

The New York Public Library
New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center
Music Division

Guide to the
Nathaniel Dickerson papers
1946-1979
JPB 12-17

Compiled by L. Reyman, December 2012

Summary

Creator: Dickerson, Nathaniel, 1914-1999

Title: Nathaniel Dickerson papers, 1946-1979

Size: .46 linear foot (2 boxes)

Source: Donated by Nathaniel Dickerson in 1993.

Abstract: Nathaniel Dickerson, singer, actor and teacher, was born June 17, 1914 in Waycross, Georgia. He died on May 10, 1999 in Stamford, Connecticut. The collection contains material from his career with The Mariners and as a soloist.

Access: Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photocopying and photography will apply. Advance notice may be required.

Copyright information: For permission to publish: contact the Chief, Music Division, New York Public Library.

Preferred citation: Nathaniel Dickerson papers, Music Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: The material is arranged alphabetically by name, title and subject.

Creator history

Nathaniel Dickerson, singer, actor and teacher, was born June 17, 1914 in Waycross, Georgia. He died on May 10, 1999 in Stamford, Connecticut.

Dickerson attended Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee. While there he became a featured soloist with the University's Jubilee Singers. He also studied voice at the Juilliard School of Music. In 1945 he won the Marian Anderson scholarship.

While in the Coast Guard, Dickerson and three other Officers were "ordered to sing together" becoming the officially named U. S. Coast Guard Quartet. The day after getting discharged, in 1945, they landed a spot on the Fred Allen Show, renaming themselves "The Mariners." The group soon became regular guests on the Arthur Godfrey Show. The Mariners were one of the first racially integrated groups (Dickerson is African-American) to be seen on national television. The group stayed with the show until 1955. During this time, Dickerson did solo work in concert settings, as well as being a paid vocalist for local churches.

In 1958, Dickerson began working as a registered representative on the New York Stock Exchange. He later worked for the Bergen County Urban League, where he helped coordinate field trips, interviews, and jobs between high school students and local businesses.

Dickerson died in Stamford, Connecticut on May 10, 1999.

Source:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Godfrey

Scope and content note

The collection contains material from the career of Nathaniel Dickerson. It includes clippings of his time at Fisk University, photographs, programs of his concert work with the Mariners and as a soloist, published sheet music, and lists of concert dates and song titles.

Arrangement

Alphabetical by subject, name and title.

Key terms

Occupations

Vocalists

Names

Dickerson, Nathaniel, 1914-1999

Special formats

Sheet music

Container list

- b.1 f.1 Autograph, undated
- b.1 f.2 Certificate of Appreciation, 1957
- b.1 f.3 Clippings, undated
- b.1 f.4 Drawings, undated
- b.1 f.5 Lists, undated
Lists include concert tour dates and song titles.
- b.1 f.6 Miscellaneous, undated
Newsletters, brochures, catalogs, and addresses.
- b.1 f.7-8 Photographs, undated
- b.1 f.9-12 Programs, 1940-1990 (Group and solo work on the concert tour.)
- b.1 f.13 Resume, undated
Sheet Music (Published sheet music. No originals.)
 - b.2 f.1 *Angelitos Negros*, 1946
 - b.2 f.2 *Bring Back My Heart*, undated
 - b.2 f.3 *The Burning Bush of Israel*, 1953
 - b.2 f.4 *Choo Choo Train*, 1951
 - b.2 f.5 *Guantanamera*, 1966
 - b.2 f.6 *Get Closer*, 1976
 - b.2 f.7 *Halleluja*, 1979
 - b.2 f.8 *Hold Me 'Til The Morning Comes*, undated
 - b.2 f.9 *Hold The Wind, Don't Let It Blow*, 1950
 - b.2 f.10 *I Cried For You*, undated
 - b.2 f.11 *I Don't Need Anything But You*, undated
 - b.2 f.12 *I Know Not Where To Go*, 1957
 - b.2 f.13 *In A Persian Garden*, undated
 - b.2 f.14 *It's Time To Go!*, undated
 - b.2 f.15 *I've Got a Good Woman*, undated
 - b.2 f.16 Loose Music, undated
 - b.2 f.17 *The Music of Carlos Jobim*, 1958-1967
 - b.2 f.18 *My Heart Belongs to Me*, undated
 - b.2 f.19 *Night After Night*, 1946
 - b.2 f.20 *Nothing But No*, undated
 - b.2 f.21 *Responsibility*, undated
 - b.2 f.22 *She's My Only Woman*, undated
 - b.2 f.23 *Somebody Loves Me*, undated
 - b.2 f.24 *Songs For Male Quartet*, undated
 - b.2 f.25 *There Comes a Time*, undated
 - b.2 f.26 *Visual Songs*, 1952
 - b.2 f.27 *A Young Girl*, 1965
- b.1 f.14 Urban League of Bergen County (NJ), 1978