



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

Guide to the

Harry E. Jones papers

1941-1968

Sc MG 246

Home to Harlem Project funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Summary

Creator: Jones, Harry E. (Harry Edward), 1897-

Title: Harry E. Jones papers

Date: 1941-1968

Size: 0.02 linear feet (2 folders)

Source: Jones, Estella W, 03/10/1987

Revision History: This finding aid was updated by Allison Hughes.

Abstract: In 1936 Harry Jones founded and organized the first Boy Scout troop for African Americans in the New Brunswick, New Jersey area, Troop 29, and was its scoutmaster for more than thirty years. A professional prizefighter in his youth, Jones also taught himself to play the piano and the organ. During the 1930's he had a weekly radio program and played in clubs in New Jersey through the 1960's. In addition, Jones was the organist for the Antioch Baptist Church in New Brunswick. The majority of the Harry Jones Papers reflect Jones' role as a Boy Scout leader for African American boys in New Jersey, with some material relating to his career as a musician. The collection contains news clippings and articles discussing Jones' scouting activities, and certificates and citations from the Boy Scouts and other community officials praising his scouting work. There are also newspaper advertisements for Jones' musical appearances in small clubs in New Jersey.

Preferred citation: [Item], Harry E. Jones papers, Sc MG 246, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Separated Materials:

Photographs transferred to Photographs and Prints division.

Creator History

In 1936 Harry Jones founded and organized the first Boy Scout troop for African Americans in the New

Brunswick, New Jersey area, Troop 29, and was its scoutmaster for more than thirty years. A professional prizefighter in his youth, Jones also taught himself to play the piano and the organ. During the 1930s he had a weekly radio program and played in clubs in New Jersey through the 1960s. In addition, Jones was the organist for the Antioch Baptist Church in New Brunswick.

Scope and Content Note

The majority of the Harry Jones papers reflect Jones's role as a Boy Scout leader for African American boys in New Jersey, with some material relating to his career as a musician. The collection contains news clippings and articles discussing Jones' scouting activities, and certificates and citations from the Boy Scouts and other community officials praising his scouting work. There are also newspaper advertisements for Jones' musical appearances in small clubs in New Jersey.

Key Terms

Subjects

African Americans -- Social life and customs

Boy Scouts -- New Jersey

Scouting (Youth activity) -- New Jersey

Names

Jones, Harry E. (Harry Edward), 1897-