



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

Guide to the

**Alyce Webb papers**

1940-1996 [bulk 1960-1986]

Sc MG 694

## Summary

**Creator:** Webb, Alyce Elizabeth, 1930-2000

**Title:** Alyce Webb papers

**Date:** 1940-1996 [bulk 1960-1986]

**Size:** 1.25 linear feet (3 boxes)

**Source:** Gift of Asta Hairston, 2001.

**Abstract:** African American singer and actress Alyce Webb performed in several Broadway, Off-Broadway, and dinner theater productions. The Alyce Webb papers document Webb's career in theater, film, and television.

**Access:** Some collections held by the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. To request access to materials in the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, please visit: [http://archives.nypl.org/divisions/scm/request\\_access](http://archives.nypl.org/divisions/scm/request_access)

**Preferred citation:** [Item], Alyce Webb papers, Sc MG 694, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Accessioned by Edwine Ashie-Nikoi, March 2009.

## Creator History

African American singer and actress Alyce Webb performed in several Broadway, Off-Broadway, and dinner theater productions, including *Finian's Rainbow* (1962) and *Lost in the Stars* (1972). Webb also made recurring guest appearances on television's *All My Children* and appeared in films such as *Cotton Comes to Harlem* (1970), *Claudine* (1974), *Identity Crisis* (1989), and *Boomerang* (1992).

In 1966, Webb toured South America with the U.S. State Department-sponsored Music Theater, USA

and received rave reviews. Her other international experience included appearances with the New Zealand Opera Company in New Zealand and Australia; tours with Alvin Ailey and the Robert Shaw Chorale in Asia; as well as tours in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East with *Jazz Train* and *Free and Easy*. Webb died on December 12, 2000.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Alyce Webb Papers document Webb's career in theater, film, and television. The bulk of the collection consists of playbills and playscripts for productions in which Webb performed, or for which she was the stage manager (*The Royal Mass of Mogho*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *Porgy and Bess*). There is also a folder of musical scores from some of these productions. The Personal materials folder records Webb's scholastic achievements and goals as well as her community service. The Professional materials folder contains copies of her resume and contracts. In the Tributes and obituaries folder are tributes to Martin Luther King, Jr., Eubie Blake, Cab Calloway, W.C. Handy, and Ella Fitzgerald, among others.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

African American motion picture actors and actresses  
African American singers  
African American theater  
African American women entertainers  
African American women on television  
African Americans in the performing arts  
Black author  
Women singers -- United States

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Playbills  
Programs  
Scripts

### **Names**

Webb, Alyce Elizabeth, 1930-2000

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Personal material
- b. 1 f. 2 Professional material
- b. 1 f. 3 *AUDELCO awards and Overture magazines*
- b. 1 f. 4 Newspaper clippings
- b. 1 f. 5 Tributes and obituaries
  - Plays 1960-1996
  - Arranged alphabetically for plays without dates, and chronologically for those with dates.
- b. 1 f. 6 *Free and Easy*
- b. 1 f. 7 *Kiss Me Kate*
- b. 1 f. 8 *Let Sleeping Dogs Lie*
- b. 1 f. 9 *Pippin*
- b. 1 f. 10 *South Pacific*
- b. 1 f. 11 *Wonderful Town*
- b. 1 f. 12 *Finian's Rainbow* 1960
- b. 1 f. 13 *Destry Rides Again* ca. 1960
- b. 2 f. 1 *Ballad for Bimshire* 1963
- b. 2 f. 2 *Ballad of the Winter Soldiers* 1964
- b. 2 f. 3 *Porgy and Bess* 1964-1985
- b. 2 f. 4 *Carousel* 1966
- b. 2 f. 5 *Show Boat and Carousel, South American tour* 1966
- b. 2 f. 6 *Show Boat* 1966-1985
- b. 2 f. 7 *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* 1966
- b. 2 f. 8 *Street Scene* 1966
- b. 2 f. 9 *Time Out for Ginger* 1966
- b. 2 f. 10 *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever* 1967
- b. 2 f. 11 *A Christmas Carol* 1969
- b. 2 f. 12 *Hello, Dolly* 1964
- b. 2 f. 13 *Purlie* 1970
- b. 2 f. 14 *The Grass Harp* 1971
- b. 2 f. 15 *The Royal Mass of Mogho* 1971
- b. 2 f. 16 *Don't Play Us Cheap* 1972
- b. 3 f. 1 *Raisin* 1973-1981
- b. 3 f. 2 *A Streetcar Named Desire* 1973
- b. 3 f. 3 *Bricktop!* 1980-1988
- b. 3 f. 4 *You Can't Take It with You* 1983-1984
- b. 3 f. 5 *Like Sisters on the Homefront* 1996
- b. 3 f. 6 *Vroom Vroom Vroom* 1992
- b. 3 f. 7 Musical scores and printed music