

# Guide to the Dorothy Peterson Collection

## JWJ MSS 10



by Beinecke Staff

August 1996

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** JWJ MSS 10

**CREATOR:** Peterson, Dorothy Randolph

**TITLE:** Dorothy Peterson collection

**DATES:** 1877-1966

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.6 linear feet (5 boxes + 1 Broadside)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The Dorothy Peterson Collection contains Correspondence to Peterson from such persons as Langston Hughes, Nella Larsen, and Carl Van Vechten, as well as Jerome Bowers Peterson memorabilia.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.peterson>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.peterson>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Dorothy Peterson Collection contains items presented to the James Weldon Johnson Collection by Ms. Peterson and friends of hers.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Correspondence with Rudolph Fisher and Jean Toomer is restricted. Please consult the appropriate curator for further information.

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## **Conditions Governing Use**

The Dorothy Peterson Collection is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## **Preferred Citation**

Dorothy Peterson Collection. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## **Processing Information**

This finding aid was produced from a previously existing manuscripts inventory. All pertinent information has been retained. Former call number: JWJ MSS Small Collections.

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## **DOROTHY PETERSON**

Dorothy R. Peterson (1897-1978), was born June 21, 1897, to Jerome B. Peterson and Amelia S. Peterson in Brooklyn, New York. She as was a teacher of Spanish at Wadleigh High School in New York City and was involved with the Negro Actors' Guild. She died in Northampton, Massachusetts on November 4, 1978.

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## **Scope and Contents**

The Dorothy Peterson Collection contains Correspondence to Peterson from such persons as Langston Hughes, Nella Larsen, and Carl Van Vechten, as well as Jerome Bowers Peterson memorabilia.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1942-53

b. 1, f. 1	A-M General correspondence To: 28 / From: 0	1942-53
b. 1, f. 2	Alexander, Scholley Pace To: 2 / From: 0	1928, n.d.
b. 1, f. 3	American Council of African Education To: 2 / From: 0	1944
b. 1, f. 4	Barthé, Richmond To: 6 / From: 0	1956-59, n.d.
b. 1, f. 5	<a href="#">Boardman, Helen</a> Biographical eulogy "Jerome B. Peterson: A Negro Friend"	n.d.
b. 1, f. 6	Bontemps, Arna To: 9 / From: 0	1944-57
b. 1, f. 7	Bosley, Roberta To: 5 / From: 0	1945-46
b. 1, f. 8	Butler, Elizabeth To: 0 / From: 1	1949 May 1
b. 1, f. 9	Byrne, Margaret C. To: 5 / From: 0	1943-46
b. 1, f. 10	Campbell, Constance [Mrs. E. Sims] To: 3 / From: 0	1937
	Carter, Elmer A. <a href="#">See: Negro Actors Guild, Box 2, folder 34</a>	
b. 1, f. 11	Connelly, Marc To: 1 / From: 0	1930 Mar 4
b. 1, f. 12	Cullen, Countee Includes review of Knowlton Mixer's <i>Porto Rico</i> by Dorothy Peterson and letter to Carl Van Vechten from DP To: 7 / From: 0	1927-45
b. 1, f. 13	Delany, Hubert T. To: 1 / From: 0	1945 Jul 5
b. 1, f. 14	Ewing, Max To: 1 / From: 0	1933 Feb 20

	Fisher, Rudolph <a href="#">See: RESTRICTED CORRESPONDENCE, Box 5, folder 74</a>	1919-28
b. 1, f. 15	Harris, Dorothy To: 1 / From: 0	1930 Jan 13
b. 1, f. 16	Harrison, Richard B. Includes correspondence with Harrison, Laurence (To: 1 / From: 1) To: 2 / From: 0	1933, 1935
b. 1, f. 17	Hays, Arthur Garfield To: 1 / From: 0	1946 Apr 20
b. 1, f. 18	Hill, Leemar A. To: 7 / From: 0	1943-45
b. 1, f. 19-20	Hughes, Langston To: 16 / From: 0  Includes: "A House in Taos," "Greetings for Canada Lee," "The Ballad of Dorrie Miller," "Here to Yonder: Noblesse Oblige" and "The Christmas Story" by LH	1926-59
b. 1, f. 21	Hull, Elizabeth To: 1 / From: 0	ca. 1942-43
b. 1, f. 22	Jackman, Harold To: 4 / From: 0	1929, 1933, n.d.
b. 1, f. 23	<a href="#">Johnson, Charles</a> To: 3 / From: 0	1928-56
b. 1, f. 24	Johnson, Georgia Douglas To: 1 / From: 0	1946 Feb 26
b. 1, f. 25	Johnson, James Weldon To: 1 / From: 0  Johnson, J. Rosamond <a href="#">See: Negro Actor's Guild, Box 2, folder 34</a>	n.d.
b. 1, f. 26	<a href="#">Larsen, Nella</a> To: 6 / From: 0	1927, 1933, n.d.
b. 1, f. 27	Lewis, Theophilus To: 1 / From: 0	1929 Jan 22
b. 1, f. 28	Locke, Alain Includes letter from Locke to Alexander Scholley Pace To: 2 / From: 0	1929 Feb
b. 1, f. 29	Lutz, Mark To: 0 / From: 16	1964-66, n.d.

b. 1, f. 30	McClendon, Rose To: 1 / From: 0	1932 Apr 2
b. 1, f. 31	Morris, Newbold To: 1 / From: 0	1944 Dec 26
b. 1, f. 32	N-Z General correspondence To: 16 / From: 0	1943-56
b. 1, f. 33	Namara, Marguerite To: 3 / From: 0	n.d.
b. 2, f. 34	Negro Actors Guild Letters signed by Elmer A. Carter, J. Rosamond Johnson, Mabel A. Roane and Noble Sissle To: 33 / From: 0	1945-46
b. 2, f. 35	Nugent, Bruce To: 8 / From: 0	1928-29, n.d.
b. 2, f. 36	Peterson, Carla To: 8 / From: 0	1953-58, n.d.
b. 2, f. 37	Peterson, Danna To: 26 / From: 0	1951-59, n.d.
b. 2, f. 38	Peterson, Jane To: 15 / From: 0	1952-59, n.d.
b. 2, f. 39	Peterson, Jerome S. [Sid] To: 3 / From: 0	1946
b. 2, f. 40	Peterson, Vera To: 2 / From: 0	1954, n.d.
b. 2, f. 41	Reckling, Frances Kraft To: 1 / From: 0	1946 Feb 2
b. 2, f. 42	Redding, Saunders To: 1 / From: 0	1956 Mar 12
b. 2, f. 43	Robeson, Paul To: 1 / From: 0	1943 Dec 9
b. 2, f. 44	Rutherford, Thomas Includes letter from Snowball Crump To: 1 / From: 0	1936-42, n.d.
b. 2, f. 45	Schuyler, George To: 1 / From: 0	1956 Sep 27

	Sissle, Noble <a href="#">See: Negro Actors Guild, Box 2, folder 34</a>	
b. 2, f. 46	Southwest Harlem Neighborhood Council, Inc. To: 7 / From: 0	1946
	Toomer, Jean <a href="#">See: RESTRICTED CORRESPONDENCE, Box 5, folder 74</a>	1925-1934
b. 2, f. 47-52	Van Vechten, Carl To: 105 / From: 0	1925-41
b. 3, f. 53-65	Van Vechten, Carl To: 215 / From: 2	1942-54
b. 4, f. 66-69	<a href="#">Van Vechten, Carl</a> To: 101 / From: 0	1954-59, n.d.
b. 4, f. 70	White, Walter To: 1 / From: 0	1944 Jun 21
b. 4, f. 71	Wright, Richard To: 1 / From: 0	1940 Sep 15
b. 4, f. 72	Yurka, Blanche To: 1 / From: 0	1945 Mar 18
b. 4, f. 73	Unidentified correspondents To: 2 / From: 0	1942, 1944



**Series II. Jerome B. Peterson memorabilia, 1877-1904, undated**

b. 6 (Broadside)	Diploma, New York (City), Department of Public Instruction <i>1 Item</i> Inscribed, in part, "for punctual and regular attendance."	1877 April 3
b. 6 (Broadside)	Certificate of appointment as Consul at Puerto Cabello, Venezuela <i>1 Item ; 38 x 50 cm</i> Signed by Theodore Roosevelt.	1904 June 2
b. 6 (Broadside)	The first colored senator and representatives, in the 41st and 42nd Congress of the United States (print) <i>1 Item</i>	undated

**RESTRICTED CORRESPONDENCE, 1919-28**

Restricted material. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

b. 5, f. 74	Fisher, Rudolph 14 letters	1919-28
b. 5, f. 75-76	Toomer, Jean 27 letters	1925-1934

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

African American authors -- 20th Century --  
Archives  
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives

### **Names**

Hughes, Langston, 1902-1967  
Larsen, Nella, 1891-1964  
Peterson, Dorothy Randolph  
Peterson, Jerome Bowers  
Van Vechten, Carl, 1880-1964