



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Olivia Pearl Stokes papers

1936-1991

Sc MG 432

Summary

Creator: Stokes, Olivia Pearl, 1916-

Title: Olivia Pearl Stokes papers

Date: 1936-1991

Size: 4.5 linear feet (11 boxes)

Source: Gift, Stokes, Olivia Pearl, 06--/1991

Abstract: The Olivia Pearl Stokes Papers document many aspects of her life and career. The papers include correspondence, writings, files related to her professional activities and private affiliations, printed matter and miscellaneous files.

Preferred citation: Olivia Pearl Stokes papers, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Educator, lecturer, author and administrator, Dr. Stokes is an ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches and is well known as a religious educator.

During her career Dr. Stokes worked with the Baptist Educational Center in Harlem, the Massachusetts Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches. She also taught at the City University of New York (City College and Lehman College) and New York University. In 1979 Dr. Stokes founded the Greater Harlem Comprehensive Guidance Center, where she served as Executive Director from 1979 to 1990.

Scope and Content Note

The Olivia Pearl Stokes Papers document many aspects of her life and career. The papers include correspondence, writings, files related to her professional activities and private affiliations, printed matter and miscellaneous files. The Correspondence includes general correspondence and correspondence

regarding employment. General correspondence includes letters from friends and relatives as well as letters regarding her professional pursuits and speaking engagements. Writings include typed and handwritten manuscripts, and research files for both published and unpublished works. Of particular interest is Dr. Stokes' work on African women. The Organization files include material on Dr. Stokes' professional and private affiliations. Among the organizations represented are: Lehman College, the Greater Harlem Comprehensive Guidance Center, the Massachusetts Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, the Abyssinian Baptist Church, Berea College and Delta Sigma Theta sorority. Programs include printed matter and planning material relating to Dr. Stokes' role as a participant or a speaker at various conferences, workshops, prayer services and seminars. The Tours files relate to tours to Africa and the Holy Land organized by Dr. Stokes. Printed Matter includes clippings, articles, brochures, programs and miscellaneous publications. Among the Miscellaneous papers are biographical materials, awards and honors, and prayer services and sermons.

Arrangement: Organized into seven series: I. Correspondence; II. Writings; III. Organizations; IV. Programs; V. Tours; VI. Printed Matter; VII. Miscellaneous

Key Terms

Geographic Names

Africa -- Social conditions -- 20th century
Africa -- Tours

Subjects

African American authors
African American Baptists
African American churches
African American college teachers
Christian education
Directors of religious education
Religious education -- United States -- 20th century
Women -- Africa
Women educators -- United States
Women in public life -- Africa

Titles

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Names

Stokes, Olivia Pearl, 1916-
Abyssinian Baptist Church (New York, N.Y.)
Baptist Educational Center (New York, N.Y.)
Berea College
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
Greater Harlem Comprehensive Guidance Center
Massachusetts Council of Churches
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America