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## MS-165: Papers of Jen Bryant '82

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## MS-165: Papers of Jen Bryant '82

### **Description**

The collection is primarily composed of information relating to the publication of Jen Bryant's picture books and novels. The greatest amount of content is related to books written between 2004 and 2011, but the collection spans from the early days of Bryant's writing career in 1991 to work on her most recently published book, with additional donations anticipated at the author's convenience.

Materials relating to Bryant's professional activities and personal life are also available. These include records of events she attended, awards and honors she received, publishers' catalogues, and personal correspondence.

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### **Keywords**

Gettysburg College, Author Manuscripts, Picture Books

### **Disciplines**

English Language and Literature

**Guide to the  
Papers of Jen Bryant '82**



**Gettysburg College, Musselman Library  
Special Collections & College Archives**

**Processed by: Jenna Fleming  
June, 2014**

## **MS – 165: Papers of Jen Bryant ‘82**

(5 boxes, 6 cubic feet)

Inclusive Dates: 1991 – 2013

Location: Cage, Aisle 6

*Processed by: Jenna Fleming  
June, 2014*

### **Provenance**

The collection was donated to Special Collections by Jen Bryant through multiple accessions, including 2005-0227, 2006-0354, 2006-0419, 2009-0704, 2009-0770, 2011-0979, 2012-1044, 2012-1114, 2012-1140, 2014-0014, and 2014-0055.

### **Biography**

Jen Bryant was born in Easton, PA, and grew up in Flemington, New Jersey. She studied French at Gettysburg College, graduating in 1982, and later received her M. A. from Arcadia University. She began writing for children in 1989, publishing a series of picture books entitled *Working Moms: A Portrait of Their Lives*. She has written several biographical picture books, focusing on historical figures such as Marianne Moore, Georgia O’Keeffe, and William Carlos Williams. In 2005 she published *The Trial*, her first verse novel for middle-grade readers, which was followed by her critically recognized works *Ringside, 1925: Views from the Scopes Trial*; *Pieces of Georgia*; and *Kaleidoscope Eyes*. Her first prose novel, *The Fortune of Carmen Navarro*, based on the novella and opera *Carmen*, was published in 2011. Her writing has also been seen in *Highlights for Children*, as well as several literary publications.

Bryant’s books have been placed on multiple booklists, including Oprah’s Recommended Reading List, the *Christian Science Monitor* Best Children’s Books, and the *New York Times Book Review* Best Illustrated Children’s Books. In 2009 her picture book *A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams*, illustrated by Melissa Sweet, was recognized as a Caldecott Honor Book and received a Cooperative Children’s Book Center Charlotte Zolotow Honor Award.

In 1997 Bryant was recognized with a Young Alumni Achievement Award from Gettysburg College, and in 2013 she received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the College. She has taught English and children’s literature at West Chester University and Bryn Mawr College. She lives in Chester County, Pennsylvania, with her husband, Neil Bryant ’82, and their daughter.

### **Books by Jen Bryant (with publication date)**

- Working Moms: A Portrait of their Lives – Anne Abrams: Engineering Drafter (1991)
- Working Moms: A Portrait of their Lives – Carol Thomas-Weaver: Music Teacher (1991)
- Working Moms: A Portrait of their Lives – Jane Sayler: Veterinarian (1991)
- Working Moms: A Portrait of their Lives – Sharon Oehler: Pediatrician (1991)
- Working Moms: A Portrait of their Lives – Ubel Velez: Lawyer (1991)
- Working Moms: A Portrait of their Lives – Zoe McCully: Park Ranger (1991)
- Great Achievers – Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1995)
- Lucretia Mott: A Guiding Light (1996)

- Earth Keepers – Margaret Murie: A Wilderness Life (1997)
- Earth Keepers – Marjory Stoneman Douglas: Voice of the Everglades (1997)
- Men of Spirit – Thomas Merton: Poet, Prophet, Priest (1997)
- Into Enchanted Woods (2001)
- Georgia's Bones (2005)
- Music for the End of Time (2005)
- The Trial (2005)
- Call Me Marianne (2006)
- Pieces of Georgia (2007)
- A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams (2008)
- Abe's Fish: A Boyhood Tale of Abraham Lincoln (2009)
- Ringside, 1925 (2009)
- Kaleidoscope Eyes (2010)
- The Fortune of Carmen Navarro (2011)
- A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin (2013)
- The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus (2014)

### **Scope and Content Notes**

The collection is primarily composed of information relating to the publication of Jen Bryant's picture books and novels. The greatest amount of content is related to books written between 2004 and 2011, but the collection spans from the early days of Bryant's writing career in 1991 to work on her most recently published book, with additional donations anticipated at the author's convenience.

Materials relating to Bryant's professional activities and personal life are also available. These include records of events she attended, awards and honors she received, publishers' catalogues, and personal correspondence.

### **Series Description**

The collection is divided into three series: 1. Books, 2. Professional Activities, and 3. Personal Materials.

#### **Series 1: Books**

This series includes materials related to the writing, editing, and publishing of Jen Bryant's books. Research materials, notes, drafts, manuscripts, proofs, and correspondence connected to her published works are found in this series. The series is generally arranged in chronological order and currently covers books from *Lucretia Mott: A Guiding Light*, published 1996, to *A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin*, published 2013, with gaps.

#### **Series 2: Professional Activities**

This series is comprised of information about Bryant's career as a writer that is unconnected to any specific book. It includes materials relating to appearances by the author, conferences she attended, and awards she received. Publishing companies' book catalogues and advertisements featuring her work are also available, as are other publications her work has appeared in, such as literary magazines.

#### **Series 3: Personal Materials**

This series includes items indirectly related to Bryant's work as an author. Personal correspondence, thank-you notes from children whose schools she visited, biographical

information, and mementos from her activities as a Gettysburg College alumna are stored here.

**Box 1**

**Series 1: Books**

1-1	Lucretia Mott: Research & Outline
1-2	Lucretia Mott: Handwritten Drafts (2 folders)
1-3	Lucretia Mott: Typed Drafts (6 folders)
1-4	Lucretia Mott: Revisions (5 folders)
1-5	Lucretia Mott: Final Published Copy
1-6	Marjory Stoneman Douglas: Research
1-7	Marjory Stoneman Douglas: Notes and Drafts (2 folders)
1-8	Into Enchanted Woods: Illustration
1-9	The Trial: Research
1-10	The Trial: Notes
1-11	The Trial: Draft Dated August 31, 2002
1-12	The Trial: Proofread Manuscript Dated February 25, 2003
1-13	The Trial: Copyedited Manuscript Dated June 6, 2003
1-14	The Trial: Proofread Galley Copy Dated August 26, 2003 (2 folders)
1-15	The Trial: Proofread Galley Copy Dated October 3, 2003 (2 folders)
1-16	The Trial: Edited Galley Copy Dated November 18, 2003 (2 folders)
1-17	The Trial: Teacher's Guide and Student Responses
1-18	The Trial: Advance Galley Copy and Publisher's Postcard
1-19	The Trial: Correspondence and Publication Information

**Box 2**

**Series 1: Books (continued)**

1-20	Music for the End of Time: Research
1-21	Music for the End of Time: Notes and Drafts
1-22	Music for the End of Time: Correspondence
1-23	Music for the End of Time: Publication Information, Honors, and Reviews
1-24	Music for the End of Time: Fully Illustrated Layout Pages ( <b>Oversize Box</b> )
1-25	Call Me Marianne: Research
1-26	Call Me Marianne: Notes & Drafts
1-27	Call Me Marianne: Correspondence
1-28	Call Me Marianne: Publication Information and Reviews
1-29	Call Me Marianne: Illustrated Layout Pages and Poster ( <b>Oversize Box</b> )
1-30	Pieces of Georgia: Research
1-31	Pieces of Georgia: Early Notes and Drafts (3 folders)
1-32	Pieces of Georgia: Original Manuscripts
1-33	Pieces of Georgia: Edited Manuscript (2 folders)
1-34	Pieces of Georgia: Editor's Copy
1-35	Pieces of Georgia: Final Revision Dated November 29, 2005
1-36	Pieces of Georgia: Copyedited Manuscripts (3 folders)
1-37	Pieces of Georgia: First Pass Galley Copy (2 folders)
1-38	Pieces of Georgia: Second Pass Galley Copy (2 folders)
1-39	Pieces of Georgia: Second Pass Galley Copy with Revisions
1-40	Pieces of Georgia: Advance Galley Copies & Publication Information
1-41	Pieces of Georgia: Author's Note and Publisher's Catalogues

1-42	Pieces of Georgia: Correspondence
1-43	Pieces of Georgia: Posters ( <b>Oversize Box</b> )

### **Box 3**

#### **Series 1: Books (continued)**

1-44	Ringside 1925: Copyedited Manuscripts (2 folders)
1-45	Ringside 1925: Advance Reader's Copy, Postcard, and Teacher's Guide
1-46	Ringside 1925: Correspondence
1-47	A River of Words: Asian Language Editions and Discussion Guide
1-48	A River of Words: Art Exhibition Information
1-49	Abe's Fish: Manuscript Copy
1-50	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Research (3 folders)
1-51	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Notes and Drafts (3 folders)
1-52	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Drafts (4 folders)
1-53	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Author's Manuscript
1-54	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Edited Manuscript Dated March 4, 2008
1-55	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Initial Revision Dated April 25, 2008
1-56	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Copyedited Manuscript Dated July 8, 2008 (2 folders)
1-57	Kaleidoscope Eyes: First Pass Galley Copy (2 folders)

### **Box 4**

#### **Series 1: Books (continued)**

1-58	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Second Pass Galley copy (2 folders)
1-59	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Correspondence
1-60	Kaleidoscope Eyes: Advance Reader's Copies, Teacher's Guide, and Publication Information (2 folders)
1-61	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Research and Edited Pages
1-62	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Edited Manuscript (2 folders)
1-63	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Correspondence and Teacher's Guide
1-64	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Advance Reader's Copy and Publicity
1-63	Fortune of Carmen Navarro: Poster ( <b>Oversize Box</b> )
1-66	Georgia's Bones: Research, Notes, and Drafts
1-67	Georgia's Bones: Correspondence
1-68	Georgia's Bones: Publication Information and Reviews
1-69	A Splash of Red: Proof and Promotional Material
1-70	The Right Word: Signed Proof and Promotional Materials

#### **Series 2: Professional Activities**

2-1	Professional Activities: Miscellaneous Notes
2-2	Professional Activities: Events and Appearances
2-3	Professional Activities: National Council of Teachers of English Conventions, 2008 – 2010 (2 folders)
2-4	Professional Activities: Book Lists and Publishers' Catalogues (2 folders)
2-5	Professional Activities: Awards and Honors
2-6	Professional Activities: Publicity
2-7	Professional Activities: Highlights for Children, September 2003
2-8	Professional Activities: Signal Journal, Fall 2010/Winter 2011
	<b>2-9 through 2-17 located in Box 5</b>
2-18	Professional Activities: Meet the Author Poster (Oversize Box)

2-19	Professional Activities: Thank-you gift from 2009 Caldecott Committee <b>(Oversize Box)</b>
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**Series 3: Personal Materials**

3-1	Personal Materials: Personal Correspondence
3-2	Personal Materials: Thank-you Notes from Schools (3 folders)
3-3	Personal Materials: Author Biography
3-4	Personal Materials: Gettysburg College Alumni Activities
	<b>3-5 located in Box 5</b>
3-6	Personal Materials: Placemats from School Visit <b>(Oversize Box)</b>

**Box 5**

2-9	Professional Activities: Nonprofit Cultural Organizations In Pennsylvania's 19 <sup>th</sup> Senatorial District
2-10	Professional Activities: <i>U. S. 1 Worksheets</i> , 2000
2-11	Professional Activities: <i>Northeast Corridor</i> , Issue 7, 2000
2-12	Professional Activities: <i>Hand Crafted Poetry Collection</i> , 2001 (2 copies)
2-13	Professional Activities: <i>American Literary Review</i> Volume XII, Number 2, Fall 2001 (2 copies)
2-14	Professional Activities: <i>Schuylkill Valley Journal of the Arts</i> , Number 17, Fall 2003
2-15	Professional Activities: <i>Sentence: A Journal of Prose Poetics</i> , No. 4, 2006
2-16	Professional Activities: <i>The Whole Measure Poetry Collection</i> , 2006
2-17	Professional Activities: <i>Poet Lore</i> , Volume 102, Numbers 1 & 2, Spring/Summer 2007
3-5	Personal Materials: Books Signed to Jen Bryant from author Lloyd Alexander <b>(Box 5)</b>