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RALPH J. YOUNG PAPERS

Collection 29-1 to 29-5

Prepared by:  
Wilda Logan Willis  
December 1984

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Scope Note

Dr. Ralph Jonathan Young (1893-1968) physician and civic leader served the East Baltimore community for over 48 years. The papers donated by his daughter, Dr. Lois Young in 1975, totals six linear feet and reflect Dr. Young's medical and civic work throughout his career. The collection dates from 1902-1970s.

Included among the papers of Dr. Young are letters and news-clippings documenting his activities in fighting for equality and justice. Dr. Young wrote to senators, governors, and editors of newspapers to address his concerns. He spoke out against inequality and segregation in the medical field, education, and recreation. His commitment and civic mindedness led to his candidacy for Baltimore's City Council in 1951. The collection documents this campaign.

Dr. Young was well respected by the Baltimore community, and in response to his efforts he was awarded many certificates and honors. The collection includes many of these honors. Also noteworthy in the collection is the photographs which highlight Dr. Young's career, his early life and family.

### Biographical Data

#### Ralph J. Young

1893 Sept. 27	Born in Knoxville, Tennessee to Aaron Young and Catherine Spears Young.
1912	Graduated from Boy's High School in Reading, Pennsylvania.
1916	Received Bachelor of Science degree from Howard University.
1919	Received Doctor of Medicine Degree from Howard University.
1919-1920	Interned at Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, D.C.

- 1920                    Established medical practice in East Baltimore, Maryland.
- 1921-1935            Served as clinician in the Baltimore City Health Department.
- 1924                    Married Addie Rebecca Turner, this union produced one daughter, Lois Young.
- 1936                    Appointed chairman of the Board of Visitors at Henryton State Tuberculosis Sanitorium
- 1942                    Baltimore Afro-American cited Dr. Young as one of the ten outstanding citizens because of interest and activities in the community
- 1944                    The first Negro appointed clinician in medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital.
- 1946                    Appointed member of staff of medicine I at Johns Hopkins hospital.

- 1947                    The Chick Webb Memorial Recreation Center was opened. (Dr. Young served for many years as chairman of the committee that raised funds to build the center).
- 1951-1962            Served as member of the Maryland State Board of Health.
- 1954                    Appointed Alumni Athletic Committee Chairman of Howard University.
- 1962                    Received Honorary LL.D degree from Morgan State College.
- 1966                    Received Mayor's Citation for Public Service.
- Ralph J. Young Testimonial Dinner held in Baltimore, Maryland.
- 1968 Nov. 15        Died in Baltimore, Maryland

Memberships Include:

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity  
Baltimore Venereal Diseases  
Commission  
Chi Delta Mu Fraternity  
Commission of Criminal Justice  
Maryland Hospital Planning  
Committee  
National Medical Association  
Urban League

Source: Ralph Young Papers, Personal Papers Series.

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### Series Description

- Series A      Family and Personal Papers
- Box 29-1      Family papers include information on Ralph Young's parents. Personal papers include obituary material; military papers; educational, civic and professional materials; financial receipt; information on Young's candidacy for Baltimore's City Council; (see also Series H - Artifacts for campaign buttons and poster); and appointment letters to Johns Hopkins University. The materials are arranged in alphabetical order by subject.
- Series B      Correspondence
- Box 29-2      Arranged in alphabetical order, the correspondence cover all aspects of Dr. Young's medical, professional, civic and fraternal affiliations. The correspondence highlight Dr. Young's efforts against all forms of injustices.
- Series C      About Young
- Box 29-2      This series include clippings, printed material on Dr. Young. Some material

are biographical and some highlight various projects in which Dr. Young was affiliated. Of special note is material

relating to the Ralph J. Young Testimonial Dinner, held in 1966 (See Series F for the photographs of the dinner).

Series D Awards and Certificates

Box 29-3 This series contain diplomas; a degree, citations and certificates awarded to Dr. Young. This series reflects Dr. Young's service to many organizations. Arrangement is alphabetical by organization.

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Series E Writings

Box 29-3 to 29-4 The majority of this series include speeches and reports by Dr. Young. Some of the speeches were broadcasted over local radio stations. Some of the writings are full text, some are in outline form. Of note is Dr. Young's acceptance speech at Morgan State College in 1962. Dr. Young's writings are arranged in alphabetical order by title or subject.

This series also include writings by others. This material is arranged in alphabetical order by author.

Series F Photographs

Box 29-4 to 29-5 The photographs cover all aspects of Dr. Young's life from childhood to his professional career. The photographs date from 1902-1960s.

Series G Oversized Items

Box 29-5 This series contain oversized certificates, a post high school diploma;

photographs; a city council campaign poster; three city council campaign buttons and one - 78 rpm recording disc on the 1951 city council campaign.

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## Container List

### A Family and Personal Papers

Box	Folder
29-1	1 Family Papers - Aaron J. Young (father) clippings on death
	2 Family Papers - Katherine Spears Young (mother) - Obituary - 1936
	Personal Papers
	3 Army, U.S. - Honorable Discharge Papers - 1918
	4 Baltimore City Medical Society - Delegate card - 1955
	5 Chick Webb Memorial Recreation Center- Invitation - 1955
	6 City Council Candidacy - Affidavit and Certificate - 1951
	7 City Council Candidacy - Clipping - 1951
	8 City Council Candidacy - Printed Announcement - 1951
	9 City Council Candidacy - Printed Flyer - 1951
	10 Howard University - Certificate of Applicant for Admission - 1912
	11 Howard University - Medical Endowment- receipt for contribution
	12 Howard University - Yearbook - 1916
	13 Johns Hopkins University - Faculty Data Card - n.d.
	14 Johns Hopkins University - Letters of Appointment - 1948, 1953-1963
	15 Reading Boys High School -Graduation Announcement - 1912
	16 In Memoriam - biographical sketch in a Howard University publication - February, 1969
	17 In Memoriam - Biographical sketch in Journal of the National Medical

- Association 1969  
18 in Memoriam - Biographical sketch -  
Printed

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A Family and Personal Papers (cont'd)

- | Box  | Folder   |
|------|--|
| 29-1 | 19 In Memoriam - Biographical sketch -<br>Typescript       |
|      | 20 In Memoriam - Clippings                                 |
|      | 21 In Memoriam - Correspondence A to T                     |
|      | 22 In Memoriam - Encapsulated Obituary<br>notices          |
|      | 23 In Memoriam - Memorial Service Program<br>Nov. 19, 1968 |
|      | 24 In Memoriam - Register of Visitors<br>(2 items)         |
|      | 25 In Memoriam - Register of Visitors                      |

B Correspondence

- |      |                         |
|------|-------------------------|
| 29-2 | 1 Correspondence A to D |
|      | 2 Correspondence E to J |
|      | 3 Correspondence L to H |
|      | 4 Correspondence N to P |
|      | 5 Correspondence S to Y |
|      | 6 Other Correspondents  |

C About Young

- 7 Baltimore health News July 1944
- 8 Baltimore Urban League Annual Report  
- 1946
- 9 Chi Delta Mu - Convention - clippings-  
1959
- 10 Chi Delta Mu - Program - 1950
- 11 Clippings
- 12 Clippings
- 13 John A. Andrew Clinical Society 1952  
and 1957
- 14 Historical Review of Becks County -1962
- 15 Howard University Alumni Association  
Baltimore Chapter honoree - Clipping  
1948
- 16 Howard University Journal - football  
team - 1914



- 17 Morgan State College Commencement  
Activities - Clippings - 1962
- 18 Morgan State College Commencement  
Program - 1962

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### C About Young (cont'd)

Box	Folder
29-2	19 Ralph Young Junior high School - Baltimore, Md. - Ralph Young Day Program - 1973
	20 Ralph Young Portrait Presentation - Chick Webb Memorial Recreation Center
	21 The Red and Black - 1912
	22 Roster of United Grand Lodge - 1931 P. 5
	23 Testimonial Dinner - Clipping 1966
	24 Testimonial Dinner - Program 1966
	25 Wayfarer - 1967 p.5

### D Awards and Certificates

Box 29-3	1 Afro-American - Certificate 1942
	2 Association of Former Interns and Residents of Freedmen's hospital - Certificate - 1953
	3 Baltimore Urban League Certificate N.D.
	4 Chi Delta Mu Fraternity Certificate 1956
	5 Chi Delta Mu Fraternity Certificate 1958
	6 The Frontiers of America Certificate and Membership Card - 1951-1952
	7 Howard University Alumni Association of Baltimore - Certificates
	8 Howard University General Alumni Association - Certificate - 1953
	9 Howard University Football -Certificate 1918
	10 Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Kappa Chapter - Certificate 1952
	11 Independent Order of Saint Luke -1967
	12 Maryland - appointment to State of Maryland Advisory Council on Hospital Construction - Certificates 1947 and 1949

- 13 Maryland - Appointment to State of  
Maryland board of Visitors Sanatorium  
for Colored Persons, Henryton, MD.  
Certificates - 1937 and 1945

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D Awards and Certificates (cont'd )

Box	Folder
29-3	14 Morgan State College - honorary Doctor of Law Degree and cover - 1962
	15 Morgan State College - Honorary Doctor of Laws - Citation - 1962
	16 Ralph J. Young Day in Baltimore - Proclamation - 1973 - xerox copy
	17 Testimonial Dinner - Mayor's Citation 1966

E Writings

- 18 "Behavior of School Children and  
Advice to Parents" - N.D. - speech  
holograph
- 19 Chi Delta Mu health, Educational and  
Civic Program Committee - 1957 -  
report - holograph
- 20 Chick Webb Memorial Benefit - 1940 -  
speech - holograph
- 21 "Doctors Visiting the Sick" - n.d. - speech  
holograph
- 22 Last Baltimore Citizens Association -  
on F.E.P.C. Bill - n.d. - speech -  
holograph
- 23 Editorial Replies - clippings
- 24 "Education" - N.D. - speech - holograph
- 25 "The Evaluation of Antibiotic Agents  
in the Treatment of Venereal Diseases"  
1952 - speech - typescript
- 26 On history of a local Club - N.D. -  
holograph
- 27 Howard University Distinguished Alumni  
Award Acceptance Speech - n.d. -  
holograph

By Young

- 28 Howard University Former Interns  
Association N.D. - speech - typescript

- 29 "Illegitimacy" N.D. holographic notes  
 30 "Illness is Color Blind" - N.D. - type-  
 script and holographic notes

E Writings (cont'd)

By Young

Box	Folder
29-3	31 Maryland Tuberculosis Association - 1945 - report - typescript
	32 "The Measure of Man" - 1911 - holograph
	33 Morgan State College - Acceptance Speech - 1962 - holograph
	34 On National Negro health Movement - 1947 - typescript (2 copies)
	35 On Negro health - n.d. - holographic notes - statistics
	36 On Negro History - n.d. holographic notes
	37 "The Negro Past, Present and Predicted Future" - n.d.
	38 "Negro Politics" - n.d.
	39 "News of the Community" n.d.
	40 On Nursing - n.d.
	41 Speeches as President of the John A. Andrew Clinical Society - n.d.
	42 "Racial Relations" - n.d.
	43 "The Right of Citizenship and its Privileges" n.d. The Role of the General Practitioner in the Trend of Medical Practice Today" n.d.
	45 Sociological Aspects of the Practice of Medicine in this Community" - n.d.
	46 "Tuberculosis" n.d.
29-4	1 "VD and the Private Physician" - n.d.
	2 "Why Aren't Cancer Tests Free" - n.d.
	3 "Rev. Williamson's 37th Anniversary - n.d.
	4 Notes

By Others

- 5 Gallagher, Buell G. - "Across A Perilous  
Terrain" - 1956 (75th Anniversary of  
the founding of Tuskegee Institute)

- 6 Paguin, Laurence G. - Recommendation --- a  
Joint Baltimore City Public Schools -  
Johns Hopkins University "Demonstration  
School"

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F Photographs

Box	Folder
29-4	7 Ralph Young's Place of Birth - Knoxville, Tenn. - House
	8 Ralph Young - Age 9 yrs. with sister Mamie 7 yrs.
	9 Ralph Young - during high school
	10 Ralph Young - at Howard University
	11 Ralph Young and Alpha Phi Alpha  Fraternity 1916
	12 Ralph Young - age 20 with Parents, sister and brothers
	13 Ralph Young - individual
	14 Ralph Young - individual
	15 Ralph Young - Mrs. Young and Lois Young
	16 Ralph Young - and Chi Delta Mu Fraternity
	17 Ralph Young and members of the Maryland State Board of Health
	18 Ralph Young and others at Testimonial Dinner - 1966
	19 Ralph Young and others at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama
	20 Ralph Young and others at identified activities
	21 Ralph Young and others - Ralph Young's office in Baltimore, ND.
	22 Ralph Young and others
	23 Chick Webb Memorial Recreation Center
	24 Marshall Jones Funeral home Exhibit honoring Ralph Young
	25 Theodore McKeldin
	26 Unidentified

G Oversized Items

29-5	1 Certificate Maryland - Appointment to the State Board of health - 1957
	2 Certificate - National Recreation Association - n.d.
	3 Diploma - Department of Public Instruction Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - 1915 (Post high school courses)
	4 Photograph - Ralph Young holding violin

- 5 Photograph - Ralph Young and Track Team -  
Reading boys high School - 1912

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G Oversized Items (cont'd)

Box	Item
29-5	6 Photograph - Ralph Young and Track Team - Reading Boys high School - 1912
	7 Photograph - Ralph Young and Football Team - Reading Boys High School - n.d.
	8 Photograph - Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity - Beta Chapter located at Howard University - 1914-1915
	9 Photograph - Howard University Football team photo - 1916
	10 Photograph - Ralph Young and Classmates dissecting a cadaver Howard University Medical School - Anatomy Class - 1919
	11 Photographs - Ralph Young Portraits "Proof Only" - 2 poses
	12 Photograph - Ralph Young and group of men - n.d.
	13 Photograph - Ralph Young receiving honorary LLD degree from Morgan State College - 1962
	14 Photograph - Ralph Young Maryland Health Department Staff 1921
	15 Photograph - Ralph Young and others
	16 Photograph - Ralph Young and others
	17 Photograph - Ralph Young, Lois Young and Mrs. Young at Lois' Graduation from the University of Maryland Medical School - 1960
	18 Photograph - The Chick Webb Memorial Recreational Center - n.d.
	19 Poster - "Republican Candidate for City Council;" "Vote for Ralph Young" May 8, 1951
	20 Buttons - City Council Campaign - 1951 three
	21 Recording - 78 rpm - City Council Campaign

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