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Hugh Porter papers11919325

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

3041 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

Telephone: (212) 851-5606

burke@library.columbia.edu

URL: <https://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	5
Controlled Access Headings	6
Burke Library record group:	6
Collection Inventory	6
Correspondence and alumni relations	6
Hymnody and professional activities	8

Summary Information

Repository:	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
Creator:	Porter, Hugh, 1897-1960
Creator:	Union Theological Seminary (New York, N.Y.). School of Sacred Music
Title:	Hugh Porter papers
ID:	11919325
Date [inclusive]:	1915 -- 1978
Physical Description:	2 boxes 2 boxes; 1 linear foot
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Hugh B. Porter (1897-1960) was a musician and educator who graduated from the UTS School of Sacred Music in 1930, and served as faculty from 1930 until his death in 1960. This collection contains correspondence, alumni material, hymnody, and material related to professional activities.

Preferred Citation

Item description, UTS1: Hugh Porter papers, series #, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Hugh Porter was an organist and scholar, and a graduate, faculty member, and director of Union Theological Seminary's School of Sacred Music (now at Yale University). He was born on September 18, 1897 in Heron Lake, Minnesota, the son of John Francis and Mary Effie (nee Boring) Porter. Porter married Ethel Flentye on August 20, 1932, and together they had a son, David.

From an early age Porter was musically inclined, earning his Bachelor of Music from Chicago's American Conservatory of Music in 1920. Porter was later a fellow in the Juilliard Foundation from 1923 to 1924 before earning his B.A. from Northwestern University in 1924, his Master

of Sacred Music from Union Theological Seminary in 1930 (the School's first graduating class), and later his doctorate in Sacred Music also from Union (1944). Porter held a number of roles during his career at Union. In addition to his lectureship and eventual presidency at the School of Sacred Music, Porter served as Harkness Associate Professor in Sacred Music from 1945 to 1947, and Clarence and Helen Dickinson Professor of Sacred Music beginning in 1947. Porter succeeded Clarence Dickinson as the second Director of the School of Sacred Music from 1945 until his death in 1960. After his death, the Hugh Porter Scholarship was instituted at the Institute for Sacred Music at Yale.

In addition to his academic career in music, Porter served as organist for the Oratorio Society of New York in 1924, organist and choirmaster at the Second Presbyterian Church in New York City from 1930 to 1936, and later in the Reformed Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas from 1936 to 1947. Porter served as the head of the Organ Department at Juilliard Summer School while completing his academic work at Union (1932-1945), also serving as a lecturer in Transposition and Vocal and Orchestral Score Reading in the School of Sacred Music from 1930 to 1945. He additionally served or performed at the following institutions: private student organist under Wilhelm Middelschulte; Student Choral Direction with Albert Stoessel and Clarence Dickinson; Organist, College of Liberal Arts at Northwestern University, 1920-1923; Calvary Episcopal Church (NYC), 1925-1928; Church of the Heavenly Rest (NYC), 1929-1930; American Conservatory of Music, 1919-1922; David Mannes Museum School, 1925-1928; New York University (also Faculty in music theory), 1925-1928; Soloist, Library of Congress, 1931; Town Hall recitals (NYC), 1930; Kimball Hall (Chicago), 1928; American Guild of Organists (Boston), 1937.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

This collection contains personal correspondence; alumni bulletins, by-laws of the Alumni Association, addresses by faculty, and other materials related to alumni relations; sheet music from congregations Porter performed in with handwritten score notes; and materials related to professional activities including lectures, workshops, and Pilgrim Hymn correspondence.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

This collection is organized in two series: Correspondence and alumni relations; and Hymnody and professional activities.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Access

The following boxes are located offsite: Box 1-2. Please note that requests for use of boxes held in offsite storage must be made three business days in advance.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The exact provenance of this collection is unknown.

Processing Information

The Porter papers were among a large group of unprocessed materials that were organized in 2017 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation; materials were rehoused in acid-free folders and archival document boxes, and rusty paperclips were removed and replaced with plastic clips. The finding aid was created by Betty Bolden and Rebecca Nieto in 2017 and edited by Leah Edelman in 2020.

Conditions Governing Use

Some material in this collection may be protected by copyright and other rights. Information concerning copyright, fair use, and reproduction requests can be consulted at Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Organists
- College teachers
- Porter, Hugh, 1897-1960 -- : Archives
- Union Theological Seminary (New York, N.Y.) -- : Archives -- : Faculty
- Union Theological Seminary (New York, N.Y.). School of Sacred Music -- : Sources -- : History

Burke Library record group:

Union Theological Seminary Archives: UTS 1, papers of faculty and students

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

Correspondence and alumni relations, 1928 -- 1978

Physical Description: 1 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This series is open for research.

Arrangement

This series is arranged in original order.

Scope and Contents

This series contains personal correspondence, as well as alumni bulletins, by-laws of the Alumni Association, addresses by faculty, and other materials related to alumni relations.

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, circa 1928 -- 1978	box 1	folder 1

<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		
Correspondence, 1944 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 2
Correspondence, 1928 -- 1968 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 3
Alumni Christmas letters, 1950 -- 1961 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 4
Correspondence: closing School of Sacred Music, 1971 -- 1973 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 5
Address: John Bennett, circa 1928 -- 1978 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 6
Address: Robert McCracken, 1960-04-23 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 7
Address: Werner Merten, 1955 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 8
Church bulletins, 1959 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 9
By-laws of the School of Sacred Music Alumni Association, circa 1928 -- 1978 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 10
Alumni bulletins, 1949 -- 1961 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 11
Letters to alumni, circa 1968 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 12
Letters to alumni: Hugh and Ethel Porter, 1953 -- 1963 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 13
Dr. Cyril Richardson, Alumni Day, 1947-05 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 14
Donors, Ladies of the Faculty, alumni address partial, 1955 -- 1962 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 15
Songs and verses, retirement dinner faculty, 1945-05-03 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1	folder 16
Letter from Ethel Porter to Donald Shriver, 1978	box 1	folder 17

Physical Description: 1 folders

Ethel Porter, John Edmonds, and Robert Tangeman: concerns, circa 1964	box 1	folder 18
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Physical Description: 1 folders

David M. Gehrenbeck and Helen Hurt Gehrenbeck with Holiness, Pope Paul photograph, circa 1971	box 1	folder 19
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Physical Description: 1 folders

General, circa 1938 -- 1963	box 1	folder 20
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Physical Description: 1 folders

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Hymnody and professional activities, 1915 -- 1973

Physical Description: 1 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This series is open for research.

Arrangement

This series is arranged in original order.

Scope and Contents

This series contains sheet music from congregations Porter performed in with handwritten score notes, and materials related to professional activities including lectures, workshops, and Pilgrim Hymn correspondence.

Title/Description	Instances	
Sheet music, 1958 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 2	folder 1
Mimeographed articles, 1948 -- 1962 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 2	folder 2
Hymnody: mimeographed class materials, 1940 -- 1958 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 2	folder 3
Lectures, circa 1940 -- 1973 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 2	folder 4
Summer course, first year conference, 1945 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 2	folder 5
Annual workshops: Music for the Church, 1963 -- 1973	box 2	folder 6

<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		
Talks, 1957	box 2	folder 7
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		
Programs: UTS historical organ lecture recitals by Clarence Dickinson, 1915 -- 1931	box 2	folder 8
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		
Directors annual reports, 1957 -- 1959	box 2	folder 9
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		
Scoresheets, syllabi, and notes, 1948 -- 1954	box 2	folder 10
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		
Pilgrim Hymn Correspondence, 1959	box 2	folder 11
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		
Columbus Hymn Festival, 1959	box 2	folder 12
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		
Hymnody: notes and clippings, circa 1959	box 2	folder 13
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		
Leland Chou ordination, Toledo, OH, 1960	box 2	folder 14
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders		

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)