



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Lenox Hill Players and Ensemble Theatre records

1922-1935

*T-Mss 2014-106

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2015

Summary

Creator: Lenox Hill Players

Title: Lenox Hill Players and Ensemble Theatre records

Date: 1922-1935

Size: 1.05 linear feet (2 boxes, 4 volumes)

Source: Unknown.

Abstract: The Lenox Hill Players was a theater company that was active in New York City in the 1920s. The company's board of directors included Jerome Seplow, who went on to sit on the board of the Ensemble Theatre in 1934. The Lenox Hill Players records date from 1922 to 1930 and include meeting minutes, correspondence, scripts, financial records, legal records, a scrapbook, ephemera such as tickets, and Seplow's 1929 day planner. Meeting minutes date from 1926 to 1929 and document administrative and financial decisions as well as the company's creative decision-making process. There is correspondence between the Lenox Hill Players and playwright Lynn Riggs regarding his play *A Lantern to See By*, which was produced by the company in 1928. The collection contains a script for *The Subway* by Elmer Rice (produced by the Lenox Hill Players in 1929) and two versions of the script for *A Lantern to See By*. Financial records include a list of subscribers for the company's first, second, and third seasons from 1926 to 1929. Legal records include actors' contracts for *The Dark Mirror* (1928). The scrapbook contains clippings about the company's productions from 1922 to 1929. Ensemble Theatre records date from 1934 to 1935 and consist of meeting minutes, multiple versions of the script for *A Character Intrudes* by Charles S. Costello, and a letter from the company to drama critic John Mason Brown. The letter describes the Ensemble Theatre's approach to drama and the influence of the Moscow Art Theatre on their acting technique.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts 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. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

Conditions Governing Use: The author/creator retains copyright of materials. For information on

obtaining permission to publish, contact the Theatre Division at theatre@nypl.org.

Preferred citation: Lenox Hill Players and Ensemble Theatre records, *T-Mss 2014-106. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2015

Key Terms

Subjects

Little theater movement

Theater -- Finance

Theater -- New York (State) -- New York -- 20th century

Theater -- Production and direction

Names

Ensemble Theatre (New York, N.Y.)

Container List

- Lenox Hill Players
- b. 1 f. 1-16 1925-1930
 - v. 1 Scrapbook 1922-1929
 - v. 2 Subscription List 1926-1929
 - v. 3 Ledger 1928-1929
 - v. 4 Stock Certificates 1928
- b. 2 f. 1-5 Ensemble Theatre 1934-1935