VIOLA YOUNG SCRIVENS COLLECTION

Repository: Delaware State University Archives
William C. Jason Library
1200 N. DuPont Highway; Dover, DE 19901
302-857-6130

Creator: Viola E. Young Scrivens
Date: 1929-1983 [bulk 1931-1944]
Location: This collection is boxed with the Eula Maloy Oliver collection, Row , Bay B, Shelf 2
Extent: 0.25 linear feet
Language: English

Source of Acquisition: From the estate of Viola Young Scrivens, donated by her daughter, Corrine Massey to the Office of Alumni Affairs. Transferred to the archives in March 2016.

Conditions Governing Access: This collection is open to public viewing. No restrictions.
Conditions Governing Use: US Code Title 17 applies. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from Delaware State University.

Abstract: The Viola Young Scrivens collection includes event programs, invitations, and publications from the State College for Colored Students dated between 1929 and 1944.

Scope and Content: The Viola Young Scrivens collection primarily consists of State College for Colored Students event programs for student theatre productions, concerts, Baccalaureate, building dedications, and Founder’s Day events dated between 1931 and 1983. Additionally, the collection includes publications created by the State College for Colored Students and Delaware State College - namely The Lantern student newspapers, an admissions booklet, and The Echo. Materials which personally relate to Viola Scrivens include an acceptance card to SCCS, correspondence, and her memorial program from 2005.

Biographical History: In 1933 Viola Scrivens was a high school student at the DuPont school on the campus of the State College for Colored Students. Although she had a long association with the college, she did not pursue collegiate-level education.

Viola Elizabeth Young Scrivens was born in 1909 in Glenn White, West Virginia. In her youth she lived in New York City and later Philadelphia where she met her husband, George Scrivens. Beginning in the late 1940’s Scrivens resided in Dover, Delaware with her three children - Corrine Massey, Bernice Wilson, and Gilbert Scrivens - following a divorce from her husband.

Upon moving to Dover, Viola Scrivens served as a cook for Delaware State College, the Danner family, and the Murphy Home. She additionally worked at Kent County General Hospital as a dark room technician for approximately twenty years before retiring in 1974.

Mrs. Scrivens was a member of the Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal church in Dover where she served as the chaplain of the Helping Hands Club. She also attended Whatcoat United Methodist Church and Bethel Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Arrangement:
The materials in this collection are foldered alphabetically by subject.

**Box and Folder Listing:**

Box 1:
- Card of Admission to SCCS, June 28, 1933
- Correspondence November 22, 1944
- Miscellaneous, 1922, 1960
- Obituary February 5, 2005
- Programs, 1931-1983
- SCCS receipts, 1943-1944

**Colophon:** Collection was originally gifted to the university archives by Lorene Robinson, a close family friend of Viola Scrivens, on behalf of Corrine Massey. The collection was processed by Rejoice Scherry in March 2016 at which time a formal deed of gift from Mrs. Massey was acquired.