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Beryl Stewart papers

Finding Aid

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections
Briggs Library (SBL) Room 241 Box 2114
1300 North Campus Drive
Brookings, SD 57007
Phone: 605-688-5094
Email: arcrefs@sdstate.edu

Collection Summary

Identifier

MA 14

Title

Beryl Stewart papers

Creator

Rhea Beryl DeHaven Stewart

Dates

1923-1981

Extent

27.44 linear feet -- 21 boxes

Language

English

Repository

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Access note

This collection is stored off-site. Requests to view this material must be made at least 24 hours in advance. This collection is open to researchers without restrictions. The materials in the Archives do not circulate and may be used in-house only.

Preferred Citation

Name of item. Beryl Stewart papers. MA 14. South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Abstract

Rhea Beryl DeHaven Stewart was a teacher and a farm homemaker. She served on the South Dakota Board of Education from 1947 to 1959 and was a contributor of poetry and prose to many publications. This is a collection of manuscripts and published works of Beryl Stewart as well as material she collected and scrapbooks she created throughout her career.

Biographical Note

Rhea Beryl DeHaven Stewart was born on September 2, 1899 in Linden, Iowa, to Albert and Eva DeHaven. The first years of Beryl's life were spent in Iowa, after which she homesteaded with her parents near Capa, South Dakota in 1907. In 1915, she and her family moved to Wessington, SD, which remained her home for most of her life.

In the fall of 1915, Beryl started teaching when she was drafted from high school to teach a group of 26 pupils in a rural school. In 1926, she completed her high school work at Northern States Teachers' college in Aberdeen, SD. She later took a teacher's course there and she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Education. She was a student assistant in various departments while she attended college. She was a member of Kappa Delta Phi and Pi Kappa Delta, national societies, Beaux Arts Club and the Pasque Board. She also participated in forensics, dramatics and stagecraft activities.

In 1927, she accepted a position at Roosevelt Junior High in Aberdeen, SD. In the spring of that year, she took over the English and artwork in the new Simmons Junior High School. In 1930, she was made Director of the English Department at Central High School in Aberdeen. She taught English and dramatic courses and was adviser to the Drama Club and Word Craft, a publication initiated by Stewart and produced by students of the high school.

In 1932, Beryl was granted a Master of Arts degree from the State University of Iowa. Her major field of study was English literature.

On January 24, 1943, she married Chase David Stewart. She gave up her career as a teacher to become a farm homemaker. They resided near Wessington, SD.

Beryl Stewart was a long time contributor of poetry and prose to many publications. She was a member of the South Dakota Press Women and the National League of American Pen Women, serving the latter as state president.

Her writings were awarded prizes in national competitions, poetry magazines and in South Dakota State Fair Literature contests. Her name appears in Who's Who of American Women, Who's Who in South Dakota and International Who's Who in Poetry.

Although Mrs. Stewart left her career as a teacher to become a farm homemaker, she retained her interest in education by serving on the South Dakota Board of Education from 1947 to 1959. She was also a member of President Eisenhower's Conference on Education in 1955. After her husband's death in February 1960, Mrs. Stewart returned to teaching English at Sioux Falls College.

Beryl DeHaven Stewart died on September 20, 1961.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into five series:

Series 1. Collected works

Series 2. Correspondence

Series 3. Manuscripts

Series 4. Published works

Series 5. Scrapbooks.

Folders are arranged alphabetically within each series.

Contents Note

This collection is composed of manuscripts and published works of Beryl Stewart as well as material she collected and scrapbooks she created throughout her career.

The collected works are composed of clippings about Stewart from newspapers, a book in which her name is mentioned, and several issues of Word Craft, a publication from Aberdeen Central High School to which Stewart was an adviser.

The correspondence covers the years from 1923 to 1942 and includes reference letters and letters from publishers.

The manuscripts are composed of essays, poems and short stories that Stewart wrote. Also included are works that Stewart entered in the South Dakota State Fair literature contests, some of which contain criticisms of her work and ribbons awarded. Many of these are included in the scrapbooks.

The published works are composed essays, poems and short stories that Stewart published in several literary and rural publications.

The scrapbooks are composed of scrapbooks that include correspondence and clippings from publications to which Beryl Stewart submitted her writings.

Key Words

Poetry

Poets, American -- South Dakota

South Dakota Board of Education

Stewart, Rhea Beryl DeHaven, 1899-1961

Walz, Jean

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open to researchers without restrictions. The materials in the Archives do not circulate and may be used in-house only.

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Arranged and Described by

Crystal J. Gamradt, 1998 July 7.

Container List

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1. Collected works	1	1	International Who's Who in Poetry, vol. 2	1958
1. Collected works	1	2	Language Arts Course of Study for SD High Schools - Bulletin 8B/8D : 10th & 12th year	1947
1. Collected works	1	3	The Mirror	1933-1934
1. Collected works	1	4	Newspaper clippings	1960, 1981, undated
1. Collected works	1	5	Word Craft	1937
1. Collected works	1	6	Word Craft	1941
1. Collected works	1	7	Word Craft	1942
1. Collected works	1	8	Word Craft	1944
1. Collected works	1	9	Word Craft	1949
2. Correspondence	1	10	Correspondence	1923-1942
3. Manuscripts	1	11	Booklet - Wild Plum	undated
3. Manuscripts	1	12	English Course of Study	1939
3. Manuscripts	1	13	Essays	undated
3. Manuscripts	1	14	Poems	1960, undated
3. Manuscripts	2	1	Short stories	1960, undated
3. Manuscripts	2	2	State Fair Ribbons	1960
3. Manuscripts	2	3	Thesis	1932
4. Published works	2	4	The American Bard	1960
4. Published works	2	5	The Archer	1951-1953

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
4. Published works	2	6	Blue Moon	1952, 1954-1956
4. Published works	2	7	Candor	1956
4. Published works	2	8	The Christian Science Monitor	1953-1955, 1957-1960
4. Published works	2	9	The Country Poet	1951-1952
4. Published works	2	10	The English Journal	1936
4. Published works	2	11	Epos	1950
4. Published works	2	12	The Farmer	1950, 1952-1954, 1956, 1962
4. Published works	2	13	Florida Magazine of Verse	1951-1952
4. Published works	2	14	From Sea to Sea in Song	1954
4. Published works	2	15	Ideals	1951-1952, 1954, 1956, 1961
4. Published works	2	16	The Improvement ERA	1954, 1956, 1961
4. Published works	2	17	Kaleidograph	1950-1951
4. Published works	2	18	Midwest Chaporrol	undated
4. Published works	2	19	The Muse	1958-1959
4. Published works	2	20	New Athenaeum	1950
4. Published works	2	21	New Verse Magazine	1950-1951
4. Published works	2	22	Palmetto Voices	1951
4. Published works	2	23	Paramount Collector-Hobbyist	1946-1947
4. Published works	2	24	Pasque Petals	1949-1950, 1958-1959
4. Published works	2	25	The Pen Woman	1955

Series	Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
4. Published works	2	26	Prairie Winds	1952
4. Published works	2	27	Reflections	1954
4. Published works	2	28	SDEA Journal	1955-1956
4. Published works	2	29	Seydell Quarterly	1956, 1960
4. Published works	2	30	The Sioux City Journal	1955, 1960
4. Published works	2	31	Stanza	1949
4. Published works	2	32	Unknown	undated
5. Scrapbooks	3		Scrapbook	1946-1959
5. Scrapbooks	4		Scrapbook	1947-1957
5. Scrapbooks	5		Scrapbook	1947-1959
5. Scrapbooks	6		Scrapbook	1947-1960
5. Scrapbooks	7		Scrapbook	1950-1953
5. Scrapbooks	8		Scrapbook	1951-1957
5. Scrapbooks	9		Scrapbook	1951-1959
5. Scrapbooks	10		Scrapbook	1951-1959
5. Scrapbooks	11		Scrapbook	1952-1955
5. Scrapbooks	12		Scrapbook	1952-1959
5. Scrapbooks	13		Scrapbook	1953-1956
5. Scrapbooks	14		Scrapbook	1953-1959
5. Scrapbooks	15		Scrapbook	1953-1960
5. Scrapbooks	16		Scrapbook	1954-1959
5. Scrapbooks	17		Scrapbook	1954-1960
5. Scrapbooks	18		Scrapbook	1955-1959
5. Scrapbooks	19		Scrapbook	1957-1960
5. Scrapbooks	20		Scrapbook	1959
5. Scrapbooks	21		Scrapbook	undated