

6-9-2016

McGinty, Doris

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**Guide to the Doris McGinty Papers
DCAAP.0045**

**Moorland-Spingarn Research Center,
Howard University Collection Number xxx**

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June 09, 2016

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Washington DC, 20052

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Summary Information

Repository	DC Africana Archives Project
Title	Doris McGinty Papers
Date	1885-2001
Extent	31.0 Cubic feet
Location note	This collection is part of the holdings of the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University, 500 Howard Place, NW, Washington, DC 20059. Please contact them for information on accessing these materials.
Language	English
Abstract	Doris McGinty was a music scholar who spent most of her career teaching in the Department of Music at Howard University. Her files contain correspondence, writings, photographs, programs, ephemera, and sheet music. The bulk of her collection is made up of research files on African-American music, particularly on musicians such as Duke Ellington and Paul Robeson. Among the research files are files on D.C. institutions including Howard University and the Howard Theater.

Biographical/Historical note

Doris McGinty was born in Washington, D.C. in 1925. McGinty attended public schools in the District, including Dunbar High School. In 1945, McGinty earned her bachelor's degree in music education and a degree in German from Howard University. After her undergraduate studies, McGinty served as a librarian in the music department at the Library of Congress. She later earned her graduate degree in music from Radcliffe College, where she was the only African-American in her class. McGinty completed her education by earning her doctorate from Oxford University, one of the first Americans to earn a doctorate in music from the University. She dedicated over 40 years to Howard University's Department of Music, chairing the department at the end of her career. With her decades of service to Howard, McGinty interacted with much of the student body throughout her career. Focused on the role of African-American artists in the development of American music, McGinty specifically studied local musicians in Washington, D.C. She was a regular contributor to scholarly journals such as the *Black Music Research Journal* and co-authored *Paul Robeson, Artist and Citizen and National Association of Negro Musicians: A Documentary History*. McGinty also served on the boards of music organizations, including the National Symphony Orchestra Outreach Committee and the Journal of American Music. Elected to the Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor society, McGinty received Fulbright Fellowships in (1950, 1951), a Phelps-Stokes Caribbean Exchange Fellowship (1974), National Endowment for the Humanities Award (1984, 1987, 1991), and an Outstanding Service acknowledgement for the Promotion of Music Education by the National Association for the Study and Performance of African American Music. Her other scholarly activities include acting as a consultant for D.C.-related music documentaries, including *Lillian Evanti* (1988) and *Jessye Norman* (1989).

Scope and Contents note

The Doris McGinty papers span McGinty's education and career as a music librarian and the Library of Congress and as a professor in the Department of Music at Howard University. Her files contain correspondence, writings, photographs, programs, ephemera, and sheet music. The bulk of her collection is made up of research files on African-American music, particularly on musicians such as Duke Ellington and Paul Robeson. Among the research files are files on D.C. institutions including Howard University and the Howard Theater. The collection also contains many newsclippings from the *Indianapolis Freeman* and the *Washington Tribune*.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

DC Africana Archives Project

Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use note

Some material may be copyrighted or restricted. It is the patron's obligation to determine and satisfy copyright or other case restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials found in the collections.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

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