



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

Guide to the

**Helen Armstead-Johnson miscellaneous theater collections**

1818-1998

Sc MG 599

## Summary

**Creator:** Johnson, Helen A.

**Title:** Helen Armstead-Johnson miscellaneous theater collections

**Date:** 1818-1998

**Size:** 16.79 linear feet (46 boxes)

**Source:** Gift, Helen Armstead-Johnson, December 1996.

**Abstract:** The Helen Armstead-Johnson miscellaneous theater collections (HAJMTC) were formed by over two hundred file-folder level collections (one-three file folders per personality or event). The collections contain information dating from the mid-nineteenth century to the late twentieth century, and they document early dramatic actors, minstrel shows, vaudeville, musical revues, Broadway productions, and protest dramas, among others. In addition to actors, playwrights, singers, musicians, and dancers and the productions in which they appeared, there are collections for poets and visual artists.

**Physical Location:** The Playscripts, Programs, and Sheet music series boxes are indicated by the first two initials of the series name followed by the box number. For example, the first box in the Playscripts series is PI1.

**Preferred citation:** [Item], Helen Armstead-Johnson miscellaneous theater collections, Sc MG 599, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

**Language of the Material:** English

**Separated Materials:**

Photographs were transferred to the Center's Photographs and Prints Division; this information is noted only when the transfer was done by the manuscripts processors. The bulk of the photographs, however, were not physically associated with these collections and were accessioned directly by the Schomburg Center's Photographs and Prints Division at the time of acquisition.

## **Related Materials:**

Also located under Sc MG 599 in the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture:

A. Lincoln Harris scrapbook

Armstead-Johnson Foundation for Theater Research records

Edith Spencer scrapbook

Elliot Carpenter papers

Florence Mills collection

Flournoy Miller collection

Glenn and Jenkins scrapbook

Helen Armstead-Johnson papers

Opal Cooper collection

Sidney Easton papers

## **Creator History**

Helen Armstead-Johnson began conducting research into African-American theater following a chance meeting in 1966 with Noble Sissle (1889 - 1975), musician, band conductor and show business partner of composer Eubie Blake. As a result of her interest in black theater, she established The Armstead-Johnson Foundation for Theater Research in February 1974, for the purpose of collecting, preserving, documenting, and exhibiting the history of black contributions to the American stage. As the Foundation's director her research and other activities for the Foundation took her across the United States, Europe, Africa, South America, and Australia.

## **Custodial History**

The Helen Armstead-Johnson miscellaneous theater collections consist of materials gathered by Helen-Armstead Johnson from Amanda Aldridge (pseudonym Ring, Montague), Bessie Oliver Miller, Ulysses S. Thompson, Leigh Whipper, Fess Williams, Margot Webb, and others over various periods. It was subsequently donated by Helen Armstead-Johnson, along with other theater-related collections, to the Schomburg Center.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Helen Armstead-Johnson miscellaneous theater collections (HAJMTC) were formed by over two hundred file-folder level collections (one-three file folders per personality or event), known here as the

Alphabetical collections. These collections contain information dating from the mid-nineteenth century to the late twentieth century, and they document early dramatic actors; minstrel shows; vaudeville acts; musical revues; 1920s-1930s Broadway productions; the protest dramas of the 1940s-1950s; plays written during the Black Arts Movement of the late 1960s-1970s; and theatrical productions of the 1980s-1990s. In addition to actors, playwrights, singers, musicians, and dancers (classical and popular) (e.g. Ira Frederick Aldridge, Eubie Blake and Katherine Dunham), and the productions in which they appeared, there are collections for poets and visual artists. There are eighteen collections documenting performers of the nineteenth century; twenty-nine collections covering the period 1900-1919; thirty-seven collections document the 1940s-1950s; and eleven collections cover the 1980s-1990s. The bulk of the collections represent the two most productive periods for Black theater: ninety-two collections for the 1920s-1930s, and ninety collections for the Black Arts Movement. This collection also includes information on white personalities if they were involved in some way with Black performers, productions, or events.

Programs, sheet music, and scripts were transferred from individual collections and placed in the Playscripts, Programs, and Sheet music series with the following exceptions: pre-1940 programs associated with the performer or production for whom the file is named; manuscript music composed by the performer for whom there was a collection; skits and incomplete scripts. Transferred programs are identified by a photocopy of the cover in the original collection file. These collections complement the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division's Sheet music, Programs and Playbills, Broad sides, and Playscripts collections, but were not interfiled with those collections in order to maintain the integrity of the Helen Armstead-Johnson collection.

**Arrangement:** Arranged into 4 series: (1) Alphabetical collections; (2) Playscripts; (3) Programs; and (4) Sheet music.

## Key Terms

### Subjects

African American actors  
African American artists  
African American authors  
African American choral conductors  
African American comedians  
African American composers  
African American dance  
African American dancers  
African American dramatists  
African American musicians  
African American poets  
African American singers  
African American theater  
African American women entertainers  
African Americans in the performing arts  
American drama -- African American authors  
Authors, Black  
Choreographers  
Music publishing  
Musicals  
Opera

**Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Plays (performing arts compositions)

**Names**

Aldridge, Ira Frederick, -1867  
Anderson, Marian, 1897-1993  
Baker, Josephine, 1906-1975  
Blake, Eubie, 1887-1983  
Bubbles, John W.  
Byrd, Sam, 1908-  
Croxtton, Darryl  
Dafora, Asadata, 1890-1965  
Dodson, Owen, 1914-1983  
Dunham, Katherine  
Handy, W. C. (William Christopher), 1873-1958  
Hayes, Roland, 1887-1977  
Hughes, Langston, 1902-1967  
Jarboro, Caterina  
Jessye, Eva, 1895-1992  
John, Henry  
Johnson, Hall, 1888-1970  
Johnson, Helen A.  
Johnson, James Weldon, 1871-1938  
Mapp, Jim  
Matheus, John Frederick, 1887-1983  
Miller, Bessie Oliver, 1888-1974  
Mitchell, Abbie  
Muse, Clarence  
Parker, Delores (Vocalist)  
Pomare, Eleo  
René, Leon, 1902-  
Ring, Montague  
Robeson, Paul, 1898-1976  
Robinson, Bill, 1878-1949  
Saunders, Gertrude  
Senghor, Le\_opold Se\_dar, 1906-2001  
Shepp, Archie  
Sidney, Jay  
Sissle, Noble, 1889-1975  
South, Eddie  
Thompson, Ulysses S.  
Troy, Henry  
Webb, Margot  
Whipper, Leigh R. (Leigh Rollin), 1877-1975  
Williams, Fess, 1894-1975  
Lafayette Theatre Players  
National Negro Opera Company  
Norton and Margot (Dance team)  
Playward Bus Thater

## Container List

### Alphabetical collections 1818-1998

Types of materials in this series include printed matter (reviews and feature articles, programs, flyers and broadsides, sheet music, newsletters), letters, including correspondence generated by Armstead-Johnson with donors and individuals documented in the collections, lyrics and music scores, resumes and other biographical information, scripts, sketches, academic papers, and speeches. In many cases the file consists of clippings only. Often the material documenting a performer or performance is not contemporaneous to the era in which the individual lived and worked, but comes from a source produced decades later. In several collections there is a notation for "Helen Armstead-Johnson Notes." These notes are the product of Armstead-Johnson's research on the personality or production in question. Additional research notes can be found in the Armstead-Johnson Foundation for Theater Research records and the Helen Armstead-Johnson papers.

A sampling of the documents found in the collection include Bessie Oliver Miller's (Flournoy Miller's wife) draft of her unpublished manuscript entitled "Forbidden Kin" (letters in the collection reflect attempts to have the book published); questionnaires that include personal and professional information on a variety of performers including Minto Cato and Joseph Attles; a transcript of the interview Helen Armstead-Johnson conducted with Ulysses S. Thompson; and Fess Williams's arrangement for *Roll Jordan Roll*. The collections also document non-theater related black personalities such as Shirley Black (painter), James Lowe (lawyer), and Leopold Sedar Senghor, poet and former President of Senegal.

The folders in this collection were kept intact as found and are arranged alphabetically. In those cases where loose items had not been interfiled by Armstead-Johnson, the processors added the material, or if a folder did not already exist, it was created. Brief biographical or historical sketches are included along with a listing or description of the contents of each collection.

#### A

- b. 1 **Attaway, Ruth 1957 - 1987**

Attaway was the first director of the New York Players Guild in New York in 1945. She also designed and made costume jewelry.

The file contains clippings; an outline of Attaway's career (by Attaway); a letter from Darryl Croxton to Frances Gaines of the Actors Fund of America; a newsletter, *Manhattan Press Plaza*, with an article written by Attaway; and Attaway's employment record.
- b. 1 **AUDELCO (Audience Development Committee) 1974 - 1980**

A non-profit, advocacy organization formed to stimulate interest in the arts in black communities.

The file contains clippings; the organization's newsletter (Vol. I, #4-5; Vol. II, #3); calendars; brochures; invitations; flyers; a script for the "Sixth Annual Theatre Awards"; a copy of the Black Theatre Awards Nominees; an award broadside; and letters to Armstead-Johnson from AUDELCO.
- b. 1 ***Abyssinia* 1906 - 1911**

*Abyssinia* was written by J. A. Shipp and Alex Rogers. Music was written by Will Marion Cook and Bert Williams, who along with George W. Walker were featured performers in the production in 1906. *Abyssinia* toured the country, including stops in Boston and Chicago.

The file contains reviews, clippings, and notes by Helen Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 1 **Address list**

Contains a list of addresses for some notable African Americans of the 1920s and 1930s such as Bill Robinson, Alain Locke, Abbie Mitchell, Harold Jackman, and H.T. Burleigh.
- b. 1 **Adkins, Paul Spencer**

An opera singer born in Monogahela, Pennsylvania, Adkins received a bachelor's degree in music education from West Virginia. He also attended the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia, and the Philadelphia College for the Performing Arts. Spencer was an affiliate artist with the Opera Company of Philadelphia.

The file contains a biographical sketch from Affiliate Artists, Inc.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## A (cont.)

- b. 1 **African-American theatre papers and speeches**  
 Small collection of papers and speeches by playwrights, actors, and historians. The file contains: Mercer Cook's "From 'Clorindy' to 'The Red Moon' and Beyond"; Owen Dodson's "Mene, Mene Teckle Upfarsin' (You Have Been Weighed in the Balance and Found Wanting);" Winona L. Fletcher's "From Walk Together, Chillun to Run, Little Chillun: an Examination of 'Uncle Sam's Role as 'Black Angel' in the 1930s"; Abram Hill's "The 1940s and the Negro American Theatre"; Frederick O'Neal's "Black America on Stage – A Symposium"; Robert C. Toll's "Putting on the Mask: Black Minstrels in the Nineteenth Century"; and "The Lafayette Players," author unknown. Also contains letter from Toll to Armstead-Johnson dated November 2, 1978.
- b. 1 **Afro-American Studio**  
 The Afro-American Studio (New York, NY) appeared to have two main components, the Afro-American Studio Theatre and the Afro-American Studio for Acting and Speech. The acting and speech component offered programs and classes for professionals, intermediates, and beginners in acting technique, scene study, speech, vocal workshop, creative dynamics, audition, advanced technique, body conditioning, and make-up. The theater component featured opportunities for performers to work with the 127th Street Repertory Ensemble, First Black Lyric Theater, and the Experimental Production Unit. Some artists affiliated with the company include Ernie McClintock, Richard Gant, Glenda Dickerson, Ron Walker, Thom Foster, and Walter Turnbull.  
 This file contains flyers and a clipping.
- b. 1 ***Ain't Misbehavin'* 1978**  
 1978 Tony Award-winning Broadway musical conceived and directed by Richard Maltby, Jr. Original cast members included Nell Carter and Andre DeShields.  
 The file contains an article on *Ain't Misbehavin'*, from *Route Magazine*, and clippings.
- b. 1 **Aldridge, Ira Frederick 1847 - 1983**  
 Considered America's first great black actor and tragedian, Aldridge began his career at the African Grove Theatre and Brown's Theatre, both in New York City, in 1821. Aldridge left the United States and toured Europe where he became a celebrated Shakespearean actor.  
 The file contains copies of letters written by Aldridge to (Mr.?) MacNamara, April 1, 1847; Aldridge to (Nelson) Lee, undated; Amanda Ira Aldridge (Aldridge's daughter) to Mrs. Browning, October 31, 1927; a postcard; copies of letters; clippings (some in Dutch, some translated); four playbills; and notes by Helen Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 1 ***Alice* 1978**  
*Alice* was a musical adapted from the Lewis Carroll classic *Alice in Wonderland* by Vinnette Carroll, who also directed. The cast included Debbie Allen, Alice Ghostly, Paula Kelly, Jane White, and Hampton Camp. Talley Beatty was the choreographer.  
 The file contains clippings and an invitation to the after-party in Philadelphia.
- b. 1 **Alice, Mary 1976**  
 Mary Alice is an actress in theatre, television and film. She has appeared in many Broadway and Off-Broadway plays, television, and films including *No Place to Be Somebody*, the television series *A Different World*, and the film *To Sleep With Anger*.  
 The file contains Alice's resume, a flyer, and clippings.
- b. 1 **Allen, Jonelle 1969 - 1973**  
 Allen is an actress in theatre and film. She has appeared in several Broadway and Off-Broadway shows such as *The Gentlemen of Verona* and *House of Leather*.  
 The file contains reviews of the plays *House of Leather* (1970), *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (1971), and *Someone's Comin' Hungry* (1969); and a cast sheet for *Bury the Dead* (1971).
- b. 1 **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre 1976 - 1989**  
 Founded by Alvin Ailey (1931 - 1989) in 1958, this dance company has established itself as one of the premiere companies in the world, launching the careers of Judith Jamison, Ulysses Dove, Donna Wood, and others.  
 The file contains obituaries of Ailey and dancer Joyce Trisler, a historical sketch, a schedule booklet, and clippings.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## A (cont.)

- b. 1 **American Negro Theatre (ANT) 1944 - 1983**  
Co-founded by Frederick O'Neal and Abram Hill in 1940, this theater company was established to provide black actors, playwrights, director,s and other theatre-related professionals with opportunities to work in productions that illustrated the diversity of black life.  
The file contains a form letter from Abram Hill to patrons, October 21, 1944; letters from Helen Armstead-Johnson to musician Austin Briggs-Hall dated 1976 and 1983; and a card from Briggs-Hall to Armstead-Johnson dated July 5, 1983.
- b. 1 ***Amos 'n' Andy* 1951**  
Originally a long-running radio program, *Amos 'n' Andy* was brought to television in 1951. Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll, the two white actors who created and starred in the radio version, produced the series. Ernestine Wade and Amanda Randolph were brought over from the radio cast. *Amos 'n' Andy* centered on the activities of George "Kingfish" Stevens (played by Tim Moore), a conniving character, and his friend Andy Brown (played by Spencer Williams.) Amos (played by Alvin Childress) was a minor character who drove a cab and narrated some of the episodes. Civil rights groups such as the NAACP protested against the racial stereotypes, but the series ran for two years and was widely rerun on local stations in the 1960s. In 1963, CBS Films sold the program to two African countries, Kenya and West Nigeria. Soon after, Kenya denounced the program and banned it from broadcast in the country. In 1966, CBS withdrew the series from sale.  
The file contains a CBS press release for the show.
- b. 1 **Anderson, Garland 1930 - 1938**  
A playwright and lecturer, Anderson was "discovered" by vaudevillian Al Jolson, and subsequently became world famous for his spiritual lectures. He was the first black member of the P.E.N. Club. Born in Wichita, Kansas, the son of a freed slave, Anderson had no formal training in the theatre (he had four years of schooling). He was inspired to write *Appearances* after seeing a play called *The Fool* by Channing Pollocks. Jolson sent the young writer to New York to have his play produced on Broadway, which eventually traveled to London, Brussels, and Paris. Anderson's philosophy "you can do anything you want to if you believe you can do it," was the basis for his plays and lectures. He was credited with starting "Tea Talks," a forum where personalities met and talked about issues at the Mayflower Hotel in London, and opening the first milk bar in London in 1934.  
Contains clippings.
- b. 1 **Anderson, Gordon 1984**  
An entertainment photographer, Gordon was known for his work at the Apollo Theatre from the late 1940s to the 1980s. He also took photographs at the Palace, the Renaissance Ballroom, the Capitol and Paramount Theaters, and the Royal Theatre.  
The file contains a flyer, a letter from Anderson to Armstead-Johnson dated March 2, 1984, and clippings.
- b. 1 **Anderson, Hallie Lee**  
Born in Lynchburg, Virginia, Anderson studied piano and violin in the early 1900s at the German Conservatory of Music and graduated with a Doctorate of Music degree. Anderson played first violin with the New York Philharmonic, and she was a member of the Local 802, AFM. In 1914, Anderson organized an all-female orchestra. In 1919, she conducted a Land Band at the Lafayette Theatre in Harlem, and conducted orchestras at Howard Theatre in Washington, DC. At one time, she directed an orchestra of 100 pieces, which was integrated by both sex and race. In the 1920s, she was a director of theatre orchestras in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.  
This file contains a letter from B. Richardson to Armstead-Johnson regarding Anderson, and a photocopy of a photograph of Anderson and her orchestra in New York City, undated.
- b. 1 **Anderson, Marian 1955 - 1993**  
Anderson was a world renowned opera singer and the first African-American singer to perform with the Metropolitan Opera. She made her debut in 1955 as Ulrica in Verdi's *A Masked Ball*. Anderson was acclaimed for her vocal and interpretive powers. She was the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Medal of Honor from President Carter.  
The file contains an obituary; biographical booklet; a letter from Anderson to Mrs. Whaley from 1955; and clippings.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

A (cont.)

b. 1 **Angelou, Maya 1973**

Maya Angelou was an author, director, and actress. She wrote several volumes of poetry and autobiographical works including *Phenomenal Woman*, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, and *Wouldn't Take Nothing For My Journey Now*. Her acting and directorial credits include *Porgy and Bess*, *The Blacks*, *Poetic Justice* and *Down in the Delta*.

The file contains a letter from Angelou to Armstead-Johnson from 1973; a press release; a flyer; and clippings.

b. 1 **Anna Lucasta**

Written by Philip Jordan, *Anna Lucasta* was originally written about a Polish-American family. After several white companies rejected it, the American Negro Theatre (ANT) revised it extensively and made it suitable for a black cast. Directed by Harry Wagstaff Gribble, the play was produced in 1944 and was a tremendous success. After just five weeks, ANT sought and received funding to move the play to Broadway. The play ran at the Mansfield Theatre for two years, spawning a movie and tours in the United States and London for several seasons with different casts. The Broadway cast included Hilda Simms, Canada Lee, Georgia Burke, Frederick O'Neal, Alice and Alvin Childress, Earle Hyman, and John Proctor.

The file contains a postcard featuring the cast members of *Anna Lucasta*.

b. 1 **Archer, Osceola 1975**

Archer was an actress and director. Although she acted in such Broadway productions as *Between Two Worlds*, *The Guide*, and *Cat Screams*, she was primarily known as a director and teacher at the American Negro Theatre and resident director at the Putnam County Playhouse. She was also one of the founders of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., a public service sorority.

The file contains a resume; an invitation to the Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., tribute to Archer; program for *The Octoroon*; a note to Armstead-Johnson from 1975; a letter from Armstead-Johnson to Archer, also from 1975; and notes by Armstead-Johnson.HAJ notes

B

b. 1 **Bailey, Pearl 1973 - 1980**

Pearl Bailey was an actress and singer. She began her singing career at age 15, winning first prize at an amateur contest in Philadelphia, and made her first major appearance in New York in 1941 at the Village Vanguard. Early in her career she sang with the Count Basie Band and toured with the Cab Calloway Orchestra. Bailey became a stage, screen, and television star. Her most acclaimed stage performance was in the title role of the all-black Broadway production of *Hello, Dolly!*, for which she won a special Tony Award in 1968. Among her most popular movie roles were Maria in *Porgy and Bess* and Frankie, a roadhouse girl in *Carmen Jones*. Her best known songs include "Tired" and "Toot Toot Tootsie, Goodbye". She also released several albums throughout her career including *Naughty, But Nice*.

b. 2 **Baker, Josephine 1928 - 1991**

Born and raised in poverty in the black community of St. Louis, Missouri, Baker was the first black woman to achieve international stardom. Baker left home at age 13 to tour on the southern vaudeville circuit. By age 15, she had joined the company of *Shuffle Along*, the musical comedy by Noble Sissle and Eubie Blake, in the 1920s. Her comic antics delighted audiences and critics, and she was transferred to the first cast touring company in Boston. After traveling to Paris, Baker became a sensation, and joined the cast of *La Revue Nègre* in Paris. During World War II, Baker worked as a military intelligence officer for the French, and was awarded the Croix de Guerre and the Medal of the Resistance. After the war, she used her celebrity as a platform for civil rights activities in the U.S. On a 1951 American tour, she insisted on a nondiscrimination clause in her contracts, effectively integrating nightclubs across the country. Through a much-publicized incident at New York's Stork Club, she focused attention on discrimination against blacks in restaurants and nightclubs. When Baker died at age 69, France gave her a state funeral as a war hero.

The file contains flyers; a copy of a letter from Baker to an unidentified person from 1928; biographical information; 1972 - 1973 articles from *Carnegie Hall Magazine* about Baker's revue; a brochure (in German) regarding Baker; clippings; and Armstead-Johnson notes from "Blacks on Stage" exhibition.



Alphabetical collections (cont.)

B (cont.)

- b. 2 **Barboza, Anthony 1965 - 1974**  
Photographer. Noted for his innovative commercial work in advertising, fashion, and editorial photography, Barboza was also one of the founders and officers of the International Black Photographers (IBP).  
The file contains exhibition invitations (studio postcards); greeting cards to Armstead-Johnson; a model's printed portfolio and ad; a list of materials reproduced by Barboza for Armstead-Johnson; biographical information; and a resume.
- b. 2 **Barnes, Mae**  
Dancer, singer, and comic actress. Born in Harlem, Barnes began her career with Holmes and Levere, a vaudeville act. She toured with the Flotilla Orchestra, appeared in Miller and Lyle's musicals *Rang Tang* and *Runnin' Wild*, and toured the club circuit.  
The file contains a hand card from Billy's Nightclub; a flyer from The Playboy Library; a handbill from the Finsbury Park Empire; clippings; and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 2 ***Big Time, Buck White* 1968 - 1969**  
A play written by Joseph Dolan Tuotti, *Big Time, Buck White* featured actor Dick Williams, who rewrote and directed it.  
The file contains clippings from the Off-Broadway production and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 2 ***Black Broadway* 1980**  
Produced in 1980, *Black Broadway* was a musical that featured show business veterans John W. Bubbles, Adelaide Hall, Bobby Short, Elizabeth Welch, Edith Wilson, Charles "Cookie" Cook, Leslie "Bubba" Gaines, Nell Carter, Gregory Hines, Mercedes Ellington, Carla Earle, Teri Griffith, and Wyetta Turner.  
Includes reviews.
- b. 2 ***Black America* 1895 - 1977**  
*Black America* was an operetta produced by Nate Salsbury in 1895.  
Contains a photocopy of the sheet music for "The Cabin Where I Was Born"; clippings; and notes by Armstead-Johnson.HAJ notes.
- b. 2 ***Black Culture Weekly* 1967 - 1969**  
Publication that featured scheduled theatre and music programs, benefits, advertisements, short stories, poetry, articles, and conferences.  
The file contains the publication's mission statement; a subscription letter; seminar booklet; and a letter from Gil Sherman, the publisher).
- b. 2 **Black Patti 1902 - 1979**  
Matilda Sissieretta Joyner Jones, also known as "Black Patti," was a singer and the leader of Black Patti's Troubadours, an organization comprised of fifty artists.  
The file contains copies of 1902 - 1903 programs, photocopied clippings, and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 2 **Black, Shirley 1972 - 1974**  
Shirley Black was a painter.  
Contains Black's resume; a letter from Armstead-Johnson to Black from 1972; greeting cards; and a clipping.
- b. 2 **Black Theatre Alliance 1974 - 1977**  
Black Theatre Alliance (BTA) was a consortium of several black theatres in New York formed in 1970 or 1971 to develop and sustain thriving black audiences and cooperation among theatres and resources.  
The file contains flyers; monthly bulletins; a letter to Armstead-Johnson from Duane L. Jones regarding BTA; form letters; copy of the program for *The Lion Is a Soul Brother* by Joseph Walker; copy of a program for *In Tribute to Black Theatre (A New Work in Progress)* by Roger Furman; and clippings.
- b. 2 **Black Theatre Festival U.S.A 1979**  
The Black Theatre Festival was presented at Lincoln Center on May 1 - June 3, 1979, by the Richard Allen Center for Culture and Art. It featured works produced by the Urban Arts Corps, the Karama Theatre Company, Billie Holiday Theatre of Brooklyn, the Kuumba Theatre of Chicago, and the Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre.  
Includes a broadside.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## B (cont.)

- b. 2 **Blake, Eubie (James Hubert) 1941 - 1983**  
 Eubie Blake was a composer. Born in Baltimore, Blake's first professional gig was playing piano in a brothel at the age of 17. In 1915, Blake formed a vaudeville act with songwriter Noble Sissle and toured as the "Dixie Duo." In the 1920s, the team collaborated with Flournoy Miller and Aubrey Lyles on the successful musical *Shuffle Along*, which was produced on Broadway in 1921. Notable Blake shows include *Blackbirds*, *Chocolate Dandies*, and *Eubie*. Blake also wrote "I'm Just Wild About Harry," which became President Harry S. Truman's presidential campaign song in 1941.  
 Folders contain printed biographical material; letters from Blake to Tom Cochran; letters from Stanley Adams to Blake from 1967; Armstead-Johnson correspondence with Marion Blake; flyers; a newsletter, *The Rag Time*, Vol. 4, No. 6; interviews with Blake; a copy of the song "Sweethearts Are We," by Sissle and Blake, 1950; "A Native Son," a score by Andy Razaf and Blake; Blake funeral program; a copy of the lyrics of "Spirituals," by Reddie and Blake; invitations; clippings (1960s - 1980s); and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 3 **Blake, Eubie and Noble Sissle 1926 - 1973**  
 Vaudeville duo and songwriting team.  
 The file contains a letter from Harry S. Truman to Robert Kimball re: Blake and Sissle memorabilia from 1967; a blank Christmas card from Sissle; an invitation to York College regarding Eubie Blake; notes by Armstead-Johnson; and clippings.
- b. 3 **Branch, William 1969 - 1970**  
 Author of *A Medal for Willie* (1951), among other plays, Branch taught or lectured at a variety of colleges and universities including Harvard University, Columbia University, UCLA, Spelman College, and the University of Ghana.  
 The file contains a biographical sketch, articles, a press release for the documentary *Still a Brother: Inside the Middle Class*, and printed material.
- b. 3 **Briggs-Hall, Austin 1972**  
 Briggs-Hall was one of the founders and directors of the American Negro Theatre (ANT). He was also a member of the Rose McClendon Players and the Richard Huey Players. Briggs-Hall trained with New Theatre School, among others. He appeared in such ANT productions as *On Striver's Row* and *Henri Christophe* (as Toussaint L'Ouverture).  
 This file contains a transcribed note regarding Briggs-Hall by Armstead-Johnson and a business card.
- b. 3 **Brooks, Shelton 1973 - 1974**  
 Brooks, a songwriter and comedian, wrote songs that were performed by vaudevillians Bert Williams and Al Jolson. Songs by Brooks include "Some of These Days" and "Easy Rider", which was featured in the Mae West film *She Done Him Wrong*.  
 Contains two letters from Earle Howard to Armstead-Johnson regarding Brooks, and clippings.
- b. 3 **Brown, Russell 1977 - 1978**  
 Known as "Russell the Clown," Brown was a professional clown and actor.  
 The file contains his resume; an Armstead-Johnson letter to Rick Stevenson re: Brown from 1978; an advertisement; a clipping; and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 3 **Brown, Sterling (Allen)**  
 Born and based in Washington, D.C., Brown graduated from Williams College (BA) in 1925, and Harvard (MA) in 1930. He taught at Howard University, and he was a poet and critic of black literature. Brown's books, *The Negro in American Fiction* and *Negro Poetry and Drama*, both published in 1937, are considered classics, the first in-depth studies of representations of blacks in American literature. He was an influential teacher and encouraged many African-American writers.  
 The file contains a copy of Brown's poem *Odyssey of Big Boy* and copies of poems by Countee Cullen and Claude McKay.
- b. 3 **Brown, Zara Cully and Marla Gibbs 1978**  
 Brown, who used the stage name Zara Cully, appeared on the television show *The Jeffersons* as George Jefferson's mother, along with Gibbs, whose character, Florence, was the maid.  
 The file contains Brown's obituary and clippings on both Brown and Gibbs.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## B (cont.)

- b. 3 **Browne, Roscoe Lee 1979**  
 Born in Woodbury, New Jersey, Browne became one of the most recognizable actors in television and film in the 1960s and 1970s. Browne attended Lincoln University, where he also taught literature and French. He was a member of several theatre companies over the years including Long Wharf Theatre, Pittsburgh Playhouse, and American Conservatory Theatre. His film credits include *Superfly*, *Black Like Me*, *Jumpin' Jack Flash*, and *Babe*, for which he was the narrator. Browne won numerous awards, among them an Obie Award for best actor (with Frank Langella and Lester Rawlins) in 1965 for *Benito Cereno* and a Los Angeles Drama Critics Award for best actor in 1970 for *The Dream on Monkey Mountain*. He also earned an Emmy Award (with others) for outstanding performance by an actor in a supporting role in a comedy or drama series for *Barney Miller* (1975), and an Emmy Award for outstanding guest performer in a comedy series for *The Cosby Show* (1986). Browne was inducted into the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame in 1977.  
 Includes clippings.
- b. 3 **Browning, Ivan Harold 1934 - 1975**  
 Singer, actor, and columnist. Born in Texas, Browning became a member of Exposition Four, a singing quartet, which toured the vaudeville circuit (1915). He was the first leading man in Sissle and Blake's *Shuffle Along*, as well as the lead in *Chocolate Dandies* (1924). Browning was part of the singing duo "Browning and (Henry) Starr," and toured with the Harmony Kings until 1933. He also acted in films including *Young at Heart*.  
 The file contains letters from Sir Walton, W. C. Handy, Marion Anderson, Zaidee Jackson, Ralph and Ruth Bunche, Eubie Blake, Walter W. King, and Armstead-Johnson. It also includes a list of songs performed by Browning and Starr; a contract for Browning and Bob Williams from 1934; an article by Browning, "On James Reese Europe"; draft of the program for *Down Memory Lane of Negro Musical Shows and Revues*; flyers; notes by Armstead-Johnson; and clippings.
- b. 3 **Bubbles, John (John W. Sublett) 1937 - 1986**  
 Born in Louisville, Kentucky, Bubbles is known as the Father of Soul Tap. He is credited with inventing rhythm tap dancing and portrayed the original Sportin' Life character in George Gershwin's opera *Porgy*. Early in his teens, Bubbles formed a partnership and vaudeville act with Ford Lee "Buck" Washington known as Buck and Bubbles; they were the first black performers engaged by Radio Music City Hall. Bubbles also appeared in several films including *Cabin in the Sky*.  
 The files contain an obituary; correspondence between Bubbles and Armstead-Johnson; a postcard from Eddie Rector to "Slim" from 1943; flyers; an article featuring Louis Armstrong written by Bubbles; *Palmer House* magazine featuring Bubbles from 1964; two pieces of manuscript music, "Tip a Tap Along" and "Good Bye Jonah" (1937); notes by Armstead-Johnson; and clippings.  
***Bubbling Brown Sugar* 1976**  
*Bubbling Brown Sugar* was a musical that ran for 776 performances at the Off-Broadway ANTA Theatre.  
 The file contains a clipping about the show and a memo from "JCE" to Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 3 **Bullard, (Eugene) E. J undated**  
 Eugene Jacques Bullard is considered to be the first African-American military pilot to fly in combat, and the only African-American pilot in World War I. He never flew for the United States, however. After the war Bullard moved to France, where he worked in and owned nightclubs and bars, operated an athletic club, and married a French woman.  
 Contains four letters from Bullard to Mare and Elliot.
- b. 3 **Bullins, Ed 1968 - 1969**  
 Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Bullins is a prolific playwright whose plays have been produced Off-Broadway. He was a member and playwright-in-residence at the American Place Theatre in 1973, and has lectured at Fordham University, Columbia University, University of Massachusetts, and Dartmouth College, among others. Bullins has won Obie Awards for his plays *In New England Winter*, *The Fabulous Miss Marie*, and *The Taking of Miss Janie*, among other awards.  
 The file contains play broadsides, and clippings.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

B (cont.)

- b. 3 **Burgoyne, Ollie (Olga) 1932 - 1975**  
Born in Chicago, Burgoyne was a dancer who toured Europe at the age of six, specializing in Brazilian and Spanish dances. She appeared in the show *Follow Me* in 1923, and performed with the Negro Art Theatre. In 1930, she moved to Russia and opened a lingerie shop. The file contains clippings and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 3 **Burrows, Vinnie 1973 - 1977**  
Actress, teacher, director, and writer. Burrows appeared in various Broadway and off-Broadway shows, including *The Green Pastures*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, and three one-woman shows, *Walk Together Children*, *Dark Fire*, and *Rose McClendon*. The file contains promotional letters for *Walk Together Children* and clippings.
- b. 3 **Byrd, Sam 1936 - 1937**  
Born in North Carolina, Byrd was a Caucasian actor, author, and theatrical producer. In the mid-1930s, he bought, produced, and starred in *White Man*, a drama about miscegenation g written by Samson Ralphelason. The play featured veteran actor Leigh Whipper in a small role and a song by composer Cecil Mack called "My Cup".  
The files contain *White Man* production materials; sheet music for "My Cup"; flyers; correspondence; press releases; advertisements; and clippings.

C

- b. 3 **Calloway, Blanche 1971**  
The sister of jazz legend Cab Calloway, Blanche Calloway was a band leader, radio personality, actress, and businesswoman. Ms. Calloway led her own band called "Blanche Calloway's Joy Boys" in 1931. In Miami, she worked as a disc jockey for WFEC and was the executive director of WMBM, both black radio stations. Her acting credits include the starring role in a production of James Baldwin's *The Amen Corner* in Miami. She was also the owner of Afram House, a black beauty company, in Miami.  
The file contains clippings on Calloway in *The Amen Corner* and in her role as secretary and treasurer of the Club Caverns.
- b. 3 **Callender's Minstrels 1883**  
Callender's Minstrels was an all-black troupe consisting of vocalists, a banjo band, jubilee singers, twenty dancers, and a man with his performing rooster. Members from the Haverly's Coloured Minstrels and Callender's Coloured Minstrels, both well-known and famous groups in their own right, combined to form the Callender's Minstrels.  
The file contains a copy of a playbill, clippings, and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 3 **Carlisle, John undated**  
Music critic and author. Carlisle was a music critic for the *Westbury Times* of Long Island. His writings have been featured in *Jet* and *Ebony* magazines. Carlisle also wrote a book of poetry called *Life, Love and Feelings*.  
The file contains two short stories by Carlisle, *The Pole Climber* and *Tiffany*.
- b. 3 **Cato, Minto 1930 - 1944**  
Opera singer, pianist, and teacher. Born in Arkansas, Cato studied at the Washington Conservatory of Music in Washington, D.C. She began singing professionally in the 1920s, and appeared with her husband, Joe Sheftal, and his Southland Revue in Europe, Canada, and Mexico. Cato also appeared in *Blackbirds* in 1930, and sang with the Salmaggi Opera and the National Negro Opera.  
The file contains clippings and copies of programs.
- b. 3 **Ceremonies in Dark Old Men 1969**  
*Ceremonies in Dark Old Men* was written by Lonnie Elder, III, and directed by Edmund Cambridge for the Negro Ensemble Company (NEC) in 1968. The play starred Douglas Turner Ward, Rosalind Cash, Arthur French, William Jay, David Downing, Samuel Blue, Jr., and Judyann Jonsson.  
The collection contains clippings, notes by Armstead-Johnson, and a 1968/1969 NEC season brochure.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

C (cont.)

- b. 3     **Cheatham, "Doc" Adolphus Anthony ca. 1973**  
Adolphus Anthony "Doc" Cheatham, a musician, was born in 1905 in Nashville, Tennessee. He acquired his nickname because of the many relatives he had in the medical profession. He played trumpet with a number of bandleaders throughout his career including Cab Calloway, Benny Carter, Benny Goodman, and Herbie Mann, in addition to leading his own band. He recorded with Ma Rainey, Count Basie, Billie Holiday, Juanita Hall, and many other artists.  
This file contains an album booklet.
- b. 3     **Chicuelo, Lalanda**  
Dancer and musician. Called "Queen of Jungle Rhythm," Chicuelo and her South American Rhythm act has performed in the United States and Buenos Aires.  
The file contains a certificate from Lalanda Chicuelo Studios and a piece of promotional stationery.
- b. 3     **Childress, Alice 1978**  
An author, playwright, actress, and director, Childress won an Obie award for her play *Trouble in Mind* in 1956. She was a member of the American Negro Theatre, along with her former husband Alvin Childress. She also authored *A Hero Ain't Nothin' But a Sandwich*, which became a film of the same name in 1978.  
Includes reviews.
- b. 3     ***Chocolate Dandies* 1924**  
*Chocolate Dandies* was a musical comedy written by Noble Sissle and Eubie Blake; it opened on Broadway in 1924, and The play featured Josephine Baker and Ivan Harold Browning, among others.  
The file contains a program and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 4     **Cisco, Goldie 1973 - 1974**  
Cisco was an original chorus girl in Noble Sissle and Eubie Blake's hit musical *Shuffle Along* in 1921.  
The file contains letters from Cisco to Armstead-Johnson, greeting cards, and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 4     **Clark, William 1990**  
Playwright.  
The file contains the play script *To Wear a Mask: Early African American Musical Theatre* and a letter from Clark to Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 4     **Clay, Sonny**  
Clay created "Sonny Clay's Colored Idea," which featured forty-one musicians, dancers, singers, and others in the troupe. The group made appearances in Sydney and Melbourne, Australia in 1928. They made national headlines when some musicians in the band were accused of improper behavior and subsequently thrown out of the country.  
The file contains an article, a clipping, and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 4     **Cole, Andrew W 1987**  
Writer.  
This file contains an article "John Henry Turpin—The Man, A Real Life Super Hero," written by Cole.
- b. 4     **Cole and Johnson 1909 - 1981**  
Bob Cole (1868 - 1911) and J. Rosamond Johnson (1873 - 1954) started as a vaudeville team in the early 1900s. Cole was a noted playwright and Johnson was a musician and composer who co-wrote "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing," the Negro national anthem, with his brother, James Weldon Johnson. Cole and Johnson composed several songs together including "Big Indian Chief", "Under the Bamboo Tree", "Bleeding Moon", and "Oh, Didn't He Ramble". Many of the songs they composed together were featured in Bert Williams and George Walker productions.  
The file contains clippings, copies of sheet music covers, and notes by Armstead-Johnson.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## C (cont.)

- b. 4     **Coles, Charles L 1992**  
 Charles "Honi" Coles, a dancer, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. As a youngster, Coles studied with famed dancers Bill "Bojangles" Robinson and John W. Bubbles. He toured with the Miller Brothers, Lucky Seven Trio, and performed with numerous big band leaders including Cab Calloway, Count Basie, and Fats Waller. Coles and his longtime tap partner, Cholly Atkins, appeared in the Broadway show *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* in 1949. He went on to gain solo success, and earned a Tony award for Best Actor in the musical *My One and Only* in 1983. He also appeared in the touring companies of *Bubbling Brown Sugar* and *My One and Only*. Films in which he appeared include *Dirty Dancing* and *The Cotton Club*. The file contains an obituary, a funeral program, and clippings.
- b. 4     **Collective Black Artists, Inc 1976**  
 Collective Black Artists, Inc., was an organization that offered music and educational programs to the public.  
 Includes flyers.
- b. 4     **Coloured Troubadours and the Jubilee Singers ca. 1883**  
 Includes a playbill.
- b. 4     **Comedians and comic sketches**  
 The file contains notes by Armstead-Johnson, comedian Allen Drew's business card, and a script for a sketch titled "Was I Drunk?".
- b. 4     ***Comin' Uptown* 1979**  
 Broadway musical comedy based on the Charles Dickens's novel *A Christmas Carol*. The cast featured Gregory Hines, Tiger Haynes, Larry Marshall, Robert Jackson, and Sandra McClain, among others.  
 The file contains reviews and a ticket stub.
- b. 4     **Concept East Theatre 1971 - 1973**  
 Concept East Theatre, in Detroit, produced plays by noted playwrights including Amiri Baraka and Don Evans.  
 The file contains press releases, a newsletter, a letter from Concept East Theatre to Armstead-Johnson, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 4     **Cook, Mercer 1944 - 1978**  
 Educator, diplomat, and author. Born in Washington, D.C., Cook was the son of composer Will Marion Cook and actress/singer Abbie Mitchell. He was an American ambassador to the African nations Niger and Senegal in the mid-1960s. In accepting the diplomatic posts, he interrupted his work at Howard University, where he had taught Romance languages since 1945. He resumed his career there in 1966, and retired in 1970. In addition to his duties as a professor and diplomat, Cook was director of Africa's Congress for Cultural Freedom in the early 1960s, and he was an alternate delegate to the United Nations General Assembly in 1963. Cook wrote such works as *Five French Negro Authors* and *The Haitian Novel*, and he collaborated with Stephen Henderson on *The Militant Black Writer in Africa and the United States*. In addition, Cook produced English translations and collections of works by West Indian and African writers, including Leopold Senghor. He also wrote songs.  
 The files contain biographical information, correspondence with Armstead-Johnson, Will Marion Cook's obituary, letters and articles, and a speech by Cook, "From 'Clorindy' to 'Red Moon' and Beyond."
- b. 4     **Cook, Will Marion**  
 Composer and violinist. Trained as a violinist, Cook co-wrote (along with poet Paul Lawrence Dunbar) the musical sketch comedy *Clorindy: The Origin of the Cakewalk* (1898), which introduced him to actress-singer Abbie Mitchell, who became his wife. Cook was composer-in-chief for several musical comedies for the vaudeville team of Williams and Walker, including (but not limited to) *Jes Lak White Folks* (1899), *The Casino Girl* (1900), *The Policy Player* (1900), *In Dahomey* (1902), and *In Abyssinia* (1906). With over 1,100 performances in the United States and England between 1902 and 1905, *In Dahomey* became a landmark of the American musical theater. Cook also organized the New York (later renamed American) Syncopated Theatre.  
 The file contains "Will Marion Cook," a biographical essay written by Bill Reed and notes by Armstead-Johnson.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## C (cont.)

- b. 4 **Croxton, Darryl 1969 - 1991**  
 Actor, producer and poet. Baltimore native Croxton was a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. He made his acting debut, in 1969, in *Indians* opposite Stacy Keach. A Shakespearean actor, Croxton made numerous appearances on Broadway and Off-Broadway in *King Lear* (opposite Frank Silvera and Mary Alice), *Othello*, and *The Tempest*, and he acted in plays written by Ed Bullins, Larry Neal, and Owen Dodson. He wrote and directed two one-man shows, and he recorded four albums of poetry and drama for *Scholastic Magazine* and Harcourt-Brace.  
 The file contains biographical sketches, flyers, a resume, postcards, correspondence with actor Gordon Heath and Armstead-Johnson, memorial information for Gordon Heath, and clippings.
- b. 4 **Curtis, Gertrude 1910 - 1979**  
 Pianist, choir director, and dentist. Before her marriage to composer Cecil Mack in 1909, Curtis was an accomplished pianist and was the first black woman to practice dentistry in New York City. Curtis traveled to Europe with Mack and his Blackbirds Choir in Lew Leslie's *Blackbirds of 1930*, which starred Ethel Waters and Flournoy Miller. When the choir returned to the U.S., she replaced Mack as the choir director. After Mack's death, she married dancer Ulysses "Slow Kid" Thompson in 1948.  
 The file contains her obituary; a letter from Bellevue Allied Hospitals to Curtis; a letter from Curtis to Bessie; a copy of a letter from Curtis to Detroit Public Library; and clippings.

## D

- b. 4 **D.C. Black Repertory Company**  
 In 1970, Robert Hooks, actor and one of three founders of the Negro Ensemble Company (NEC), founded the D.C. Black Repertory Company (DCBRC), the capitol's first black repertory theatre. Hooks established the company with a \$30,000 grant from the Meyer Foundation. Like the NEC, the DCBRC combined productions with theatrical training and youth workshop programs designed primarily to stimulate and foster the participation of blacks in all phases of the theatrical profession.  
 The file contains a company profile, a program, a broadside for *The Blacks*, and flyer for *Owen's Song*.
- b. 4 **Dafora, Asadata 1934 - 1935**  
 Dancer and choreographer. Born in Freetown, Sierra Leone, Dafora's father, John Owana Horton, was the treasurer of Freetown, and his mother was a highborn member of the Temini tribe. Dafora was best known for his two works, *Kykunkor - Ticket of (Witch Woman) an African Drama* and *Zunguru: An African Dance Drama*.  
 The file contains a biographical sketch, clippings, subscription card to the Negro Dance Company, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 4 **Davis, Ruby 1975**  
 Actress, writer, and pianist. Born in Florida, Davis studied piano at the New York School of Music, and entered show business shortly after she graduated high school. She was an assistant director with the National Negro Opera Company Foundation, a member of the Negro Actors Guild of America, Inc., and actor Leigh Whipper's personal secretary.  
 The file contains a biographical sketch, a letter from Davis to Armstead-Johnson, copy of letter from the Schomburg Center to Davis, and a clipping.
- b. 4 **Davis, Jr., Sammy 1974 - 1980**  
 Born in Harlem, Davis began his career as a toddler in vaudeville and grew up performing with his father and uncle in the Will Mastin Trio. He went on to stardom in Las Vegas nightclubs, motion pictures, television, and Broadway plays. He made scores of hit recordings, among them his signature songs, "Candy Man", "Mr. Bojangles", "What Kind of Fool Am I", and "I've Gotta Be Me." Active in the Civil Rights Movement, Davis was also a humanitarian, contributing generously to black colleges and other causes. His many honors include the NAACP Spingarn Medal, American Black Achievement Awards' Lifetime Achievement Award, a Kennedy Center Honor, and induction to the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame. His numerous academic awards include honorary degrees from Atlanta University, Wilberforce University, and South Carolina State College. He wrote three autobiographies: *Yes I Can: The Story of Sammy Davis, Jr.*, *Hollywood in a Suitcase*, and *Why Me?*  
 Includes clippings.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## D (cont.)

- b. 4 **Dawson, Elida Webb 1973 - 1975**  
Dancer and choreographer. Born in Alexandria, Virginia, Dawson began her show business career as a chorus girl trained by vaudeville star Ada Overton Walker. Dawson was the first black choreographer on Broadway, choreographing for the Zeigfield Follies and the musical *Show Boat*. She is credited with introducing "The Charleston", along with Josephine Baker, in the hit show *Runnin' Wild* in 1923. She appeared in *Stormy Weather* with Ethel Waters, and *World on a String* with Cab Calloway, where she discovered singer Lena Horne. She also had a dance studio at Kelly Stables in New York City and did choreography for the Cotton Club, Apollo Theatre, and the Lafayette Theatre. Dawson was married to dancer Garfield Dawson. The file contains an obituary and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 4 **Dee, Ruby and Ossie Davis 1973 - 1978**  
Husband and wife team, thespians, writers, and producers. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Ruby Dee's acting career spanned more than fifty years and included theater, radio, television, and movies. Born in Cogdell, Georgia, Ossie Davis starred as Ponder Blue on television's *Evening Shade* and as the mayor in Spike Lee's film *Do the Right Thing*. He made his Broadway debut in 1946, and wrote and starred in *Purlie Victorious*, the 1961 play that was eventually revived as the smash Broadway musical *Purlie*. Davis also directed the film *Cotton Comes to Harlem* in 1970. The couple was active in the struggle for civil and human rights, and were friends as well as supporters of Dr. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X. Dee and Davis also maintained memberships in organizations such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Congress of Racial Equality. The file contains a press release, clippings, and a flyer.
- b. 4 **DeShields, Andre 1978**  
Dancer. DeShields is most noted for his performances in major Broadway productions such as the original production and star tour of *The Wiz, Ain't Misbehavin', Stardust*, and *L'Histoire du Soldat*. Off-Broadway credits include *Angel Levine, Dancing in Moonlight, Ascension Day, The Sovereign State of Boogedy Boogedy*, and *Just So*. His film and television credits include *Prison; Extreme Measures; I Dream of Jeannie - 15 Years Later, Ain't Misbehavin'*, for which he won an Emmy; *Law and Order*, and *Another World*. Includes clippings.
- b. 5 **Dodson, Owen 1946 - 1984**  
Playwright, actor, and poet. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Dodson was a major figure among black dramatists and poets. A drama professor at Howard University for most of his career, Dodson's plays include *Divine Comedy, New World A-Coming: An Original Pageant of Hope, The Shining Town, The Third Fourth of July* (with Countee Cullen), and *Bayou Legend*. The file contains a biographical sketch, flyers, press releases, journals, Armstead-Johnson notes, and clippings.
- b. 5 **Donald Byrd/The Group 1988 - 1991**  
Born in New London, North Carolina, Byrd attended Yale University and Tufts University, and studied with Mia Slavenska, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center, Cambridge School of Ballet, Harvard Summer Dance Center, and the London School of Contemporary Dance. Byrd, a critically-acclaimed choreographer, formed Donald Byrd/The Group in New York in 1978. The file contains a company profile booklet, business card, and clippings.
- b. 5 **Duke Ellington Society 1977 - 1978**  
Named for Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington, the society's purpose is to promote the appreciation of the music of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn. The file contains a brochure, flyers, press releases, and clippings.
- b. 5 **Dunham, Katherine 1953 - 1979**  
Choreographer and dancer. Born in Joliet, Illinois, Dunham received her Ph.D. at Northwestern University in anthropology, and she is considered a pioneer in the field of dance. She formed the Katherine Dunham School of Cultural Arts in 1943, and was the producer and director of the Katherine Dunham Dance Company in 1945. Dunham is identified as a dance pioneer due to her development of the Dunham technique, which combines Caribbean dance with jazz, ballet, and modern dance. She appeared in many films and plays, and choreographed dances for such films as *Stormy Weather* and *Cabin in the Sky*.

## E



## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## E (cont.)

- b. 5 **Easton, Hosea 1983**  
Hosea Easton was a musician born in Hartford, Connecticut.  
The file contains a copies of Easton's birth, marriage, and death certificates; photocopies of clippings; a picture of Easton; cemetery map; and correspondence between Armstead-Johnson and the City of Hartford re: Easton.
- b. 5 **Ellington, Duke 1973 - 1978**  
An accomplished pianist and bandleader, Ellington and his band, the Kentucky Club Orchestra, were featured performers at the Cotton Club in the 1930s. He later appeared in movies and around the world with various orchestras. He is famous for songs such as "Take the A Train"; "Mood Indigo"; "I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good"; "Solitude"; and "It Don't Mean a Thing, If It Ain't Got That Swing", among others.  
The file contains Ellington's obituary; brochures; flyers; a letter from the Black American Heritage Foundation; a copy of *Jet* Magazine featuring an article on Ellington's biography by his son Mercer; and clippings.
- b. 5 **Ethiopian Serenaders**  
The Ethiopian Serenaders, a minstrel group, included members M.G. Stanford, G.W. White, F. Howard, S. A. Wells, W. Parker, J. H. Bryant, Germon, Stanwood, Harrington, Pell, and Pelham, in addition to a brass band. The group performed in the mid-nineteenth century, and their show consisted of live music, singing, and skits. The group toured New York, Philadelphia, and Boston.  
The file contains photocopies of posters and programs, and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 5 **Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts, Inc 1970 - 1971**  
Founded by Elma Lewis in 1950, this school offered classes in art, drama, music, dance, costuming, and technical theater. Though the school started out in a Roxbury apartment in 1950, it moved to the National Center for Afro-American Artists, which was also founded by Lewis, in 1968. In 1969, she staged the first local production of Langston Hughes's *Black Nativity*, which continues to be a favorite.  
The file contains a Lewis fact sheet ( biography and history of school), position papers re: black studies, and copies of clippings.
- b. 5 ***Eubie* 1975 - 1978**  
A Broadway revue featuring the music of ragtime composer Eubie Blake, directed by Julianne Boyd, choreographed by Dana Manno, and starring Gregory and Maurice Hines, Alaina Reed, and Linnie Godfrey.  
Includes clippings.
- b. 5 **Eyre, Laurence 1914 - 1981**  
Playwright and actor. Born in Chester, Pennsylvania, Eyre made his first appearance on the stage in *The Jilt* at Castle Square Theatre in Boston in 1907. He was a member of the New Theatre in New York, and wrote *An Angel Without Wings*, *The Things That Count*, and *Sazus Matazus*.  
The file contains a letter from Eyre to Rev. Paul Boller, biographical information, and a letter from Peter Coulson to Armstead-Johnson regarding Eyre.
- F**
- b. 5 **Ferry, Williams James 1941 - 1985**  
Caucasian circus clown and contortionist. Born in Philadelphia, Ferry was known as "The Frog Man." At age 15, he joined Peggy O'Brien's Fly-By-Night Circus. In 1901, Ferry appeared with Dix's Gaiety Company at the Alhambra Theatre, in Dunedin, Australia.  
Throughout the 1920s, Ferry made a number of appearances in Australia.  
The file contains copies of birth and death certificates; a poster card; obituary; clippings; letters in reference to Ferry between Gary LeGallet and Armstead-Johnson; and a cemetery map.
- b. 5 ***Fire!! A Quarterly Devoted to Younger Negro Artists* 1982**  
Magazine. The first and only issue of *Fire!!* was edited by Wallace Thurman and contains the writings and works of Harlem Renaissance writers and artists Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Arna Bontemps, Richard Bruce, Gwendolyn Bennett, Countee Cullen, and Aaron Douglas.  
Includes a facsimile edition.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

F (cont.)

- b. 5 **Fisk Jubilee Singers**  
Concert choral group. Established in 1866 by the American Missionary Association, Fisk University opened its doors to aid in the education of over four million slaves. George L. White, a choral director, trained the Fisk students to sing black folksongs as well as a traditional European repertory. In 1867, the students began to give concerts locally in nearby towns. Encouraged by their success, they went on an extensive tour in the fall of 1871. In December of the same year, White christened the group the "Jubilee Singers" after a then popular black-folk saying about "the year of the jubilee."  
The file contains photocopies of a newspaper article and a biographical sketch for Robert Williams, former member of Fisk Jubilee Singers.
- b. 5 ***Four Saints in Three Acts* 1934**  
An opera with book by Gertrude Stein and music by Virgil Thompson. The associate conductor was Eva Jessye. *Four Saints in Three Acts* starring Edward Matthews, Abner Dorsey, Altonell Hines and Beatrice Robinson Wayne; opened in Hartford, Connecticut; and made its way to Broadway.  
The file contains clippings, from various newspapers, about the play and Stein.
- b. 5 **Foxx, Redd 1974 - 1980**  
Comedian and actor. Born John Elroy Sanford in St. Louis, Missouri, Fox worked the club circuits in New York, Las Vegas, and Los Angeles for many years before getting his own primetime television show, *Sanford and Son*, which aired from 1972 - 1977. He also recorded numerous albums of comedy including *On the Loose*, *Funky Tales from a Dirty Old Junkman*, and *Pryor Goes Foxx Hunting*, with Richard Pryor.  
Includes clippings.
- b. 5 **France, Rachel**  
Writer.  
The file contains a copy of *Women's Voices in the Theatre: An Anthology of Plays* by France.
- b. 5 **Frank Silvera Writers' Workshop 1977**  
The Frank Silvera Writers' Workshop was co-founded by Garland Lee Thompson in October 1973, to provide support, guidance, and developmental assistance to black playwrights. Named for the late Hollywood actor/director, it was initially established to meet the needs of third world playwrights. While acting as a laboratory for playwrights, the Workshop gradually expanded its program to include directors and technicians. Hundreds of works have been presented by the Workshop and several of them, such as Richard Wesley's *The Last Street Play*, later renamed *The Mighty Gents*, and Charles Fuller's *The Brownsville Raid*, went on to achieve commercial success.  
The file contains press releases; flyers; performers' profiles and biographical sketches; lists and schedules of readings; and a biography of Frank Silvera.
- b. 5 **Franklin, Joe 1970**  
Radio show personality.  
The file contains a transcript of an interview with Franklin by Armstead-Johnson and her notes.
- b. 5 **Freeman, Harry Lawrence 1937**  
Composer. Freeman studied music as a child in Cleveland, Ohio, and at age nineteen, he became an assistant organist. In the early 1900s, he composed musical comedies for The Pekin Theatre Company in Chicago and the Cole and Johnson Brothers Company in New York. He also composed 14 operas; one ballet, *Zulu King* (1934); a symphonic poem called "The Slave"; cantatas; and songs.  
The file contains a flyer for *Vendetta: An Original Opera in Three Acts* by Freeman.
- b. 5 **Fuller, James 1938**  
Actor.  
The file contains an Actors Equity Agreement between Fuller and Robert F. Cutler for the play *Petrified Forest*

G

- b. 6 **Garland, Will 1928**  
Singer.  
The file contains copies of the Manchester Programme featuring Will Garland and other singers and dancers.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

G (cont.)

- b. 6 **Gassman, Josephine 1912**  
Gassman, aka Phina, was the leader of the group called Josephine and the Pickaninnies. The file contains reviews and photocopies of photographs.
- b. 6 **Gee, Lottie 1973**  
Actress and singer. Gee is considered the first black ingenue to be featured in a Broadway musical. She sang "I'm Just Wild About Harry" opposite Ivan Harold Browning in *Shuffle Along* in 1921.  
The file contains an obituary, funeral program, and notes.
- b. 6 **Gilpin, Charles**  
Actor and singer. Born in Richmond, Virginia, Charles S. Gilpin was one of the first black dramatic actors to appear on Broadway. Beginning as a singer and comic actor, Gilpin seized opportunities to play in black stock companies and developed his acting abilities. He played the title role in Eugene O'Neill's play *The Emperor Jones*. Not only was the role a personal triumph for Gilpin, but it also opened the door for other blacks in professional theater. Gilpin was also a founding member of the Lafayette Players, a stock company in Harlem.  
The file contains a biographical sketch and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 6 **Giovanni, Nikki**  
Poet, writer and teacher. Born in Knoxville, Tennessee, Giovanni is one of the best-known African-American poets to have reached prominence during the late 1960s and early 1970s. Her poetry books include *Re: Creation*, *Spin a Soft Black Song*, and *Those Who Ride the Night Winds*. Her nonfiction works include *Racism 101* and the anthology *Grand Mothers: Poems, Reminiscences, and Short Stories about the Keepers of Our Traditions*. A frequent lecturer and reader, Giovanni has taught at Rutgers University, Ohio State University, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.  
The file contains photocopies of her poems.
- b. 6 **Gordone, Charles 1970**  
Playwright. Gordone, a Cleveland native who grew up in Elkhart, Indiana, won the 1970 Pulitzer Prize for his play, *No Place to Be Somebody*, the first Pulitzer awarded to an African-American playwright. He also appeared in two films, *Streetfight*, in 1975, and *Angel Heart*, in 1987. He was a Distinguished Lecturer at Texas A and M University.  
Includes clippings.
- b. 6 ***The Great White Hope* 1969**  
Written by Howard Sackler, this Pulitzer Prize-winning play tells the story of the first black heavyweight boxing champion Jack Johnson. The Broadway play starred James Earl Jones and Jane Alexander.  
Includes clippings.
- b. 6 **Greaves, William 1972 - 1981**  
Filmmaker and writer. Greaves produced over 200 documentary films in his career, and directed and co-produced a celebration of Paul Robeson's 90th birthday at the Shubert Theater in New York. He was executive producer of the Richard Pryor film *Bustin' Loose*. He wrote, produced, and directed the documentaries *The Marijuana Affair*, *Ali, the Fighter*, *Symbiopsychotaxiplasm: Take One*, and *Ida B Wells: A Passion for Justice*, which aired on PBS. He also conducted workshops for film directors and screen actors throughout the world.  
The file contains a biographical sketch and clippings.
- b. 6 **Green, Silas 1946**  
Actor.  
The file contains flyers, photocopies of broadsides, and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 6 ***The Green Pastures* 1931 - 1957**  
*Green Pastures*, a play, was written by Marc Connelly, and featured Richard B. Harrison, Wesley Hill, Daniel Haynes, Salem Tutt Whitney, Robert McFerrin, George Royston, Alonzo Bosan, Alma Hubbard, William McDaniel, Sam Davis, Tina Marshall, John Bouie, and Courtenaye Olden.  
The file contains a play script and clippings.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

G (cont.)

- b. 6 **Gunn, Moses 1969**  
Actor. Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Gunn played a variety of roles on stage, film, and television in a career that spanned more than thirty years. He was perhaps best known as a Shakespearean actor, taking part in many productions of the New York Shakespeare Festival. Despite his status as a leading player on the stage, however, Gunn most often played supporting roles in the movies and on television, limited by the few parts available to black men. He was also a member of the Negro Ensemble Company.  
Includes reviews.

H

- b. 6 **Hall, Adelaide 1970 - 1983**  
Singer and actress. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Hall began her professional stage career in the early 1920s, and her career spanned more than a half century. Hall was one of the multi-talented black performers in the early black shows of the 1920s including *Chocolate Kiddies Revue* and *Blackbirds*. She appeared in musical revues, movies, and entertainment acts in Europe, on Broadway, and in black theaters across the United States.
- b. 6 **Hall, Juanita 1966**  
Singer, actress, and choral director. Juanita Long Hall was born in Keyport, New Jersey, and was best-known for her role as Bloody Mary in the 1949 Broadway stage production of *South Pacific*; she also appeared in the movie version in 1958. Hall spent more than forty years in the performing arts. Her choral music activities brought her in contact with other black music pioneers, such as Hall Johnson, Eva Jessye, and William C. Handy. Juanita Hall's choral organizations were known for their high musical quality and discipline and many of her choir members went on to perform in Broadway stage productions. She also had a private voice studio.  
The file contains clippings and a program.
- b. 6 **Handy, W. C. (William Christopher) 1928 - 1976**  
Composer and publisher. Born in Florence, Alabama, the son of a minister, Handy learned to play the coronet and the organ as a child. He was known as the "Father of the Blues."  
Conventionally musically-trained, Handy incorporated folk rhythms into the blues.  
The file contains a funeral program; copies of flyers and programs; an advertisement for Handy's autobiography; postcards; an article on Katherine Handy Lewis, his daughter; cards; flyers; a letter from Handy to Bernard Parker; four letters from Flournoy Miller; and copies of clippings.
- b. 6 ***Hard Times***  
Musical comedy. Book written by Alex Rogers and Eddie Hunter, music by C. Luckeyth "Lucky" Roberts, and lyrics by Alex Rogers.  
The file contains a play script and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 6 **Harlem...One More Time 1977**  
Band that featured some of the original musicians who played at the Apollo Theatre, The Savoy, Harlem Opera House, and Cotton Club, among others. Harlem...One More Time had its debut concert in Pluckerman, New Jersey, in 1977.  
The file contains press releases and clippings.
- b. 6 **Harper, Emerson "Geechie"**  
Musician. Harper was a member of Leroy Smith's dance orchestra in Detroit, Michigan, which toured the United States between 1910 and 1930.  
The file contains an essay by Harper describing his experiences with the band.
- b. 6 **Haverly's Colored Minstrels**  
Performance group. Created in 1881 by J.H. Haverly, this all-black troupe of men and women performed in the United States and England during the late nineteenth century.  
The file contains copies of playbills and notes by Armstead-Johnson.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## H (cont.)

- b. 6 **Hayden, Palmer 1933 - 1944**  
 Painter. Born Peyton Cole Hedgemen in Wide Water, Virginia, Hayden was best known for his paintings of rural and urban black folk. The circumstances under which his name was changed are unclear, but it is known that he was a U.S. soldier in World War I and a laborer for many years before becoming a full-time painter. Mostly self-taught, he was well into adulthood before receiving any academic art training. At one time Hayden studied to be a commercial artist but realized that his desire to be a fine artist was stronger, and consequently pursued formal training.  
 The file contains unsigned comments on Palmer's work; a letter from Palmer to Mrs. Barkentin; clippings; and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 6 **Hayes, Roland 1937 - 1952**  
 Singer. Born in Georgia to a widowed slave-born mother, Hayes studied music, voice production, and song interpretation. He worked as an iron foundry helper in Chattanooga, a waiter in Louisville, and an office boy in Boston, where he also appeared at Symphony Hall. He was a member of the Fisk Jubilee Singers in 1911, and formed the Hayes Trio, which included baritone William Richardson and pianist William Lawrence, in 1912. Hayes also sang duets with H. T. Burleigh for one of Booker T. Washington's lecture tours. He was the first black singer to perform before racially-mixed audiences in the South and at Constitution Hall.  
 The file contains record advertisements, and clippings.
- b. 6 **Heath, Gordon 1945 - 1991**  
 Actor. Heath garnered praise for his performance in the Broadway play *Deep Are the Roots*. He left the United States for Paris in 1948, and played Othello in London, on stage and British television. In 1970, he starred in *Oedipus* in the United States. His autobiography *Deep Are the Roots: Memoirs of a Black Expatriate*, was published in 1992, by University of Massachusetts Press.  
 The file contains an obituary of Heath; flyers for the play *Kohlhass*, by Heinrich von Kliest; an obituary for Arnaud d'Usseau, author of *Deep Are the Roots*; materials from Heath's memorial service by actor Darryl Croxton; copies of letters from William Greaves, Elia Kazan, Lofton Mitchell; a poem by Croxton dedicated to Heath called "No Endgame"; and clippings.
- b. 6 ***Heaven Bound* 1963 - 1988**  
 A musical written by a Sunday school teacher at Big Bethel African Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia in 1930, *Heaven Bound* has since been performed annually at the church. The file contains clippings and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 6 **Height, Amy**  
 Height, a singer, performed with minstrels. She appeared at the annual Prince's Pantomime and was known for her rendition of a song called "My Tiger Lily" with Mr. Angelo and chorus. The file contains a photocopy of a clipping.
- b. 6 **Hightower, Gail 1978 - 1979**  
 A bassoonist, Hightower has performed with the Symphony of the New World, the Urban Philharmonic, the Great Neck Symphony, the Dance Theatre of Harlem Orchestra, and the National Afro-American Philharmonic. In 1978, she founded the Universal Symphony, a multicultural, multiracial, multiethnic chamber orchestra comprised of 60% minority musicians. The file contains flyers, press releases, and copies of clippings regarding Universal Symphony.
- b. 6 **Hinton, Milton 1973 - 1974**  
 Bassist. Hinton played with one of jazz legend Benny Goodman's combos, in addition to being featured in Cab Calloway's Orchestra in 1938. In 1945, Hinton was leading the Milton Hinton Orchestra featuring Tyree Glenn. He also played bass on Helen Merrill's albums *Don't Explain*, *Born to Be Blue*, *You'd Be so Nice to Come Home To*, and *'S Wonderful*, and he worked with Cannonball Adderley. Hinton is also known for his photographs of jazz musicians. The file contains clippings, telephone messages to Armstead-Johnson, and a calendar of famous jazz musicians.
- b. 6 **Hogan, Ernest 1903**  
 Actor, songwriter, and musician. Born in Kentucky and called the Father of Ragtime, Hogan was credited with writing the first coon song, "Pas-Ma-La", and others, including "All Coons Look Alike to Me". In collaboration with Joe Jordan, he wrote the music for the minstrel show *Rufus Rastus*.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## H (cont.)

- b. 6     **"Hollywood and the Negro"** 1966 May - June  
 Title of the May - June 1966 issue of the magazine, *The Pilot: The Pictorial News Magazine*. Features historical information on black actors and films featuring blacks, as well as a behind-the-scenes look at black press agents and producers working at film studios.
- b. 6     **Holt, Nora** 1963 - 1974  
 Entertainer, singer, and music critic. Born in Kansas City, Kansas, Holt was the first black person to obtain a Master's degree in music from the Chicago Music College. She performed in nightclubs in Chicago, on the Riviera, and in Paris, where she was called the "Blonde Martinique." She traveled widely and gave concerts in Japan, France, and China. Holt's career as a music critic began in 1917 at *The Chicago Defender*, and she later went to work for *The Amsterdam News*. In 1919, Holt founded the National Association of Negro Musicians.  
 The file contains an obituary; funeral program; copy of letter from Holt to Charles James; documentation of Charles James's career; an article; a letter from "C" to Armstead-Johnson regarding Holt; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 6     **Horne, Lena** 1955 - 1987  
 Actress and singer. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Horne began her career as a dancer at the Cotton Club in 1933. She starred in the films *Stormy Weather* and *Cabin in the Sky*, recorded numerous albums, and had a one-woman stage show, *Lena: The Lady and Her Music*.  
 The file contains concert souvenir journals *Lena: The Lady and Her Music* and *Tony (Bennett) and Lena*; a pocket booklet featuring Horne; a letter from James Hatch to Armstead-Johnson; and clippings.
- b. 6     **Howard Theatre** 1910 - 1923  
 The Howard Theatre is a historic theater, located in Washington, D.C. Opened in 1910, it was known for catering to an African-American clientele, and had played host to many of the great black musical artists of the early and mid-twentieth century.  
 The file contains a Howard Theatre Foundation broadside and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 7     **Howell, Bert** 1933 - 1937  
 Singer and comedian. Howell was a member of the comedy duo Harris and Howell; they appeared in the films *Buck Privates* and *Congo Maisie*, and the 1936 Broadway production of *Shuffle Along*. Howell was also a member of the comedy duos Howell and Bowser and Easton and Howell.  
 The file contains photocopies of clippings, playbills, reviews, routines, and a telegram.
- b. 7     **Hughes, Langston** 1940 - 1987  
 Writer, lyricist, and poet. Born in Joplin, Missouri, Hughes published his first book of poetry, *The Weary Blues*, in 1926. A major figure in the Harlem Renaissance, he wrote two autobiographies, several plays, short stories, and songs.  
 The file contains the play scripts *Debutante's Ball*, *Madam Seymour's Séance*, *Troubles of a Genius*, and *I'm Pickin' My Last Row of Cotton*; a poem booklet, *Freedom's Plow*; a copy of the poem "The Backlash Blues"; letters; a playbill for *Tambourines to Glory*; and two copies of "Message to the President: American Negro National Defense Song."
- b. 7     **Hughes, Ravella** 1942 - 1975  
 Singer. A native of Huntington, West Virginia, Hughes began her singing career at the age of five. She attended Howard University and Northwestern University. Hughes was musical director for Sissle and Blake's *Shuffle Along* (1921) and Miller and Lyles's *Runnin' Wild* (1923). She appeared on television, conducted swing concerts at colleges, and toured Europe in U.S. Air Force shows after World War II.  
 The file contains a copy of Hughes's Master's degree, clippings, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 7     **Hunter, Alberta** 1978  
 Singer. Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Alberta Hunter's long life and marvelously varied career reads like a chronicle of twentieth-century blues and jazz. She sang with and composed for Louis Armstrong, Ethel Waters, Fats Waller, Bessie Smith, Josephine Baker, and Paul Robeson, and crossed paths with presidents, prime ministers, and princes. In the 1920s and early 1930s, Hunter and Bessie Smith found themselves recording some of the same songs, including "Taint Nobody's Business If I Do" and "Aggravatin' Papa," among others.  
 Includes clippings.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

H (cont.)

- b. 7 **Hunter, Eddie**  
Comedian and playwright. Hunter wrote *Going to the Races* for the Lafayette Theatre, one of the first shows to use the stage and the screen simultaneously. His other shows included *Good Gracious*, *The Eddie Hunter Company*, *Darktown Scandals*, *Struttin' Hannah from Savannah*, and a Broadway show called *How Come*.  
The file contains the play script *That Gets It*, a performance broadside; clippings; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 7 **Hyman, Earle 1966 - 1979**  
Theater and television actor. Born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, Hyman appeared in many plays, including *Anna Lucasta*, *Mister Johnson*, *Othello*, *The Lady from Dubuque*, and *Long Day's Journey into Night*. He also portrayed Russell Huxtable on *The Cosby Show*.  
The file contains reviews of *Othello* from a Norwegian newspaper.

I

- b. 7 ***In Dahomey* 1904 - 1908**  
Musical comedy with music by Will Marion Cook, book by J. A. Shipp, and lyrics by Paul Lawrence Dunbar. *In Dahomey* was a full-length musical created and performed almost entirely by African Americans. From 1902 - 1905, the musical enjoyed over 1100 performances and turned the vaudeville team of Bert Williams and George Walker into household names. *In Dahomey* was the most successful and longest-running Williams and Walker show. It also paved the way for more black Broadway shows, and promoted Cook as a spokesman for new styles of African-American music.  
Contains photocopies of clippings.
- b. 7 **Inner City Cultural Center 1973**  
Located in Washington, D.C., the Inner City Cultural Center (ICCC) encompassed several components--Inner City Repertory Theatre Dance Company, Inner City Institute for the Performing Arts, and the Langston Hughes Memorial Library. Since its inception in 1967, teaching personnel have included Beah Richards, Louis Gossett, Jr., and Fayard Nicholas of the Nicholas Brothers. Famed choreographer Donald McKayle led the dance company in 1971, and the Center featured performances by the Dance Theatre of Harlem and the Eleo Pomare Dance Company.  
The file contains an organizational profile; spring class schedule; press releases; activities calendar; clippings; a mailing; and reviews for *One Is a Crowd*.

J

- b. 7 **Jarboro, Caterina 1975**  
Opera singer. Born in Wilmington, North Carolina, Jarboro became the first black woman to sing a principal role with an all-white opera company. She performed *Aida* with the Chicago Opera Company at the Hippodrome in New York City. *The New York Times* music editor reported, "The young soprano brought a vivid dramatic sense that kept her impersonation vital without overacting, and an Italian diction remarkably pure and distinct." Jarboro's fame, however, was short-lived. Once the American opera establishment realized that she was not Italian but black, her career with the white establishment ended. She went on to work with the National Negro Opera Company and as a concert singer. Jarboro appeared in such plays as *Shuffle Along*, and venues such as Town Hall and Carnegie Hall.  
Contains reviews and photocopied clippings.
- b. 7 **"Jazz Dancing--A New Color in the American Rainbow" 1929**  
"Jazz Dancing--A New Color in the American Rainbow", an article, was written by W. Adolphe Roberts about the contributions of black jazz dance to the field of dance.
- b. 7 **Jazz musicians 1974 - 1979**  
The file contains clippings; press releases for jazz events; flyers; and obituaries of such individuals and groups as the Billy Taylor Trio, Ahmad Jamal, National Jazz Ensemble, Oscar Brown, Jr. and Blossom Dearie, Ray Nance, and T. Bone and Walker.
- b. 7 ***Jazz Sunday***  
*Jazz Sunday*, a play, was conceived and written by Elias P. Wrubel and J. Rosamond Johnson in 1930.  
Contains play script.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

J (cont.)

- b. 7     **Jessye, Eva 1973 - 1981**  
Choral director. Jessye was best known as a choral conductor and leader of the Eva Jessye Choir, a leading choral group that toured widely in the U.S. Later in her career, she served as artist-in-residence at Pittsburg State University in Kansas in 1978.  
The file contains a resume; book of selected poems; correspondence; *Little Balkans Review* featuring Jessye; and photocopies of clippings.
- b. 7     **John Henry 1939**  
A play produced by Sam Byrd in 1939, *John Henry* starred Paul Robeson and featured music by Roark Bradford and Jacques Wolfe.  
The file contains a contract; an article, "Sam Byrd: His Search for John Henry"; a biographical sketch of Bradford; letters to Byrd; press releases; reviews; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 7     **Johnson and Dean 1947 - 1983**  
Charles Johnson and Dora Dean, husband and wife, traveled the world as a dancing and singing team. Johnson is credited with being the first man to wear a full suit in vaudeville in 1896, and the duo was the first black vaudeville act on Broadway in 1897. In addition, they were the first black dance team of its kind to appear at Carnegie Hall in 1937. Johnson cowrote a song about Dora called "Dora Dean, Prettiest Girl I've Ever Seen."  
The file contains letters to and from Armstead-Johnson to Reginald T. Buckner; a letter regarding Johnson and Dean to Belafonte Enterprises, Inc.; photocopies of clippings; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 7     **Johnson, Frank ca. 1846**  
Composer and trumpeter. Johnson led a band in Philadelphia in or around 1846. The band toured the United States and England, where he played before Queen Victoria who gave Johnson a silver bugle.  
Contains a copy of a picture of Johnson.
- b. 7     **Johnson, Hall 1933 - 1977**  
Choral director and composer. Most noted for his work as a choral director for the play *Green Pastures* in 1930, Hall and his choir, the Hall Johnson Choir, appeared in the film of the same name in 1936. His folk play, *Run, Little Chillun*, for which he wrote the book and score, played in New York in 1933 for 126 performances. He also composed a number of art songs, spiritual arrangements, an operetta, and a cantata.  
The file contains play scripts; Hall notes; press releases; various letters including one from Hall Johnson to the Rockefeller Foundation and another from Johnson to Newbold Morris, President, City Hall, NY; flyers; insurance form for Robert Rockmore, producer of *Run, Little Chillun*; and clippings.
- b. 8     **Johnson, J. Rosamond 1938 - 1942**  
Composer. Born in Jacksonville, Florida, Johnson composed many widely popular songs, as well as some more ambitious works. With his vaudeville partner Bob Cole, he made an important contribution to the pre-World War I flowering of the black musical theater. A trained musician, he was an excellent pianist and singer and had a long and successful performing career on the stage. He made a significant contribution to the preservation of the black musical heritage through his work with spirituals, much of it done with his brother, James Weldon Johnson. The song-writing trio of Bob Cole and the Johnson brothers helped to erase black stereotypes in the world of musical theater and to increase the opportunities for black musicians in the field of popular music.  
The file contains scores; sheet music for "She Couldn't Say No"; a photocopy of the song, "I Was a Heroine"; and clippings.
- b. 8     **Johnson, James Weldon 1930 - 1978**  
Composer. Born in Jacksonville, Florida, Johnson was the first black to be admitted to the Florida bar and one of the first black persons to hold a consular post in Venezuela. He was also the first black executive secretary of the NAACP. Johnson was the author of several books, including *Black Manhattan*, and with his brother wrote the black national anthem, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing."  
The file contains letters to and from Johnson to Sam Byrd; an issue of *Crisis Magazine* featuring Johnson, 1971; a biographical booklet; flyers; two letters from Armstead-Johnson to Mrs. James Weldon Johnson (Grace Nail), 1975; three letters and a note from (Mrs.) Ollie Jewel Okala to Armstead-Johnson; a letter from Max Morath to Armstead-Johnson; a letter from Ellen Moers to Mrs. Johnson; a postcard for *Godsong*; an obituary card for Grace Nail Johnson; and copies of clippings.



Alphabetical collections (cont.)

J (cont.)

- b. 8     **Johnson, Louis 1971 - 1972**  
Director. Johnson directed *Poetic Suite on Sojourner Truth*, which was written and performed by Glory Van Scott and staged at St. Mark's Playhouse.  
Contains flyers and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 8     **Jones, James Earl 1978**  
Stage, film, and television actor. Born in Arkabutla, Mississippi, Jones is an award-winning actor whose credits include the plays *Les Blancs*, *The Great White Hope*, *Othello*, and *Fences*; the films *The Great White Hope*, *The Cay*, *Dr. Strangelove*, and *Star Wars*; and the television shows *East Side/West Side*, *Roots: The Next Generation*, and *Gabriel's Fire*. Additionally, he has also performed voice talent for numerous feature films, documentaries, and commercials.  
The file includes correspondence between Jones and Armstead-Johnson and clippings.
- b. 8     **Jones, Ralph "Shrimp" and Edith 1958 - 1969**  
"Shrimp" was the leader of the Blackbirds band and his wife, Edith, was a dancer who performed in the revue show.  
The file contains a resolution (New Amsterdam Musical Association, Inc.); printed material; correspondence; scores; clippings; and Armstead-Johnson notes.

K

- b. 8     **Kapo 1975**  
Visual artist. Born Mallica Reynolds in Bynloss, Saint Catherine parish, Jamaica, Kapo, as he called himself, was a self-taught artist. He painted and sculpted in wood and stone, and his works have been exhibited in London, New York, Amsterdam, and Washington, D.C.  
The file contains an invitation to an exhibition and parts of a program.
- b. 8     **Kemp, Emme 1968 - 1973**  
Pianist and singer. Born in Chicago, Illinois, Kemp received her music education at Northwestern University, the Chicago Conservatory, and Southwest Conservatory. She has written hundreds of songs, including "Travelin' Band" and "Western Trio", and recorded for RCA.  
The file contains flyers, postcards, press releases, copies of clippings, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 8     **Kirkeby, Wallace T. (Ed) 1951 - 1952**  
Born in Brooklyn, New York, Kirkeby was a theatrical agent and producer for fifty years, and he was Thomas "Fats" Waller's manager.  
The file contains letters to Kirkeby; a copy of *Jazz Journal*; and clippings.

L

- b. 8     **La Mama Experimental Theatre Company (E.T.C.)/La Café Mama Repertory Theatre 1969 - 1970**  
Founded in 1962 by producer Ellen Stewart, La Café is a non-profit organization that functions as a private club. Stewart also founded the La Mama Experimental Theatre Club (E.T.C.), an Off Off Broadway Theatre that has presented plays by noted playwrights such as Amiri Baraka and Ed Bullins. La Mama E.T.C. had branches in Japan, Colombia, England, Canada, the Soviet Union, Lebanon, Israel, and Australia.  
The file contains flyers, a play broadside, a postcard, and clippings.
- b. 8     **The Lafayette Players 1972**  
Formed in 1917 in Harlem, the Lafayette Players were a repertory company comprised of original members from the Anita Bush Stock Company. The company is considered the very first professional black dramatic company in the twentieth century. Founding member Charles Gilpin, along with co-founders Clarence Muse and Abbie Mitchell and members Dooley Wilson and Andrew Bishop, initially performed dramas written by whites that were proven successful on the stage.  
The file contains "The Lafayette Players", a dissertation by Sister Mary Francesca Thompson, published in 1972.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## L (cont.)

- b. 8 **LaBrew, Arthur 1972 - 1975**  
Pianist, teacher, and musicologist. Born in Detroit, Michigan, LaBrew received his Bachelor of Music at Oberlin Conservatory of Music and his Master of Music at the Manhattan School of Music in 1955. LaBrew taught at the United Metropolitan Detroit and Army Band Training Unit, and he served as an executive board member of the National Association of Negro Musicians. He wrote and published a biography of Elizabeth T. Greenfield (the "Black Swan"), and was curator of the E. Azalia Hackley Collection at the Detroit Free Library.  
The file contains a resume; copy of LaBrew's "New York during the Nineteenth Century"; and letters to and from Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 8 **Layton and Johnstone 1925 - 1932**  
Johnstone and Layton were a vaudeville team; Johnstone sang and Layton played the piano (Layton).  
Contains copies of program clippings.
- b. 8 **Lee, Canada 1943**  
Actor. Born in New York City, Lee was a concert violinist, jockey, and prize fighter. He is mostly known as a stage, radio, and screen actor, however, whose credits include the plays *Native Son*, *Othello*, and *The Tempest*, and the films *Lifeboat* and *Cry, the Beloved Country*.  
The file contains a souvenir program for *The Tempest* and clippings.
- b. 8 **Lee, Spike 1989**  
Filmmaker and writer. Since 1986, Lee has produced and directed several films including *She's Gotta Have It*, *School Daze*, *Do The Right Thing*, *Malcolm X*, *Crooklyn*, *Girl 6*, among others. He has also written several books including *Spike Lee's Gotta Have It: Inside Guerilla Filmmaking*, *Uplift the Race*, and *Best Seat in the House*. Lee has starred in commercials for Nike, and he has directed videos for Anita Baker, Miles Davis, and Branford Marsalis  
Contains reviews of *Do The Right Thing*.
- b. 8 ***Lost In the Stars* 1972**  
The musical, *Lost in the Stars*, based on Alan Patton's novel *Cry, the Beloved Country*, was directed by Gene Frankel, with music by Kurt Weill and lyrics by Maxwell Anderson. It was produced on Broadway in 1972, and cast members included Brock Peters, Leonard Jackson, Rosetta LeNoire, Margaret Cowie, and Jack Gwillen.  
The file contains clippings, an excerpt from the play, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 9 **Lowe, James 1952**  
Lawyer.  
The file contains a letter from to Lowe and a postcard from Lowe to U.S. Thompson.
- b. 9 **Lowe, James B 1926 - 1927**  
Lowe was the first black actor publicized by a white studio when he portrayed Uncle Tom in Universal Studio's 1927 version of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.  
Contains three letters to Lowe.
- b. 9 **LuBrun, Bobby Lee 1885 - 1985**  
Considered a highly-regarded entertainer in Australia, LeBrun, a Caucasian comedian, was a member of the LeBrun Brothers and the Continental Four.  
The file contains letters and clippings, including one for Hussey's American Minstrels.
- b. 9 **Lyles, Aubrey 1920**  
Playwright, comedian and producer. Lyles met his vaudeville partner, Flournoy Miller in Jackson, Tennessee, where he was born. The duo (Miller and Lyles) joined the Pekin Stock Company in Chicago as writers and comedians. They wrote the book for, and appeared in, the highly successful *Shuffle Along* (1921). They also appeared in the less successful musical *Keep Shufflin'*. The duo separated, then regrouped again in 1930. *Sugar Hill* was their last show together.  
The file contains Armstead-Johnson notes and a letter from Lyles to his son.

## M

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

M (cont.)

- b. 9 ***Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* 1984**  
A play written by August Wilson and directed by Lloyd Richards, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* fictionalizes a day in the life of blues singer Rainey. The play opened on Broadway in 1984, and the original cast included Charles Dutton, Theresa Merritt, Robert Judd, Leonard Jackson, and Joe Seneca.  
Includes reviews.
- b. 9 **McAddo, Orpheus M 1886 - 1987**  
Singer and actor. Born in Greensboro, North Carolina, McAddo graduated from Hampton University and performed with the original Georgia Minstrels and Alabama Cakewalkers. In 1888, he joined the Virginia Jubilee Singers, which toured in South Africa, Australia, and Europe. After the tour, he returned to Australia and established a resident stock company in Sidney. In 1891, he married singer Mattie Allen in South Africa.  
The file contains clippings about McAddo, letters, a *Weissman Travel Reports—South Africa* guide, and receipts from the Hampton University Archives.
- b. 9 **Mack, Cecil (Richard C. McPherson) 1911 - 1937**  
Composer, author, and publisher. Born in Norfolk, Virginia, Mack was noted for his work with the musical *Swing It* (he wrote the libretto). He also wrote a number of popular songs, including the world-renowned "The Charleston" for the hit musical *Runnin' Wild*. He directed the choirs in musicals such as *Blackbirds*, *Bomballa*, and *Rhapsody in Black*. He was married to Dr. Gertrude Curtis, the first black female dentist in New York.  
The file contains an obituary; sheet music for "Just Over the Mountain" by Andy Razaf and Johnny Finke; various drafts of *Blues Episode*, a musical skit; the song "Take Me As I Am"; and copies of clippings.
- b. 9 **McKinney, Nina Mae 1941 - 1976**  
Actress. Born in Lancaster, South Carolina, McKinney appeared in Lew Leslie's *Blackbirds*, amateur shows at the Lafayette Theatre, and films such as *Hallelujah!*, *Pinky*, and *Together Again*.  
The file contains a biographical sketch, a letter from Melvin Woolfolk (McKinney's widower and manager) to Armstead-Johnson, press releases, flyers, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 9 **McIntyre and Heath**  
Caucasian minstrel team McIntyre and Heath performed during the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.  
Contains flyers and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 9 **McMillan, Lewis K**  
Magician. At age nine, McMillan toured the chain of Carolina Theaters in South Carolina with his ventriloquist act, performing between Charlie McCarthy and Edgar Bergen films. He went on to become a magician, musician (drummer), radio announcer, and writer.  
The file contains a profile, resume, and proposals McMillan wrote for a book/lecture series/television show/radio show.
- b. 9 **Madison Square Garden cakewalks 1973**  
The cakewalk was a pre-Civil War dance originally performed by slaves on plantation grounds.  
The file contains Armstead-Johnson notes about the National Ethiopian Amusement Company Grand Cake Walk and Jubilee held at Madison Square Garden in 1895, and notes on the origin of the cakewalk.
- b. 9 **Major, Gerri 1979**  
Journalist. Born Geraldyn Hodges in Chicago, Illinois, Major worked as an editor for several publications, including the *Courier*, *Interstate Tattler*, and the *Amsterdam News*, from 1924 - 1953. From 1934 - 1946, she worked as an administrative assistant for the Bureau of Public Health Education and Information in New York City. With Doris E. Saunders, Major wrote *Gerri Major's Black Society* in 1976, an analysis of America's black upper class. He also wrote the column "Gerri Major's Society World" for *Jet* and contributed to periodicals such as *Black World*, *Ebony*, and *Black Stars*.  
The file contains two letters about Major's 85th birthday and a clipping.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

M (cont.)

- b. 9     **Mapp, Jim 1959 - 1975**  
Actor, producer, and director. Mapp organized and directed the Playward Bus Theater Company (PBTC) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a semi-professional black repertory company. Productions included *The Death of Bessie Smith*, *African Heaven*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Lost in the Stars*, *Othello*, *Dark of the Moon*, and *God's Trombones*. A second company was opened in New York with the purpose of catering to black audiences by bussing them from other cities to see Off-Broadway productions. Hilda Simms and Diana Sands acted as hostesses for these tours. PBTC also had a children's theatre.  
The file includes press releases, flyers, a schedule book, ticket stubs, correspondence, a copy of actor Robert McCord's resume, clippings, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 9     **Matheus, John F 1929 - 1975**  
Writer and teacher. Born in Keyser, West Virginia, Matheus graduated from Western Reserve University in Ohio and Columbia University in New York with degrees in Romance languages. Matheus published many short stories and poems in various publications such as *The Crisis* and *Caroling Dusk: An Anthology of Negro Poetry*. He also collaborated with Clarence Cameron White on two operas, *Ouanga: A Drama* and *Tambour*.  
The file contains Matheus's curriculum vitae; copies of poetry; notes on Haitian drama; a letter from Owen Dodson to Armstead-Johnson regarding *Tambour*; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 9     ***Me and Bessie* 1975**  
*Me and Bessie* was a play produced by Leona Apostoleris; it opened on Broadway, starring Linda Hopkins as Bessie Smith.  
The file contains clippings; tickets; a letter to Howard Aylee from Armstead-Johnson regarding the use of her collection materials for an exhibition accompanying the show; agreements between Armstead-Johnson and Leona Apostoleris; a letter from Sandy Manley to Armstead-Johnson; and a letter from Armstead-Johnson to Apostoleris.
- b. 10    **Miller, Bessie Oliver 1941 - 1974**  
Broadway chorus girl in the early 1900s. Miller appeared in *Charity Girl* and *Scandals*, which also featured Marion Davies and Mabel Normand. Miller was the wife of showman/songwriter Flournoy E. Miller and the mother of Olivette Miller, a noted jazz harpist.  
The file contains correspondence between Miller and H.D. Ballenger; a letter to Armstead-Johnson; a typescript of the article, "Life in these United States"; drafts of book manuscripts, *They Have Always Helped*, *Forbidden Kin*, and *The Gent' Man Friend* by Miller.
- b. 10    **Miller, Clifford L**  
A clergyman educated at Fisk University and author of *The Haunting Voice* (1924), a book of poetry.  
The file contains a draft of a novel written by Miller entitled *Dusky*.
- b. 10    **Miller, Irvin and Quintard 1921 - 1927**  
Playwrights, comedians, and producers. Irvin and Quintard are the brothers of Flournoy Miller. The Miller brothers got their start with the Pekin Stock Company in Chicago. Irvin toured with the John Rucker Company and later performed with Flournoy Miller and Aubrey Lyles in *Who's Stealin'?* (1918). Quintard wrote and produced shows such as *Broadway Gossips* (1920), *Darktown Scandals* (1921), and *Some Baby* (1921). Irvin also wrote the book for the play *Liza* (1922); and Quintard performed in the production.  
The file includes a letter to Irvin Miller from Frank Schiffman of the Apollo Theater; clippings for Irvin's plays *Liza* and *Put and Take* (1922); and programs for *Liza*.
- b. 10    **Miller, Olivette 1957**  
Jazz harpist, dancer, actress, and writer. Olivette is the daughter of entertainers Flournoy and Bessie Miller.  
The file contains clippings, a guide, a handwritten note, and printed material promoting Miller's concerts.
- b. 10    **Minstrels 1818 - 1984**  
Three file folders contain clippings, letters, programs, playbills, advertisements, and Armstead-Johnson notes.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

M (cont.)

- b. 10 **Mitchell, Abbie 1933 - 1945**  
Actress and concert soprano. In 1898, Mitchell began touring with Black Patti's Troubadours and remained with the troupe for several years. She was a member of the Williams and Walker Company and performed in *In Dahomey* (1903) and *Bandanna Land* (1908). She was also the director and founder of the Abbie Mitchell Players and co-founded The Lafayette Players (1914). After completing vocal study in Paris in 1931, Mitchell resumed her concert operatic career and appeared as Santuzza in the Aeolian Opera Association production of *Cavalleria Rusticana*.  
The file includes photocopies of letters from Mitchell and a photocopy of the program for *The Eternal Magdalene*, a performance that she staged for the Ira Aldridge Guild.
- b. 10 ***Mother Courage and Her Children* 1980**  
*Mother Courage and Her Children*, a play, was written by Bertolt Brecht and adapted by playwright Ntozake Shange.  
Includes a clipping about the Shange adaptation.
- b. 10 **Muller, Peter**  
An actor and entertainer.  
The file contains notes by Armstead-Johnson related to minstrels and a flyer promoting an event featuring Muller.
- b. 10 **Munk, Erika 1974**  
American writer. Munk served as the managing editor of the *Tulane Drama Review* in 1963. She is now on the faculty of the Yale University School of Drama and editor of *Theater*. She reported for *The Nation* from Bosnia and Croatia in 1993 - 1994 and 1996.  
The file includes memoranda and notes on black popular theater.
- b. 10 **Muse, Clarence ca. 1938 - 1956**  
Actor, playwright, and songwriter. Muse received an undergraduate degree in law from Dickinson College. He formed the Clarence Muse Company and was a co-founder of the Lafayette Players (1916).  
The file contains a letter from Muse to Irving Mills and a book cover for Muse's book *Behind the Cabin Door*.
- b. 10 ***My Friend from Kentucky* ca. 1913**  
A musical comedy produced in 1913, written by J. Leubrie Hill, and produced by the Lafayette Production Company. Hill not only authored the play but also wrote the lyrics, book, and music, and he was the lead character. The play also featured such performers as Johnnie Peters, Billy Moore, Will Thomas, Edna Morton, Adele Johnson, and Alice Ramsey.  
Includes a review.

N

- b. 10 **National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc. (NANM) 1972**  
NANM is a professional organization (organized in 1919 in Chicago, Illinois) established for the purpose of "race unity and advancement...[for] raising the musical standards of the teaching professional of [the] race...[for] better instruction in music and a systematic means of improving the musical taste of the public."  
The file includes NANM conference schedules, a list of music publishers, and clippings.
- b. 10 **National Negro Opera Company Foundation 1941 - 1961**  
The National Negro Opera Company was founded in 1941 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to provide an outlet for aspiring opera singers and to inspire young artists to study opera. The National Negro Opera Foundation was the financial entity that supported the company.  
The file contains two tickets for an opera fundraiser, programs, and clippings featuring the company's performance of *La Traviata*.
- b. 10 **Negro Actors Guild (NAG) 1967 - 1981**  
The Negro Actors Guild was formed in 1936 and began operation in 1937 in New York City. The organization was founded as a welfare and benevolent organization for black performers. It was dissolved in the early 1980's.  
The file includes newsletters, memorial service programs, and correspondence between Armstead-Johnson and NAG.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

N (cont.)

- b. 10 **Negro Ensemble Company (NEC) 1968 - 1986**  
NEC was founded in 1967 through the efforts of Douglas Turner Ward (playwright), Robert Hooks (actor), and Gerald Krone (producer) with the mission to "provide a forum for the continuous fully professional theatrical exploration of themes relevant to Black Life in America..."  
The file contains clippings and magazine articles featuring NEC actress Judy Dearing and playwright Gus Edwards; play abstracts for Joseph A. Walker's play *Ododo*; cast lists; audition lists; and printed material.
- b. 10 **New Lafayette Theater 1969**  
A Harlem-based theater founded by Robert Macbeth in 1967. The theater was named in honor of the original Lafayette Theater, which was founded in 1912, and featured works by or of interest to black Harlemites. The aim of the New Lafayette Theater was, "To present drama by blacks about blacks for blacks in a Harlem theater that had no dependency on and owed no allegiance to Broadway or white audiences."  
The file includes clippings; portions of the play script and program for *Who's Got His Own* by Ron Milner; and Armstead-Johnson notes on *Who's Got His Own*.
- b. 11 **Norman, Jessye 1974 - 1993**  
American operatic and concert singer. Two of Norman's most notable performances are her portrayals of the title role in *Aïda* (in Berlin and at La Scala in Milan), and the role of Cassandra in Berlioz's *Les Troyens* (Covent Garden, 1972). She made her United States debut at the Hollywood Bowl in 1972.  
Contains clippings and a newsletter.
- b. 11 **Norton and Margot 1937 - 1975**  
Harold Norton and Margot Webb, a ballroom dance team, performed in the United States and Europe. They also founded a dance school in Harlem, New York.  
The file includes a biographical sketch of Norton and Margot; a letter from Margot Webb to Armstead-Johnson; clippings; and printed material.

O

- b. 11 **Obituaries 1975 - 1995**  
The file includes obituaries (clippings and funeral/memorial programs) of outstanding black personalities (theatrical and non-theatrical) such as Adelaide Hall, Hilda Simms, the Delany Sisters, and Talley Beatty.
- b. 11 ***The Official Theatrical World of Colored Artists " National Directory and Guide" 1928***  
The directory includes a national listing of addresses, advertisements, articles, and artistic venues. Various artists are noted in this publication such as Leigh Whipper, Leroy Tibbs and His Orchestra, Ethel Waters, U.S. Thompson, Whitney and Tutt, and Edith Spencer.

P

- b. 11 **Parker, Bernard H 1940 - 1973**  
The file includes clippings that feature black composers and musicians (e.g., James R. Europe, Nathaniel Dett, and Charles McCade) and a postcard from Ralph Dunbar to Parker.
- b. 11 **Parker, Dolores 1947 - 1956**  
Parker, a vocalist, performed with the female trio "Three Rhythm Debs." She later performed with Duke Ellington's Band as a solo vocalist. While pursuing a soloist career, she was managed by Heavyweight Champion Joe Lewis.  
The file contains a letter from Parker to Armstead-Johnson, clippings, a press release, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 11 **Perkins, Eddie 1975**  
Perkins was the leader of the band, Eddie Perkins and his Montrealers.  
The file includes notes from an interview with Perkins's widow Cutie Perkins (interviewed by Armstead-Johnson); list of donations from Cutie to Armstead-Johnson, such as photographs; a letter from Armstead-Johnson to Eddie Perkins; letter from Perkins; and Armstead-Johnson notes.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

P (cont.)

- b. 11 **Philadelphia Black Culture Museum 1974 - 1975**  
The museum was established in 1976 and features exhibitions that interpret the experiences and contributions of African Americans in political life, religious and family life, the civil rights movement, the world of entertainment, fine arts, sports, medicine, and architecture.  
The file contains clippings pertaining to the development of the Philadelphia Black Culture Museum, later named the African American Museum in Philadelphia.
- b. 11 **Pinkard, Maceo**  
Pinkard, a songwriter, obtained his music education at Bluefield State Institute (now College) in West Virginia. In 1914 he founded a theatrical agency in Omaha, Nebraska, and published his first song, "When He Sang that Baritone" in 1915. In 1922, Pinkard settled in New York City and founded Pinkard Publications, a sheet music publishing house. Also in 1922, he composed the music for the musical *Liza*. Pinkard's best known songs were "Sweet Georgia Brown"; "Don't Cry, Little Girl"; and "Mammy O' Mine."  
The file contains a composition list of Pinkard's works.
- b. 11 **Pomare, Eleo 1968 - 1983**  
Pomare, a dancer and choreographer, began his career as a student of Louis Horst, Curtis James, and José Limón. Later, he founded three dance companies. The first company was founded in 1958 in the United States. The second was founded in Amsterdam, and the third company was the re-formation of the first company following his return to the United States.  
The file includes a letter, clippings, articles, and other printed material (e.g. promotional material), and Dance Mobile broadsides.
- b. 11 ***Porgy and Bess* 1952 - 1956**  
A musical, based on Dubose Heyward's book *Porgy*, which opened in 1927. The music was composed by George Gershwin, and the libretto by Dubose Heyward and Ira Gershwin.  
The file contains reviews of the musical by the European press, clippings, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 11 **Press releases**  
Includes press releases for the plays *Emily T* and *Transcendental Blue*.
- b. 11 **Price, Naomi 1969**  
Singer and comedian.  
The file includes a notebook with song lyrics, clippings, and magazine advertisements for her performances.
- b. 11 **Pryor, Richard 1977 - 1980**  
Comedian and actor. Primarily a stand-up comedian, Pryor also appeared and starred in several movies including *Lady Sings the Blues*, *Jo Jo Dancer: Your Life Is Calling*, *The Wiz*, *Bustin' Loose*, and *Harlem Nights*. Credited with influencing generations of comedians, Pryor was honored with Grammy and Emmy awards.  
Contains clippings.

Q

- b. 11 **Questionnaires**  
The file contains questionnaires for actors that include personal and professional questions about place of birth, professional experience, and last stage appearance. The following artists completed the questionnaires: Joseph Attles, Minto Cato, Ruby Elzy, Robert Harvey, Myra Johnson, J. DeWitt Spencer, and Musa Williams.

R

- b. 11 **Razaf, Andy**  
Razaf, a lyricist, collaborated with musicians James "Eubie" Blake, Thomas "Fats" Waller, and J.C. Johnson, among others. He and Waller created the Broadway revue *Keep Shufflin'*. He also co-authored *Hot Chocolates* (1929) with James P. Johnson and Henry Creamer.  
The file contains clippings, an obituary, a memorial program, and letterhead.
- b. 11 **"Red" (Willie Johnson)**  
Contains notes by Armstead-Johnson.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

R (cont.)

- b. 12     **René, Leon 1982**  
Songwriter and record producer. In the mid-1920s, he organized an orchestra and began to write lyrics in collaboration with his brother, Otis René. Leon René is known for the songs "When the Swallows Come Back to Capistrano" and "When It's Sleepy Time Down South" (written with Clarence Muse).
- b. 12     **Resumes and biographical information**  
The file contains resumes and biographical information for actors, such as David Downing and Yvonne Warden; musicians, such as Dionne Warwick; and playwrights, including Kimako Baraka, among others.
- b. 12     **Riis, Thomas Laurence 1981**  
Singer, professor, and cellist. Professor of music history with a concentration in black American theater. In 1987, Riis served as a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Studies in American Music at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York.  
The file consists of Riis's dissertation, *Black Musical Theater in New York, 1890-1915*.
- b. 12     **Robeson, Paul 1926 - 1989**  
Singer, actor, all-American athlete, and a civil and human rights activist. Robeson was well known for his theatrical performances in *Emperor Jones* (1924), *Othello* (1930), *John Henry* (1940), and for his political activism.  
The file contains a biographical sketch, clippings, magazine articles, a funeral program, a flyer announcing Robeson's 80th birthday celebration, Armstead-Johnson notes, a letter from the Robeson Archives to Armstead-Johnson, printed material, and exhibit labels.
- b. 12     **Robinson, Bill "Bojangles" 1926 - 1982**  
Dancer and actor. In 1890, while in New York City, Luther Robinson, a.k.a. Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, performed in a string of Broadway musicals that won him critical praise for his tap dancing skills. He is remembered for his famous dance on a staircase, a routine he later performed with Shirley Temple in *The Little Colonel* in 1935.  
The file includes a membership card for the American Federation of Radio Artists; a letter from Edward Mapp to Armstead-Johnson; agreements; a portion of a program for *The Mikado* (featuring Robinson); a funeral program for Fannie Robinson (Robinson's first wife); a souvenir journal featuring performances by Robinson (listed by date); and clippings.
- b. 12     **Robinson, Freddie and Flo**  
Freddie and Flo, a comedy team, began performing just before World War II. They performed in all the leading R.K.O. theaters in the United States as well as the Apollo Theater. Freddie later joined Larry Steel's "Smart Affairs Show" which performed internationally (e.g., Japan, Greenland, Turkey). Flo starred in shows in London, Buenos Aires, South Africa, and Rio Janeiro.  
The file contains a biographical sketch of Freddie Robinson, funeral memorial cards, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 12     **Rogers, Alex ca. 1930**  
Lyricist and entertainer. Rogers began his career at eighteen touring with a minstrel troupe. After leaving the troupe, Rogers joined the Williams and Walker Company. He performed in *In Dahomey* (1903) and wrote the lyrics and music for the play.  
Contains a clipping about his death.
- b. 12     **Rufus Rastus 1905 - 1908**  
Minstrel show. Ernest Hogan and Joe Jordan wrote the music for *Rufus Rastus*, with lyrics by Lester A. Walton and Frank Williams. Hogan played the main character, Rufus Rastus.  
Contains clippings about the show and Ernest Hogan.

S



## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## S (cont.)

- b. 12 **Sam Hague's Minstrels 1878 - 1899**  
Hague was from Sheffield, England. He began his theatrical career at the age of 6 as a clog dancer and later performed with a touring variety show. While touring in Macon, Georgia, during the Civil War, Hague was introduced to a performance by slaves which later inspired him to found a touring minstrel company known as the Georgia Minstrel Troupe. In 1866, Hague took his twenty-seven-member troupe to England. The troupe was successful, but lost several of its performers to physical ailments and the desire to return to the United States. White minstrel performers replaced these performers creating a mixed company. The few black performers that remained with the troupe included Aaron Banks, Abe Cox, and Japanese Tommy. After touring England, Hague developed a British minstrel company known as the British Operatic Minstrels. In 1881, the British troupe which toured the United States was primarily comprised of white minstrels.  
The file contains photocopies of programs and *Minstrel Memories* (a publication that included information on Hague) and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 12 **Saunders, Gertrude 1934 - 1946**  
Saunders was a popular singer in the 1920s, and she was recognized for her comedic talent. She performed in many shows such as *Liza* (1922), *Dinah* (1923), and *Cotton Land* (1924). The file includes letters from Saunders to Rita Lee, A.W. Marshall, and George Brown; agreements; contracts; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 12 **Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture 1973 - 1978**  
The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture is one of the research centers of New York Public Library; it is devoted to collecting, preserving, and providing access to resources documenting the experiences of peoples of African descent throughout the world. The Center's collections first won international acclaim in 1926 when the personal collection of the distinguished Puerto Rican-born black scholar and bibliophile, Arturo Alfonso Schomburg, was added to the Division of Negro Literature, History and Prints of the 135th Street Branch of The New York Public Library. Schomburg served as curator from 1932 until his death in 1938. Renamed in his honor in 1940, the collection grew steadily through the years. In 1972, it was designated as one of the Research Libraries of The New York Public Library and became the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.  
The file contains a newsletter, a letter from Armstead-Johnson to Ruth Ann Stewart (Assistant Chief of the Schomburg Center), clippings, an invitation, donation acknowledgement, a press release, fact sheet, and printed materials.
- b. 12 **Scott and Whaley 1924 - 1932**  
While performing at Hammerstein's theaters in New York, the comedy duo Scott and Whaley were offered the opportunity to perform internationally. They went on to perform in places such as France, Germany, and Egypt.  
The file includes clippings and a photocopy of an article that appeared in the *Manchester Programme*.
- b. 12 **Scott, Glory Van 1970 - 1983**  
Dancer, actress, and playwright. Scott danced with Katherine Dunham Company, American Ballet Theater, and Agnes De Mille Heritage Dance Theater. She also performed in Off-Broadway shows, television, and authored the musical *Miss Truth* (based on the life of Sojourner Truth).  
The file contains clippings, advertisements, and printed material.
- b. 12 **Senghor, Léopold Sédar 1971**  
African poet, philosopher, and president of Senegal. Senghor was one of the originators of "Negritude," a "black is beautiful" doctrine begun in Paris during the 1930s. Educated in France, Senghor established himself in French literary and political circles. The year 1945 marked not only Senghor's entry into political life but also the publication of his first collection of poems, *Chants d'ombre*. In 1948, he published another volume of poetry, *Hosties noires*, and edited an anthology of New Negro and Malagasy poetry. Later poetic offerings were *Chants pour Naëtt* (1949), *Éthiopiennes* (1956), and *Nocturnes* (1961). Senghor was the first elected president of independent Senegal in 1961 and maintained that position for the following twenty years.  
The file includes a booklet containing biographical information; a program for a colloquium honoring Senghor; an address by Senghor delivered at the University of Vermont; a press release relating to Senghor's induction into the Black Academy of Arts and Letters; and a guest list to the dinner that the organization gave in his honor.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

S (cont.)

- b. 13     **Shange, Ntozake 1979**  
Playwright, actress, poet, and teacher. Shange is known for her play *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow Is Enuf*.  
The file contains clippings about Shange's play, *Spell #7*.
- b. 13     **Shepp, Archie (Vernon) 1978 - 1979**  
Saxophonist, playwright, and teacher. Shepp, who grew up in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, received his Bachelor of Arts from Goddard College in Vermont in 1959. He was a member of the Cecil Taylor quartet (1960 - 1962) and co-leader of a quartet with Bill Dixon (1962 - 1963). In subsequent years, he led his own bands, which featured musicians Roswell Rudd, Bobby Hutcherson, Grachan Moncur, Herman Wright, and Clifford Jarvis. In 1967, Shepp wrote a play entitled *Junebug Graduates Tonight!*, which had a brief run. From 1969 - 1974 he taught at SUNY Buffalo in the black studies department. In 1974, he moved to the University of Massachusetts where he eventually became an associate professor. Shepp is also noted for several recordings including "Four for Trane" (1964), "Attica Blues" (1972), "I Know About the Life" (1981), and "African Moods" (1984).  
The file includes letters from Shepp to Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 13     **Shipp, Jesse 1934**  
Actor, playwright, and minstrel show producer. Shipp, originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, relocated to New York City at age nineteen. Once in New York, he joined his first minstrel show, the Sam P. Jacks Minstrel Show, performing with them from 1879 - 1881 and 1900. He later gained fame as the producer for the Williams and Walker Company. Shipp produced such hits as *In Dahomey*, *Abyssinia*, *Bandanna Land*, and *Sons of Ham*. As an actor, he was noted for his portrayal of Abraham in Marc Connelly's *The Green Pastures*.  
The file contains obituary clippings from the *New- York Tribune*, *The New York Times*, and *The New York Sun*; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 13     **Sidney, P. Jay 1967 - 1968**  
Actor. Sidney was born in Virginia and educated at the City College of New York. He performed at the Federal Theater in such productions as *Dance with Your Gods* (1934) and *The Green Pastures* (1934). He appeared in television and film productions which included *The Joe Louis Story* (1953) and *A Gathering of Old Men* (1987). Sidney also campaigned for congressional hearings that protested negative images of blacks in advertising and television.  
The file contains information about his career; speeches delivered at the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and the National Freedom Day Dinner; a statement made before the New York City Commission on Human Rights; a flyer for The Black Forum (for which Sidney served as chairman); clippings; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 13     **Sissle, Noble 1917 - 1975**  
Musician and bandleader. Early in his career, Sissle toured as a singer with the Thomas Male Quartet and Hann's Jubilee Singers (1911 - 1913). In 1915, Sissle teamed up with Eubie Blake and began performing and composing. Together they wrote and composed the music for *Shuffle Along* (1921) in which he also performed.  
The file contains clippings; letter from Sissle to Jack Hylton; a funeral program; a production report for *Shuffle Along*; a record catalogue; musical scores; and notes by Armstead-Johnson.
- b. 13     **Smalls, Edwin 1974**  
Smalls was the owner and operator of Smalls' Paradise nightclub in Harlem, New York. Before opening the club, he owned and operated a billiard parlor. In 1919, he transformed the parlor into a restaurant and night club and named it Smalls' Cafeteria. Five years later he renamed it Smalls' Paradise  
The file includes Smalls's funeral program and a clipping.
- b. 13     **Smart Set**  
Performed in the early 1900s, *Smart Set*, a musical comedy, featured James Lightfoot, Ella Anderson, and S.H. Dudley, among others.
- b. 13     **Smith, Ada "Bricktop" 1984**  
Singer and entertainer. Better known as "Bricktop," Smith's full name was Ada Beatrice Queen Victoria Louise Virginia Smith. She was best known for her nightclubs in Paris and Rome, but also performed in theater, film, and television. In 1973, she appeared at Carnegie Hall with Josephine Baker, and in 1974, she appeared in the film *Honeybaby*.  
Contains obituary clippings.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## S (cont.)

- b. 13 **Smith, Harrison 1969 - 1975**  
Smith established a music publishing firm in his own name in 1925.  
The file contains a letter from Smith to Armstead-Johnson, printed material, clippings, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 13 **Smith, Jimmie R 1928 - 1974**  
Smith was an actor who appeared in a film produced by the Lincoln Motion Picture Co., *Trooper of Troop K* (1916).  
The file contains correspondence between Smith and Armstead-Johnson; printed material including invitations and a Los Angeles city map; clippings; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 13 **Smith, Mamie**  
Blues singer. Smith began her career in vaudeville. In 1913, she settled in New York and established herself as a cabaret singer. She recorded many popular songs including "Crazy Blues" and "It's Right Here for You."  
The file includes advertisements and a clipping promoting a musical revue featuring Smith.
- b. 13 **Smith Moore, Undine 1972**  
Composer, pianist, choir director, and educator. Moore was educated at Fisk University, Julliard School of Music, Eastman School of Music, Manhattan School of Music, and Columbia University Teachers Colleges. In 1927, she was appointed to the faculty of Virginia State College and taught until her retirement in 1972. Moore co-founded the Black Music Center at Virginia State University and codirected it from 1969 - 1972.  
The file contains two programs for events at which Moore was honored and a letter from Moore.
- b. 13 **Smith, Rollin**  
Singer and pianist. Smith, a native of Akron, Ohio, played with Louis Armstrong and the Inkspots while in Europe. He also performed for European royalty, including the King and Queen of Greece. Smith performed in the original productions of *Showboat* and *Blackbirds*. From 1976 until his death, he entertained at senior citizens centers and nursing homes for the Department of Cultural Affairs.  
The file consists of flyers for Smith's performances.
- b. 13 ***Sophisticated Ladies* 1981**  
This Broadway revue is based on the musical compositions of Duke Ellington and the Big Band era. The original production starred Gregory Hines, Judith Jamison, and Phyllis Hyman.  
The file includes clippings and magazine articles.
- b. 13 **South, Eddie 1934 - 1959**  
Jazz violinist. South began studying the violin at an early age and later attended the Chicago College of Music. His teachers included Charles Elgar and Darnell Howard. South began his professional career at the age of sixteen performing with Elgar. In 1928, he formed his own group, The Alabamians, which toured Europe in 1930. During 1931 - 1937, he performed mainly in the United States. In 1937, South returned to Europe to accept a one-year residency in Paris. He had a radio show in the 1940s, and in the 1950s, appeared regularly on television programs. The *Distinguished Violin of Eddie South and Django and His American Friends* is one of South's best-known works.  
Includes letters to Bernie Parker and an article.
- b. 13 **The Spillers 1912**  
Organized in 1906 in Chicago by William N. and Isabele T. Spiller, this musical group performed as a vaudeville act and played ragtime music internationally.  
The file includes articles, a contract, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 13 **Swarz, Lue 1937 - 1946**  
Teacher, actress, and impressionist. Swarz, from St. Louis, Missouri, staged one-woman performances on university campuses in New York and Washington, D.C. Her repertoire consisted of humorous and dramatic dialogues, impressions of members of the Actor's Association in Harlem, and characterizations of people like Sojourner Truth. Swarz introduced her signature piece "I Want a Man Like That" during a New York holiday show. She also made her own costumes. In 1945 - 1946, she appeared in the films *Big Timers* and *Tall, Tan and Terrific*. She as a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority (which often hosted her one-woman shows), and served as their second national vice president.  
The file contains newspaper and magazine articles.

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

S (cont.)

- b. 13 ***Swing It* 1937**  
*Swing It* was a Work's Progress Administration Negro Unity production that opened at the Adelphia Theater in New York (ca. 1937). The play tells the story of the struggle between two steamboat captains for supremacy of the Mississippi River.  
Contains clippings.

T

- b. 13 **Tadlock, Robert 1963 - 1966**  
Tadlock, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, attended the School of Visual Arts in New York City. In 1959, after graduation, he worked within the advertising, editorial, theatrical design, and fine art fields. Tadlock had his first exhibit in New York in 1963.  
The file contains invitations to exhibitions, exhibition programs, a price list of exhibited works, and a letter to Tadlock.
- b. 13 **Thompson, Slim 1945 - 1947**  
Thompson, an actor, was popular in the 1930s and 1940s. He performed in various theatrical productions including *Anna Lucasta* (ca. 1945), *Messin' Around* (ca. 1935), and *Green Pastures* (ca. 1934). Before his acting career Thompson was a featherweight prizefighter.  
The file includes a postcard from George DeLespine to Thompson; a souvenir journal and post card for *Anna Lucasta*; weekly event magazines listing Thompson's performances in *Anna Lucasta* in Philadelphia and Chicago; and a list of Thompson's career achievements.
- b. 13 **Thompson, Ulysses S 1927 - 1998**  
Dancer/entertainer. Thompson's second wife was the internationally renowned entertainer Florence Mills. Mills and Thompson appeared in the 1922 version of *Shuffle Along* and toured thirty-five countries together in 1924.  
The collection consists of two files. The first file contains a biographical sketch; correspondence between Thompson and Bobby LeBrun and between Thompson and Armstead-Johnson; a letter from the 369th Infantry expressing condolences at the time of Mills's death (1927); a letter to Thompson from Eubie Blake; printed material; and Armstead-Johnson notes. The second file includes lyrics by Henry Creamer and Thompson and contracts.
- b. 14 **Thomson, Virgil 1934 - 1971**  
American composer, conductor, and music critic. Thomson composed the music for *Four Saints in Three Acts*, which was performed at the Metropolitan Opera Theater. The performance documented in the collection was directed and choreographed by Alvin Ailey (1973).  
The file contains a partial play script, clippings, a review, a note to Armstead-Johnson from Thomson, and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 14 ***Timbuktu* 1978**  
*Timbuktu*, an adaptation of *Kismet*, was a Broadway musical directed and choreographed by Geoffrey Holder starring Eartha Kitt and Melba Moore.  
Contains clippings and reviews.
- b. 14 **Traylor, Eleanor W**  
Traylor presently serves as the chairperson of the Department of English at Howard University, located in Washington, D.C. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Spelman College, her Master of Arts from Atlanta University, and her Ph.D. from Catholic University. Traylor is the founder of Educators for the Advancement of American Literature in Public Schools. She is a member of the College Language Association and Program in Black American Culture and the Larry Neal Cultural Series, where she served as the project director (1984). In addition, she is a scriptwriter. In 1987, Traylor received the Midwest African-American Theater Alliance Award and the Hazel Joan Bryant Recognition Award. In 1989, she received the Larry Neal-Georgia Douglas Johnson Award for literature and community service.  
The file contains a manuscript by Traylor entitled "Ritual as Form for a Black American Theater".

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## T (cont.)

- b. 14 **Treemonisha** 1971 - 1972  
*Treemonisha* was the second opera composed by Scott Joplin (the first was *A Guest of Honor*).  
 The file includes a copy of a preface to a re-publication of *Treemonisha* (1972) that was performed at Morehouse College; clippings; a flyer ("An Evening with Scott Joplin"); and a workshop schedule on Afro-American music which featured a lecture on Joplin.
- b. 14 **Troy, Henry** 1905 - 1943  
 Entertainer, songwriter, and tenor. Troy performed the title role in *Rufus Rastus* and appeared in early performances of *In Dahomey*.  
 The file includes photocopies of clippings, contracts, lyrics, agreements, and programs.

## U

- b. 14 **Uncle Tom's Cabin Companies** 1927  
 Many early theatrical companies performed under the name *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which reflected the popularity of Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel of the same name. It also helped to promote the increasingly unpopular sentiment toward American slavery.  
 The file contains advertisements for *Uncle Tom's Cabin*; a letter to James Smith from James V. Bryson (referencing a motion picture production of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*); a production broadside; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 14 **Urban Arts Corps** 1978 - 1979  
 A theater company founded by Vinnette Carroll in 1967 as a collaborative pilot project of the Ghetto Arts Program and the New York Council of the Arts. The Corps was designed to assist and train minorities in all theatrical disciplines.  
 The file contains a biographical sketch of Vinnette Carroll; press releases; a letter from Armstead-Johnson to Carroll; a telegram; clippings; printed material; and Armstead-Johnson notes.

## V

- b. 14 **VanDerZee, James** 1971 - 1975  
 A photographer, VanDerZee is best known for his portraits of people and events during the Harlem Renaissance. He opened his first studio in 1916 and began photographing middle and upper-class families, school classes, brides, and individuals from Harlem. In 1969, the Metropolitan Museum of Art's exhibition *Harlem on My Mind* introduced his work to contemporary audiences.  
 The file includes letters from VanDerZee to Armstead-Johnson; a calendar; exhibit poster; advertisement; (OS) and clippings.
- b. 14 **Van Peebles, Mario** 1993  
 Actor, writer, and film director. Van Peebles is the son of actor/director Melvin Van Peebles. His first film appearance was in his father's film, *Sweet Sweetback's Badasssss Song* (1971). Other film appearances include *The Cotton Club* (1984), *Exterminator II* (1984), *Rappin'* (1985), and *New Jack City* (1991). Van Peebles has also directed films such as *Posse* (1993) and *Panther* (1995), and he has appeared in and directed episodes of television programs including *Law and Order* and *Damages*.  
 The file contains clippings and magazine articles.
- b. 14 **Vereen, Ben** 1978  
 A versatile performer who has appeared in several Broadway musicals including *Pippin* (leading role in 1972); *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Hair*, and *Sweet Charity*. He is best known for his portrayal of Chicken George in the television mini-series *Roots*.  
 The file includes clippings and a magazine article about Vereen and his television appearances.
- b. 14 **Vodery, Will**  
 Vodery was the musical director of the Jolly John Larkin Show (ca. 1900 - 1910). He also composed scores for Broadway musicals *The Time The Place*, *The Girl* in 1907 and *Blackbirds* in 1933.  
 The file contains newsletters and a magazine article featuring Vodrey.

## W

Alphabetical collections (cont.)

W (cont.)

- b. 14     **W.S. Cleveland's Colossal Colored Carnival Minstrel**  
Traveling minstrel show.  
Includes a playbill.
- b. 14     **Ward, Richard 1979**  
An actor, Ward appeared in films, such as *Public Enemy #1*; the television series, *The Jeffersons*; and the theatrical production *When the Sun Goes Down*.  
The file contains a biographical sketch and a memorial program.
- b. 14     **The Washingtons**  
Dan and Minnie Washington were a show business couple whose act consisted of singing, dancing, and cakewalking.  
The file includes photocopies of a letter from the Washingtons to a Mr. Norcross.
- b. 14     **Waters, Ethel 1970 - 1977**  
Waters, an actress and singer, performed in theater, film, radio, and television. During the 1920s and 1930s, Waters was one of the most popular African-American performers in the country.  
The file contains clippings, a press release, printed material about performances, and an obituary.
- b. 14     **Whipper, Leigh 1951 - 1975**  
Whipper was one of America's best known character actors. A vaudeville artist, comedian, and lyric writer, he was also a founding member of the Negro Actors Guild (NAG) and the first black member of the Actors' Equity Association.  
The collection consists of three folders. The first file contains biographical information, correspondence, clippings, and Armstead-Johnson notes. The second file contains skits, lyrics, and poems (poet unknown). The third file includes printed materials (e.g., invitations, table chart, prayer cards); a petition; a citation; an article; booklets; newsletters; and meeting information for the Negro Actors Guild.
- b. 15     **Williams, Beatrice "Happy" 1921 - 1973**  
Chorus girl. Williams, popular in the 1920s and 1930s, was an original chorus girl in the 1921 production of *Shuffle Along*. She also served as a hostess at Harlem's famed Smalls' Paradise nightclub.  
The file contains clippings (one of which features Joe "Smokey" Williams, Happy's husband); souvenir booklet; letters to and from Armstead-Johnson; and Armstead-Johnson notes.
- b. 15     **Williams, Bert 1899 - 1922**  
Born Egbert Austin Williams, Williams was a vaudevillian performer known for the shows *In Dahomey*, *In Abyssinia*, and *Darktown Jubilee*.  
The file contains clippings about Williams and photocopies of sheet music including "The Medicine Man"; "I'd Rather Have Nothin' All of the Time Than Somethin' for A Little While"; "Good Morning Carrie"; "I'm a Jonah Man"; "The Fortune Telling Man"; and "He's a Cousin of Mine."
- b. 15     **Williams, Bert and George W. Walker 1905 - 1975**  
Egbert Austin Williams and George W. Walker were comedic actors who formed a team and worked from 1895 to 1909 in vaudeville as the "Two Real Coons." They are credited with introducing the cakewalk dance in 1896. They performed in shows such as *A Lucky Coon* (1899); *The Sons of Ham* (1900); *In Dahomey* (1902); *Abyssinia* (1908); and *Bandana Land* (1909).  
The file contains clippings; a photocopy of an *In Dahomey* program; an article by Williams entitled, "The Real Coon on the American Stage"; and a letter from Armstead-Johnson to Maxwell Geismar regarding Williams.

## Alphabetical collections (cont.)

## W (cont.)

- b. 15 **Williams, Fess 1917 - 1975**  
 Composer, arranger, and band director. Stanley Rudolph Williams, better known as "Fess", formed his first band in Winchester, Kentucky in 1914. In 1926, his band played at the opening of Harlem's famous Savoy Ballroom.  
 The collection consists of two folders. The first file contains biographical information; manuscript musical scores; funeral programs; correspondence between Williams and Charles Buchanan, manager of the Savoy Ballroom; a letter from Williams to Earl W. and Walter Pichon; a contract; an address book; Elks Lodge financial log; a church contribution record; printed material (e.g., calling card, flyer promoting performances); clippings; and Armstead-Johnson notes. The second file contains certificates.
- b. 15 ***The Wiz***  
*The Wiz* was a successful Broadway musical and film, adapted from Frank Baum's classic *The Wizard of Oz* and performed by black actors and singers.  
 The file contains clippings, and production notes for the motion picture.
- b. 15 **Wooding, Sam 1972 - 1973**  
 Jazz pianist. Wooding was the first musician to introduce jazz and swing to European audiences during the 1920s. From 1953 - late 1960s, Wooding became the accompanist and manager for singer Rae Harrison, whom he later married.  
 The file includes a letter, a press release, articles, performance flyers, a letter from Wooding to Armstead-Johnson, and clippings.
- b. 15 **Woolfolk, Melvin 1972**  
 In 1936, Woolfolk was a waiter at the Cotton Club and Connie's Inn. He was married to, and managed, actress Nina Mae McKinney.  
 The file contains a poem by Woolfolk, a Christmas card, his resume, and clippings.

## Y

- b. 15 ***Yes Sir, Mr. Bones* 1977 - 1978**  
 The file includes conference papers discussing minstrels and the showboat tradition in *Yes Sir, Mr. Bones*, a play; a partial play script and blocking instructions (possibly for *Yes Sir, Mr. Bones*); a letter to Elizabeth R. Woodman from Armstead-Johnson with reference to Woodman's research on minstrels; a review of the film *Yes Sir, Mr. Bones*; and letter to Adrian Weiss from Armstead-Johnson regarding the return of the film to Weiss Global Enterprise (distributors of *Yes Sir, Mr. Bones*).
- b. 15 **Miscellaneous manuscripts 1928 - 1978**  
 File contains documents that were not identifiable with any collection. Included are a list of film companies; form letters; a speech or remarks by Roy Wilkins, executive secretary of the NAACP (from a luncheon held under the auspices of the Association of Motion Picture Producers); holograph song lyrics for "I Ain't Paying No Bills"; a poem entitled "Mother" by someone with the initials "WAG"; and a membership roster for the League of New York Theaters and Producers, Inc.
- b. 16 **Miscellaneous clippings 1970 - 1993**  
 The file contains single clippings noting various performing artists as well as prominent African-American personalities.
- b. 16 **Miscellaneous music manuscripts 1954**  
 The file contains holograph sheet music by unidentified composers for "The Old River Blues"; "Texas Rose"; and "No-Si-Bon."
- b. 16 **Miscellaneous printed material 1926 - 1994**  
 File is comprised of entertainment and black history related documents that were not identifiable with any collection. It includes advertisements, artists' promotional material, newsletters, postcards, booklets, book covers, business cards, a paper doll book (featuring Ethel Waters, Josephine Baker, and Bill Robinson), exhibit and conference brochures, and programs.
- b. 17 **Miscellaneous oversized broadsides, newsletters, and blueprints 1878 - 1987**

## Playscripts 1901-1991

Arranged alphabetically by author's last name.

- b. PI1 f. 1 *Anderson, Maxwell. Lost in the Stars* undated
- b. PI1 f. 2 *Armstead-Johnson, Helen. In Dahomey* 1975

Playscripts (cont.)

- b. PI1 f. 3 *Aurelius, Neville. Reflection of the Man or The Indictment* 1973
- b. PI1 f. 4 *Boito, Arrigo and Walter Ducloux. Otello* 1962
- b. PI1 f. 5 *Bradford, Roark and Jacques Wolfe. John Henry* undated  
Branch, William B
- b. PI1 f. 6 *In Splendid Error* 1953
- b. PI1 f. 7 *A Medal for Willie* 1951
- b. PI1 f. 8 *A Wreath for Udomo* 1959  
Brown, Oscar, Jr
- b. PI1 f. 9 *Crecie* 1977
- b. PI1 f. 10 *In De Beginnin'* undated
- b. PI1 f. 11 *Bullins, Ed. The Taking of Miss Janie* undated
- b. PI1 f. 12 *Butler, Angeline. Voices of a Sit-In* undated
- b. PI1 f. 13 *Clark-Pendarvis, China. Neffie* 1972
- b. PI1 f. 14 *Clay, Buriel, II. Liberty Call* 1974
- b. PI2 f. 1 *Coffman, Steven. Black Sabbath* undated
- b. PI2 f. 2 *Cole, Bob and J. W. Johnson. The Cannibal King* 1901
- b. PI2 f. 3-4 *Connelly, Marc. The Green Pastures* 1940  
Two scripts included.
- b. PI2 f. 5 *Cullen, Countee and Owen Dodson. The Third Fourth of July* undated
- b. PI2 f. 6 *Cutler, Ron. The Bamboo Popsicle Truck* undated
- b. PI2 f. 7 *Dallin, Howard. A Christmas Carol* 1991
- b. PI2 f. 8 *Davis, Ossie. Curtain Call, Mr. Aldridge, Sir* 1963
- b. PI2 f. 9 *Douglass, Charles. De Obeah Mon* 1986
- b. PI2 f. 10 *Ebb, Fred and Norman Martin. 70, Girls, 70* 1971  
Edmonds, Randolph
- b. PI2 f. 11 *Prometheus and the Atom* 1955
- b. PI2 f. 12 *Three Wives* undated
- b. PI3 f. 1 *Fann, Al. King Heroin* 1972
- b. PI3 f. 2 *Ford, Joe Taylor. The Last Minstrel Show* undated
- b. PI3 f. 3 *Garfinkle, Louis and Leonard Adelson. Molly* undated
- b. PI3 f. 4 *Gelbart, Larry. Sly Fox* 1977
- b. PI3 f. 5 *Grayson, Mitchell. New World A-Coming* undated
- b. PI3 f. 6 *Hogan, Ernest. Last Mr. Tambo* undated
- b. PI3 f. 7 *Hunter, Eddie. That Gets It* 1931
- b. PI3 f. 8 *John, Robert (Errol). Tell Him He Could Have Sent Some Flowers* undated
- b. PI3 f. 9 *Johnson, Hall. Run, Little Chillun!* undated  
Mack, Cecil
- b. PI3 f. 10 *Cabin Door as Richard C. McPherson* undated
- b. PI3 f. 11 *Swing It*  
Matheus, John Frederick
- b. PI4 f. 1 *Black Damp* undated



Playscripts (cont.)

Matheus, John Frederick (cont.)

- b. PI4 f. 2 *Circles* undated
- b. PI4 f. 3 *Ouanga* 1932
- b. PI4 f. 4 *Tambour* 1929
- b. PI4 f. 5 *Miller, Flournoy E. and Milton Reddie. Study in Brown: TV* undated
- b. PI4 f. 6 *Miller, Irvin C. Brown Skin Models* undated
- b. PI4 f. 7 *Molette, Carlton and Barbara. Booji* 1972
- b. PI4 f. 8-9 *Muse, Clarence. Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn* undated  
Includes two scripts, one incomplete with just Act I.
- b. PI4 f. 10 *Oyamo (Charles F. Gordon). The Resurrection of Lady Lester* 1980
- b. PI4 f. 11 *Riche, Robert. Message from the Grassroots* 1967
- b. PI4 f. 12 *Rube, Rusty. This I Was Afraid Of* undated
- b. PI4 f. 13 *Shapiro, Richard and Esther. The Minstrel Man* 1975
- b. PI5 f. 1 *Shipp, J. A. and Alex Rogers. Abyssinia* undated
- b. PI5 f. 2 *Sissle, Noble and Eubie Blake. Chocolate Dandies* undated
- b. PI5 f. 3 *Sissle, Noble and Lew Payton. Shufflers* undated
- b. PI5 f. 4 *Stark, Sheldon. The Big Story* undated
- b. PI5 f. 5 *Valentini, Vincent. Boy! What a Girl!* undated
- b. PI5 f. 6 *Wellington, David Lee. The House That Frank Built* undated

Unknown authors

- b. PI5 f. 7 *The Amazing Mr. Smith* undated
- b. PI5 f. 8 *Romance on the Beat* undated
- b. PI5 f. 9 *Salvation* undated
- b. PI5 f. 10-12 Unidentified scripts

Programs

Arranged alphabetically by theater or organization name.

- b. Pr1 f. 1-3 A
- b. Pr1 f. 4 Ailey, Alvin
- b. Pr1 f. 5 Audelco Awards  
Includes programs for the 1st-8th award ceremonies.
- b. Pr1 f. 6 B
- b. Pr2 f. 1-5 B
- b. Pr2 f. 6 C
- b. Pr3 f. 1-2 C
- b. Pr3 f. 3-5 D
- b. Pr3 f. 6 Dance Theatre of Harlem 1985
- b. Pr4 f. 1-2 E
- b. Pr4 f. 3 Federal Theatre
- b. Pr4 f. 4-5 G
- b. Pr4 f. 6 H
- b. Pr5 f. 1-3 H
- b. Pr5 f. 4 I
- b. Pr5 f. 5-6 J
- b. Pr6 f. 1 J
- b. Pr6 f. 2 K

Programs (cont.)

- b. Pr6 f. 3-4 L
- b. Pr6 f. 5-7 M
- b. Pr7 f. 1
- b. Pr7 f. 2-6 N
- b. Pr7 f. 7 The Negro Ensemble Company
- b. Pr8 f. 1 The New Federal Theatre
- b. Pr8 f. 2-4 O
- b. Pr8 f. 5-6 P
- b. Pr8 f. 7 *Porgy and Bess*
- b. Pr9 f. 1 Q
- b. Pr9 f. 2-4 R
- b. Pr9 f. 5-7 S
- b. Pr10 f. 1-4
- b. Pr10 f. 5-6 T
- b. Pr11 f. 1-2
- b. Pr11 f. 3 U
- b. Pr11 f. 4 V
- b. Pr11 f. 5-7 W
- b. Pr11 f. 8 X
- b. Pr11 f. 9 Y
- b. Pr11 f. 10 Z

Sheet music

Arranged alphabetically by composer's last name.

- b. Sh1 f. 1 Accooe, Will
- b. Sh1 f. 2 Alexander, Charles W
- b. Sh1 f. 3 Allen, Sylvester
- b. Sh1 f. 4 Alstone, Alex
- b. Sh1 f. 5 Ansell, Eric
- b. Sh1 f. 6 Arlen, Harold
- b. Sh1 f. 7 Armstrong, Louis
- b. Sh1 f. 8 Ashford, Nicholas and Valerie Simpson
- b. Sh1 f. 9 Austin, Billy
- b. Sh1 f. 10 Austin, Gene
- b. Sh1 f. 11 Ayer, Nat D
- b. Sh1 f. 12 Aznavour, Charles
- b. Sh1 f. 13 Bacharach, Burt F
- b. Sh1 f. 14 Baker, Phil
- b. Sh1 f. 15 Ball, Ernest R
- b. Sh1 f. 16 Ballard, Pat
- b. Sh1 f. 17 Banks, Homer
- b. Sh1 f. 18 Barbarin, Paul
- b. Sh1 f. 19 Baron, Maurice
- b. Sh1 f. 20 Barris, Harry

Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh1 f. 21 Basie, Count
- b. Sh1 f. 22 Bassman, George
- b. Sh1 f. 23 Bayes, Nora
- b. Sh1 f. 24 Beever, George
- b. Sh1 f. 25 Belafonte, Harry
- b. Sh1 f. 26 Belasco, Lionel
- b. Sh1 f. 27 Berlin, Irving
- b. Sh1 f. 28 Berry, Chuck
- b. Sh1 f. 29 Berry, Leon
- b. Sh1 f. 30 Best, William
- b. Sh1 f. 31 Betti, Henri
- b. Sh1 f. 32 Bizet, Georges
  - b. Sh2 f. 1 Black, Johnny S
  - b. Sh2 f. 2 Blake, Eubie
  - b. Sh2 f. 3 Bland, James A
  - b. Sh2 f. 4 Bloom, Rube
  - b. Sh2 f. 5 Bonds, Margaret
  - b. Sh2 f. 6 Bower, Bugs
  - b. Sh2 f. 7 Bowman, Euday L
  - b. Sh2 f. 8 Bradford, Perry
  - b. Sh2 f. 9 Branen, Jeff T
  - b. Sh2 f. 10 Bristol, Johnny
  - b. Sh2 f. 11 Brooks, Sheldon
  - b. Sh2 f. 12 Brooks, Shelton
  - b. Sh2 f. 13 Brown, Alien Norman
  - b. Sh2 f. 14 Brown, Lew
  - b. Sh2 f. 15 Brymn, James T
  - b. Sh2 f. 16 Brymn, Tim
  - b. Sh2 f. 17 Bubbles, John
  - b. Sh2 f. 18 Burgie, Irving
  - b. Sh2 f. 19 Burke, Joe
  - b. Sh2 f. 20 Burke, Joseph A
  - b. Sh2 f. 21 Burke, Sonny
  - b. Sh2 f. 22 Burleigh, Harry T
  - b. Sh2 f. 23 Burton, Val
  - b. Sh2 f. 24 Busse, Henry
  - b. Sh3 f. 1 Caldwell, William
  - b. Sh3 f. 2 Calhoun, Charles
  - b. Sh3 f. 3 Calloway, Cab
  - b. Sh3 f. 4 Camp, Sheppard
  - b. Sh3 f. 5 Campbell, Jimmy

Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh3 f. 6 Capó, Bobby
- b. Sh3 f. 7 Carmichael, Hoagy
- b. Sh3 f. 8 Carr, Leon
- b. Sh3 f. 9 Carter, Benny
- b. Sh3 f. 10 Casucci, Leonello
- b. Sh3 f. 11 Chaplin, Charles
- b. Sh3 f. 12 Charles, L
- b. Sh3 f. 13 Claypoole, Edward B
- b. Sh3 f. 14 Clinton, Larry
- b. Sh3 f. 15 Coates, Maurice
- b. Sh3 f. 16 Coelho, Alves
- b. Sh3 f. 17 Cole, Bob
- b. Sh3 f. 18 Cole, Nat
- b. Sh3 f. 19 Coleman, Dave
- b. Sh3 f. 20 Conn, Chester
- b. Sh3 f. 21 Connor, Tommie
- b. Sh3 f. 22 Conrad, Con
- b. Sh3 f. 23 Cook, Harty and Mercer
- b. Sh3 f. 24 Cook, Will Marion
- b. Sh3 f. 25 Cooper, Opal
- b. Sh3 f. 26 Coots, J. Fred
- b. Sh3 f. 27 The Corporation
- b. Sh3 f. 28 Cosby, Henry
- b. Sh3 f. 29 Coward, Noël
- b. Sh3 f. 30 Cox, Jimmy
- b. Sh4 f. 1 Crane, Jimmie
- b. Sh4 f. 2 Creamer, Henry
- b. Sh4 f. 3 Crothers, Scatman
- b. Sh4 f. 4 Dabney, Ford
- b. Sh4 f. 5 Danzig, Evelyn
- b. Sh4 f. 6 David, Mack
- b. Sh4 f. 7 Davis, Benny
- b. Sh4 f. 8 Davis, Lou
- b. Sh4 f. 9 Davis, William
- b. Sh4 f. 10 De Rose, Peter
- b. Sh4 f. 11 De Sylva, B. G
- b. Sh4 f. 12 Denniker, Paul
- b. Sh4 f. 13 Denree, Charles
- b. Sh4 f. 14 Desdume, Mamie
- b. Sh4 f. 15 Domino, Antoine (Fats)
- b. Sh4 f. 16 Donaldson, Walter

Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh4 f. 17 Dorsey, Thomas A
- b. Sh4 f. 18 Dougherty, Dan
- b. Sh4 f. 19 Doulas, Lew
- b. Sh4 f. 20 Dowell, Edgar
- b. Sh4 f. 21 Duke, Vernon
- b. Sh4 f. 22 Easton, Sidney
- b. Sh4 f. 23 Eckstein, Billie
- b. Sh4 f. 24 Edwards, Sherman
- b. Sh4 f. 25 Edwards, Tommy
- b. Sh4 f. 26 Ehrlich, Sam
- b. Sh4 f. 27 Einhorn, Simon
- b. Sh4 f. 28 "Eitheopian Quad"
- b. Sh4 f. 29 Ellington, Duke
- b. Sh4 f. 30 Ellington, Mercer
- b. Sh4 f. 31 Englandet, Ludwig
- b. Sh4 f. 32 Europe, James Reese
  - b. Sh5 f. 1 Evans, Redd
  - b. Sh5 f. 2 Ferrell, Billie
  - b. Sh5 f. 3 "Fifty Negro Spirituals"
  - b. Sh5 f. 4 Finke, Johnny
  - b. Sh5 f. 5 Fisher, Marvin
  - b. Sh5 f. 6 Fitzgerald, Ella
  - b. Sh5 f. 7 Floyd, Eddie
  - b. Sh5 f. 8 Foster, Stephen C
  - b. Sh5 f. 9 Fowler, Lem
  - b. Sh5 f. 10 Freeman, H. Lawrence
  - b. Sh5 f. 11 Freeman, James J
  - b. Sh5 f. 12 Freeman, Valdo Lawrence
  - b. Sh5 f. 13 Friml, Rudolf
  - b. Sh5 f. 14 Gaillard, Slim
  - b. Sh5 f. 15 Gamble, Kenny
  - b. Sh5 f. 16 Garland, Joe
  - b. Sh5 f. 17 Garner, Erroll
  - b. Sh5 f. 18 Garrison, Benjamin
  - b. Sh5 f. 19 Geld, Gary
  - b. Sh5 f. 20 Gelder, Leon Van
  - b. Sh5 f. 21 Gershman, Harry
  - b. Sh5 f. 22 Gershwin, George
  - b. Sh5 f. 23 Gibbs, Arthur
  - b. Sh5 f. 24 Goldsmith, Cliff
  - b. Sh5 f. 25 Goodman, Tommy

Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh5 f. 26 Goodwin, William
- b. Sh5 f. 27 Gordon, Irving
- b. Sh5 f. 28 Gottler, Archie
- b. Sh5 f. 29 Grainger, Percy Aldridge
- b. Sh5 f. 30 Green, Bud
- b. Sh5 f. 31 Greene, Joe
- b. Sh5 f. 32 Grosvenor, Ralph L
- b. Sh5 f. 33 Grosz, Will
- b. Sh5 f. 34 Grubb, Gayle
- b. Sh5 f. 35 Hall, Nancy
- b. Sh5 f. 36 Halley, Bob
- b. Sh5 f. 37 Hamilton, Roy
- b. Sh5 f. 38 Handy, Elizabeth
- b. Sh5 f. 39 Handy, Lucile Marie
- b. Sh6 f. 1 Handy, W. C
- b. Sh6 f. 2 Hanley, James F
- b. Sh6 f. 3 Harrison, Charlie
- b. Sh6 f. 4 Haufrecht, Herbert
- b. Sh6 f. 5 Henderson, Luther
- b. Sh6 f. 6 Henrique, Luiz
- b. Sh6 f. 7 Henry, S. R
- b. Sh6 f. 8 Herget, Robert
- b. Sh6 f. 9 Heyward, Sammy
- b. Sh6 f. 10 Heywood, Eddie
- b. Sh6 f. 11 Hildreth, R. E
- b. Sh6 f. 12 Hill, Billy
- b. Sh6 f. 13 Hill, J. Leubrie
- b. Sh6 f. 14 Hillman, Charles
- b. Sh6 f. 15 Hogan, Ernest
- b. Sh6 f. 16 Holland, Brian
- b. Sh6 f. 17 Howard, Joseph E
- b. Sh6 f. 18 Howard and Emerson
- b. Sh6 f. 19 Hulbert, Lee
- b. Sh6 f. 20 Hunter, Alberta
- b. Sh6 f. 21 Hunter, Ivory Joe
- b. Sh6 f. 22 Hupfeld, Herman
- b. Sh6 f. 23 Hurley, Mark
- b. Sh7 f. 1 Jackson, George
- b. Sh7 f. 2 Jacobson, Harry
- b. Sh7 f. 3 James, Jesse
- b. Sh7 f. 4 Jay, Fred

Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh7 f. 5 Jessel, Leon
- b. Sh7 f. 6 Johnson, Bubber
- b. Sh7 f. 7 Johnson, Buddy
- b. Sh7 f. 8 Johnson, Enotris
- b. Sh7 f. 9 Johnson, Freddie
- b. Sh7 f. 10 Johnson, Frederick G
- b. Sh7 f. 11 Johnson, Hall
- b. Sh7 f. 12 Johnson, Howard
- b. Sh7 f. 13 Johnson, J. C
- b. Sh7 f. 14 Johnson, J. Rosamond
- b. Sh7 f. 15 Johnson, James P
- b. Sh7 f. 16 Johnson, Jimmy
- b. Sh7 f. 17 Jolson, Al
- b. Sh7 f. 18 Jones, Agnes
- b. Sh7 f. 19 Jones, Booker T
- b. Sh7 f. 20 Jones, Ollie
- b. Sh7 f. 21 Jones, Quincy
- b. Sh7 f. 22 Joplin, Scott
- b. Sh8 f. 1 Jordan, Joe
- b. Sh8 f. 2 Jordan, Louie
- b. Sh8 f. 3 Jubilee and plantation songs
- b. Sh8 f. 4 Kahn, Gus
- b. Sh8 f. 5 Kane, Frances, Dwight Butcher, and K. Evans
- b. Sh8 f. 6 Kasha, Al
- b. Sh8 f. 7 Kelley, Robert
- b. Sh8 f. 8 Kendricks, A. L
- b. Sh8 f. 9 Kern, Jerome
- b. Sh8 f. 10 Keyes, James
- b. Sh8 f. 11 King, Walter
- b. Sh8 f. 12 Klenner, John
- b. Sh8 f. 13 Krondes, Jimmy
- b. Sh8 f. 14 Kusik, Larry
- b. Sh8 f. 15 La Forge, Frank
- b. Sh8 f. 16 Lambert, Dennis
- b. Sh8 f. 17 Lane, Burton
- b. Sh8 f. 18 Lansing, G. L
- b. Sh8 f. 19 Lawrence, Jack
- b. Sh8 f. 20 Layton, Turner
- b. Sh8 f. 21 Lemonier, Tom
- b. Sh8 f. 22 Levi, Maurice
- b. Sh8 f. 23 Lewis, Al

Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh8 f. 24 Lewis, Meade Lux
- b. Sh8 f. 25 Little, George A
- b. Sh8 f. 26 Livingston, Jay
- b. Sh8 f. 27 Livingston, Jerry
- b. Sh8 f. 28 Loeschhom, A
- b. Sh8 f. 29 Loesser, Frank
- b. Sh8 f. 30 Lombardo, Carmen
- b. Sh8 f. 31 Losey, F. H
- b. Sh8 f. 32 Lovell, Herbie
- b. Sh8 f. 33 Lovett, Leroy
- b. Sh8 f. 34 Lymon, Frank
- b. Sh8 f. 35 McCarron, Chas
- b. Sh8 f. 36 McHugh, Jimmy
- b. Sh8 f. 37 McPherson
- b. Sh8 f. 38 McVea, Jack
- b. Sh8 f. 39 MacDermot, Galt
- b. Sh9 f. 1 Mack, Cecil
- b. Sh9 f. 2 Mack, Stan
- b. Sh9 f. 3 Mahoney, Charles (Mickey)
- b. Sh9 f. 4 Mancini, Henry
- b. Sh9 f. 5 Mann, Kal
- b. Sh9 f. 6 Marcus, Bob
- b. Sh9 f. 7 Martin, David
- b. Sh9 f. 8 Martin, Roberta
- b. Sh9 f. 9 Mason, Bob
- b. Sh9 f. 10 Matheus, John
- b. Sh9 f. 11 Maxin, Arnold
- b. Sh9 f. 12 Meacham, F. W
- b. Sh9 f. 13 Meinken, Fred
- b. Sh9 f. 14 "Memory Tunes on Parade"
- b. Sh9 f. 15 Mercer, Johnny
- b. Sh9 f. 16 Merrick, Walt
- b. Sh9 f. 17 Meyer, George W
- b. Sh9 f. 18 Mhore, Ruth
- b. Sh9 f. 19 Michaels, Steven
- b. Sh9 f. 20 Miller, Flournoy
- b. Sh9 f. 21 Millinder, Lucky
- b. Sh9 f. 22 Millrose, Vie
- b. Sh9 f. 23 Milton, Jay
- b. Sh9 f. 24 Moffett, Hal
- b. Sh9 f. 25 Moore, Fleecie



Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh9 f. 26 Moret, Neil
- b. Sh9 f. 27 Morris, Kenneth
- b. Sh9 f. 28 Morton, Ferdinand (Jelly Roll)
- b. Sh9 f. 29 Muir, Lewis F
- b. Sh9 f. 30 Munnings, Raphael
- b. Sh9 f. 31 Murray, James A
- b. Sh9 f. 32 Muse, Clarence
- b. Sh9 f. 33 Negro spirituals
- b. Sh9 f. 34 Nelson, Richard
- b. Sh9 f. 35 Nichols, Alberta
- b. Sh9 f. 36 Nichols, Frank
- b. Sh9 f. 37 Noriega, Bernard
- b. Sh9 f. 38 "Norman Granz' Jazz at the Philharmonic"
- b. Sh9 f. 39 Novello, Gene
- b. Sh9 f. 40 Oliver, Joe
- b. Sh9 f. 41 Oliver, Sy
- b. Sh9 f. 42 Opera medley
- b. Sh9 f. 43 Overstreet, W. Benton
- b. Sh10 f. 1 Parker, B
- b. Sh10 f. 2 Parker, Kaye
- b. Sh10 f. 3 Paull, E. T
- b. Sh10 f. 4 Pepper, Buddy
- b. Sh10 f. 5 Perrin, Sidney L
- b. Sh10 f. 6 Petty, Prince
- b. Sh10 f. 7 Phillips, Fred
- b. Sh10 f. 8 Pinkard, Maceo
- b. Sh10 f. 9 Plantation and minstrel songs
- b. Sh10 f. 10 Plater, Bobby
- b. Sh10 f. 11 Poll, Ruth
- b. Sh10 f. 12 Powell, Lester
- b. Sh10 f. 13 Preston, Billy
- b. Sh10 f. 14 Previn, Andre
- b. Sh10 f. 15 Primrose, Joe
- b. Sh10 f. 16 Ra-faun, Kahl
- b. Sh10 f. 17 Ram, Buck
- b. Sh10 f. 18 Randolph, A. P
- b. Sh10 f. 19 Rasbach, Oscar
- b. Sh10 f. 20 Razaf, Andy
- b. Sh10 f. 21 Reddie, J. Milton
- b. Sh10 f. 22 Redding, Otis
- b. Sh10 f. 23 Redman, Don

Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh10 f. 24 Reed, N. E
- b. Sh10 f. 25 Rene, Leon
- b. Sh10 f. 26 Rene, Otis
- b. Sh10 f. 27 Revel, Harry
- b. Sh10 f. 28 Ricardel, Joe
- b. Sh10 f. 29 Rich, Max
- b. Sh10 f. 30 Richards, Brinley
- b. Sh10 f. 31 Richards, Jack
- b. Sh10 f. 32 Roberts, Lucky
- b. Sh10 f. 33 Roberts, C. Luckyth
- b. Sh10 f. 34 Roberts, Ruth
- b. Sh10 f. 35 Robertson, Paul
- b. Sh10 f. 36 Robey, Don D
- b. Sh11 f. 1 Robin, Leo
- b. Sh11 f. 2 Robinson, Jessie Mae
- b. Sh11 f. 3 Robinson, William
- b. Sh11 f. 4 Rodgers, Richard
- b. Sh11 f. 5 Rogers, Alex
- b. Sh11 f. 6 Rogers, James Etta
- b. Sh11 f. 7 Rubin, Mary G
- b. Sh11 f. 8 Russell, Bob
- b. Sh11 f. 9 Russell, Leon
- b. Sh11 f. 10 Russell, Will
- b. Sh11 f. 11 Santa Cruz, Octavio
- b. Sh11 f. 12 Saunders, Red
- b. Sh11 f. 13 Saxon, David
- b. Sh11 f. 14 Schifrin, Lalo
- b. Sh11 f. 15 Schoebel, Elmer
- b. Sh11 f. 16 Scott, Hazel
- b. Sh11 f. 17 Scott, Winfield
- b. Sh11 f. 18 Sedric, Gene
- b. Sh11 f. 19 Seiler, Eddie
- b. Sh11 f. 20 Shanklin, Wayne
- b. Sh11 f. 21 Shapiro, Maurice
- b. Sh11 f. 22 Shavers, Charles
- b. Sh11 f. 23 Shelton, Bob and Joe
- b. Sh11 f. 24 Sigler, Maurice
- b. Sh11 f. 25 Silesu, Lao
- b. Sh11 f. 26 Silver, Abner
- b. Sh11 f. 27 Simons, Moises
- b. Sh11 f. 28 Sims, Artie

Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh11 f. 29 Sims, Harry
- b. Sh11 f. 30 Singleton, Charles
- b. Sh11 f. 31 Slay, Frank C
- b. Sh11 f. 32 Sloane, A. B
- b. Sh11 f. 33 Smith, Beasley
- b. Sh11 f. 34 Smith, Chris
- b. Sh11 f. 35 Smith, Ernestine
- b. Sh11 f. 36 Smith, Harrison
- b. Sh11 f. 37 Smith, Willie
- b. Sh11 f. 38 Solomon, Harold
- b. Sh11 f. 39 "Songs My Father Taught Me (Not to Sing)"
- b. Sh11 f. 40 South, Joe
- b. Sh11 f. 41 "Spicy Songs"
- b. Sh11 f. 42 Spivey, Victoria
- b. Sh12 f. 1 Stevens, Leith
- b. Sh12 f. 2 Stevens, Ray
- b. Sh12 f. 3 Stewart, Al-Russel
- b. Sh12 f. 4 Stewart, Sylvester
- b. Sh12 f. 5 Still, William Grant
- b. Sh12 f. 6 Stone, Jesse
- b. Sh12 f. 7 Stott, Harold
- b. Sh12 f. 8 Strayhorn, Billy
- b. Sh12 f. 9 Strickland, Dwight
- b. Sh12 f. 10 Strouse, Charles
- b. Sh12 f. 11 Styne, Jule
- b. Sh12 f. 12 Sullivan, Arthur
- b. Sh12 f. 13 Sunshine, Marion
- b. Sh12 f. 14 Sweatman, Wilbur
- b. Sh12 f. 15 Sylvester, Nellie
- b. Sh12 f. 16 Tatum, Art
- b. Sh12 f. 17 Taylor, Margaret
- b. Sh12 f. 18 Taylor-Coleridge, Samuel
- b. Sh12 f. 19 Teixeira, Humberto
- b. Sh12 f. 20 Thomas, J
- b. Sh12 f. 21 Thomas, Joe
- b. Sh12 f. 22 Thompson, DeKoven
- b. Sh12 f. 23 Trent, Jo
- b. Sh12 f. 24 Trotman, Julian
- b. Sh12 f. 25 Troup, Bob
- b. Sh12 f. 26 Troy, Henry
- b. Sh12 f. 27 Turk, Roy

Sheet music (cont.)

- b. Sh12 f. 28 "Two Black Sports in Town"
- b. Sh12 f. 29 Vallee, Rudy
- b. Sh12 f. 30 Vecsei, Desider Josef
- b. Sh12 f. 31 Von Tilzer, Albert
- b. Sh12 f. 32 Walker, Bee
- b. Sh12 f. 33 Waller, Thomas "Fats"
- b. Sh12 f. 34 Warren, Harry
- b. Sh12 f. 35 Waters, Ethel
- b. Sh12 f. 36 Watkins, Viola
- b. Sh12 f. 37 Webb, Chick
- b. Sh12 f. 38 Weill, Kurt
- b. Sh12 f. 39 Weisman, Ben
- b. Sh12 f. 40 Weiss, Stephen
- b. Sh13 f. 1 West, Paul
- b. Sh13 f. 2 Wheeler, Joseph W
- b. Sh13 f. 3 Whipper, Leigh
- b. Sh13 f. 4 White, Barry
- b. Sh13 f. 5 White, Clarence Cameron
- b. Sh13 f. 6 White, Eddie
- b. Sh13 f. 7 White, Elmore
- b. Sh13 f. 8 White, James
- b. Sh13 f. 9 Whitfield, Norman
- b. Sh13 f. 10 Whiting, Richard A
- b. Sh13 f. 11 Whitney, Joan
- b. Sh13 f. 12 Wiley, Winthrop
- b. Sh13 f. 13 Willet, Chappie
- b. Sh13 f. 14 Williams and Walker
- b. Sh13 f. 15 Williams, Bert A
- b. Sh13 f. 16 Williams, Clarence
- b. Sh13 f. 17 Williams, Fess
- b. Sh13 f. 18 Williams, Spencer
- b. Sh13 f. 19 Willson, Meredith
- b. Sh13 f. 20 Wind, Jeremy
- b. Sh13 f. 21 Winne, Jesse M
- b. Sh13 f. 22 Wolfe, Jacques
- b. Sh13 f. 23 Wright, Shearad H
- b. Sh13 f. 24 Youmans, Vincent
- b. Sh13 f. 25 Young, Joe
- b. Sh13 f. 26 Young, Victor
- b. Sh13 f. 27 Zawinul, Josef
- b. Sh13 f. 28 Sheet music covers only

Sheet music (cont.)

b. Sh13 f. 29      Unidentified