 1949, the Miles Poetry Committee has sponsored an annual Modern Poetry Week which includes visits by famous poets for lectures and readings of their poetry, and student-faculty poetry readings.

The papers of the Miles Poetry Committee reflect contributions to the encouragement of culture, in the form of modern poetry, on the campus of Wayne University and later, Wayne State University.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

- Miles Poetry Room
- Modern Poetry Week
- Student poetry
Among the correspondents are: (an index to the location of these letters may be found on the last page of this guide)

Berryman, John
Bogan, Louise
Brinnin, John Malcolm
Brooks, Cleanth
Cable, Chester
Ciardi, John
Cummings, E.E.
Drury, Finvola
Hillyer, Robert
Huff, Robert
Jarrell, Randall
MacLeish, Archibald
Miles, Dorothy
Moore, Marianne
Peck, George
Purdy, G. Flint
Randall, Dudley
Spender, Stephen
Shapiro, Karl
Stearns, Martin
Stevens, Wallace
Wilbur, Richard
Williams, Oscar

Contents

2 manuscript boxes

Boxes 1 – 2

Correspondence and financial data of the Miles Poetry Committee and correspondence, programs, clippings and poetry pertaining to the annual Modern Poetry Weeks are contained in this collection. Papers of the Miles Poetry Committee are arranged chronologically and precede papers pertaining to Poetry Weeks, which are also listed in chronological order. Collections of poetry and miscellaneous items from the Miles Poetry Room are last.

Miles Memorial Poets

1947 Cleanth Brooks
1948 Stephen Spender
1949 Randall Jarrell
1950 Dylan Thomas
1951 Oscar Williams
1952 John Berryman
1953 Louise Bogan
1954 John Ciardi
1955 Stephen Spender
1956 Richard Wilbur
1957 Edith Sitwell
1958 James Wright
Donald Hall
Anthony Hecht
1959 Stanley Kunitz
1960 Robert Lowell
1961 Karl Shapiro
1962 Randall Jarrell
1963 Archibald MacLeish
1964 Anthony Hecht
1966 W.D. Snodgrass
1967 John B. Logan
1968 Anthony Hecht
1969 John Berryman
Box 1

1. Miles Poetry Committee - Correspondence, Clippings, Collection Report, 1946 - 1959
3. Miles Poetry Committee - Correspondence, List of Members, Clipping, 1964-1967
4. Miles Poetry Committee - Correspondence, 1968
5. Poetry Week 1948 - Correspondence, Clippings, 1947-1948
6. Poetry Week 1949 - Correspondence, Poetry, Clippings, March-May, 1949
7. Poetry Week 1950 - Correspondence, Clippings, October, 1949 - May, 1950
8. Poetry Week 1951 - Announcement, Correspondence, Clippings, January - May, 1951
9. Poetry Week 1952 - Announcement, Correspondence, Clippings, April - May, 1952
10. Poetry Week 1953 - Announcements, Correspondence, Lecture, Poetry, Clippings, January - May, 1953
11. Poetry Week 1954 - Announcements, Correspondence, Program, Poetry, Clippings, February - May, 1954
13. Poetry Week 1956 - Announcement, Correspondence, Programs, Bibliography, Poetry, Clippings, May, 1955 - May, 1956
14. Poetry Week 1957 - Correspondence, May, 1956 - February, 1957
15. Poetry Week 1957 - Correspondence, March - May, 1957
17. Poetry Week 1957 (Dame Edith Sitwell) - Chronology, Bibliography, Photograph, 1957
19. Poetry Week 1959 - Program, Poetry, April, 1959
20. Poetry Week 1960 - Program, Poetry, Clipping, Fall, 1959-February, 1960
21. Poetry Week 1963 - Program, April, 1963
22. Poetry Week 1964 - Program, Lecture, Poetry, Clippings, April, 1964
23. Poetry Week 1965 - Bibliography, Announcement, April - May, 1965

Box 2

1. Poetry Week 1966 - Agenda, Program, Poetry, May, 1966
2. Poetry Week 1967 - Correspondence, Clippings, April, 1967
7. Poets' Signed Letters and Poems, 1940-1965
8. Milestone: 1, 1948
10. Caedmon Recordings of the Spoken Word — Catalog, 1957
11. — 12. Poetry
Index to Correspondence

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