

# MURIEL FARRELL PAPERS

1921-1959

## FINDING AID



*Archives and Special Collections*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| General Information    | 2     |
| Biographical Sketch    | 3     |
| Scope and Content Note | 4     |
| Series Description     | 5 - 6 |
| Container List         | 7 - 9 |
| Bibliography           | 10    |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Accession Number: 92-02

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Archivist: Prof. Julio L. Hernandez-Delgado

Assistant: Mr. Curvin Sawyer

Date: June 1997

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## BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH

Muriel Farrell was born in 1907 and raised in Ridgefield, New Jersey; she graduated from Ridgefield Grammar School in 1921 and Cliffside Park High School in 1925. Farrell obtained a Bachelor of Arts from Hunter College in June 1930, with a major in Early Childhood Education. Farrell furthered her education by receiving a Master of Arts in 1936 from Teachers College, Columbia University and a Ph. D in 1950 from New York University, School of Education. The title of her dissertation was: *Understanding of Time Relations by Five, Six, and Seven Year Old Children of High IQ.*

Farrell was initially hired as a substitute instructor in the Department of Education at the former Bronx Campus of Hunter College (now Lehman College) in January 1931. She became an Assistant Professor in 1960, and subsequently became an Associate Professor in 1965. She was an authority on teacher-training and taught at Hunter College for 43 years.

Farrell was a member of the Alumnae Association, School of Education of New York University, Roosevelt House League of Hunter College, Alumnae Association of Hunter College, Kindergarten Alumnae Association of Hunter College, Pi Lambda Theta, the American Association of University Professors, New York Metropolitan Association for Childhood Education, New York State Association for Nursery Education, National Association for Remedial Teachers, and The Bazaar Committee of the Hunter Alumnae which raised funds for Lenox Hill Neighborhood House.

Muriel Farrell retired from Hunter College 1967 - 1968, and died April 6, 1974. She was survived by two stepchildren Margaret and Thomas Ward.

## References

“Graduate.” *Hudson Dispatch*, February 3, 1930.

“Miss Farrell Granted Doctorate Degree.” *Hudson Bergen Dispatch*, April 21, 1950, n.p.

“Ridgefield Woman Awarded Ph.D Degree from N.Y.U.” *The Bergen Bulletin*, n.d.

“Dr. Muriel Farrell.” *The New York Times*, April 6, 1974, p. 34.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Muriel Farrell Papers document, through school notebooks and research papers, undergraduate and graduate courses that Farrell took at Hunter College, Teachers College, Columbia University, and New York University's School of Education from 1926 to 1946. Farrell's school notebooks encompass a variety of subjects including English, history, law, Physiology, Logic, Kindergarten, Education, and Psychology; they are informative and well organized and some of the school notebooks even contain whimsical comments and amateurish pencil sketches.

This collection also highlights Farrell's professional association with Hunter College from 1937-1959. Farrell taught for 43 years and was actively involved with the Alumnae Association of Hunter College, the Bureau of Educational and Vocational Guidance, and the Roosevelt House League. The papers further document Farrell's interest and involvement with many external organizations like the New York State Teachers Association, Student Personnel Association of the Municipal Colleges of the City of New York and the Metropolitan Association for the Study of the Gifted.

The Muriel Farrell Papers consist of undergraduate and graduate school notebooks, class notes and written assignments, article notes and manuscripts, reports, programs, correspondence, newspaper articles, miscellaneous materials and publications. This collection should be of interest to Hunter alumni and researchers who yearn to learn more about a committed educator and an innovator in Kindergarten instruction.

## SERIES DESCRIPTION

### Series I – Personal and Biographical Information

The documents in Series I provide a glimpse into Farrell's private and professional life. Farrell's vitae from 1940, 1951, and 1953 delineate her educational and professional accomplishments. Farrell's correspondence is arranged chronologically.

### Series II - Education

- 2.1 Cliffside Park High School
- 2.2 Hunter College Undergraduate Studies
- 2.3 Teachers College, Columbia University
- 2.4 New York University

Farrell's Physics laboratory notebook from Cliffside Park High School comprises Series 2.1. Series 2.2 consists of Farrell's school notebooks during her undergraduate years at Hunter College. The notebooks are related to courses she took in the areas of Education, English, history, law and Political Science, Physics, Physiology, Psychology and Logic. One of the notebooks is actually a scrapbook with various newspaper clippings. Farrell also kept calendar books which detailed school assignments and comments. Series 2.3 and 2.4 consist of notebooks and materials pertaining to her association with Teachers College, Columbia University and New York University's School of Education.

### Series III – Hunter College

Series III highlights Farrell's professional association with Hunter College from 1937 to 1959. Key folders underscore Farrell's involvement with the Alumnae Association of Hunter College, 1949-1953, the Bureau of Education and Vocational Guidance, 1946, 1952, and her writings during the decade of the 1950's. The folders are arranged alphabetically.

### Series IV – External Organizations

The Board of Higher Education, 1935 - 1936 and the Metropolitan Association for the Study of the Gifted, 1952, 1957 are featured in this series. Farrell was an active member of the latter organization. The folders are arranged alphabetically.

### Series V - Publications

Samples of publications that Farrell read and gathered throughout her professional career comprise this series. Significant titles in this series include *The Alumnae News*, 1946 - 1957, *Teacher Education News and Notes*, 1950 - 1958, *T.E.P. Topics*, 1957-1959, and *Views of the New York World's Fair*, 1939. The publications are arranged alphabetically by title.

## CONTAINER LIST

### SERIES I – PERSONAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

| <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents</u>                                       |
|------------|---------------|---|
| 1          | 1             | Articles, Reports, Programs, 1921 - 1939, 1950 - 1951 |
|            | 2             | Correspondence, 1931 - 1951                           |
|            | 3             | Vitae, 1940, 1951, 1953                               |

### SERIES II – EDUCATION

#### Series 2.1 – Cliffside Park High School

|   |   |                                   |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 4 | Physics Laboratory Notebook, 1923 |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|

#### Series 2.2 – Hunter College Undergraduate Years

|   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 1 | 5  | Assignment Books, 1926                            |
|   | 6  | Assorted Subjects Notebook, 1926 - 1927           |
|   | 7  | English Notebook, 1926                            |
|   | 8  | Medieval History Notebook, 1926                   |
|   | 9  | European History Notebook, 1927                   |
|   | 10 | Law and Political Science Notebook, 1927          |
|   | 11 | Physiology Notebook, 1927                         |
| 2 | 1  | Untitled Notebook, 1927                           |
|   | 2  | American Political Parties History Notebook, 1928 |
|   | 3  | European Government Notebook, 1928                |
|   | 4  | Kindergarten Curriculum Notebook, 1928            |
|   | 5  | Law Notebook, 1928                                |
|   | 6  | Law Cases Notebook, 1928                          |
|   | 7  | Physiology Lab Notebook, 1928                     |
|   | 8  | Psychology and Logic Notebook, 1928               |
|   | 9  | Social Science Notebook, 1928                     |
|   | 10 | Untitled Notebook, 1928                           |
|   | 11 | Education Notebook, 1929                          |

## **SERIES II – EDUCATION**

### **Series 2.2 – Hunter College Undergraduate Years**

| <b><u>Box</u></b> | <b><u>Folder</u></b> | <b><u>Contents</u></b> |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 3                 | 1                    | Papers, 1926 - 1929    |

### **Series 2.3 – Teachers College, Columbia University**

|   |   |                                     |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 3 | 2 | Untitled Notebook, 1935, 1940, 1944 |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|

### **Series 2.4 – New York University**

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 3 | 3 | Assignments, July 3 - 19, 1946   |
|   | 4 | Assignments, July - August, 1946   |
|   | 5 | Untitled School Notebook, 1946   |
|   | 6 | Ph D. Thesis - Raw Data, 1950  |
|   | 7 | <i>Vacation Playground - Summary of Wider Use of School Plant</i><br>Thesis in part, November 1944 |
|   | 8 | <i>Time</i> - Thesis - Data, n.d.  |

## **SERIES III – HUNTER COLLEGE**

|   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 3 | 9  | Alumnae Association of Hunter College, 1949 - 1953  |
|   | 10 | Bureau of Education and Vocational Guidance, 1946, 1952<br>Committee on Vocational Guidance, 1946, 1948 |
|   | 11 | Calendar Book, 1937   |
|   | 12 | Correspondence, 1940 - 1959   |
| 4 | 1  | Education Department Materials  |
|   | 2  | Federal Guard Eligible's  |
|   | 3  | Hunter College Activities Programs, 1951 - 1958   |
|   | 4  | Hunter College Staff Personnel Record, 1941 - 1959  |



### SERIES III – HUNTER COLLEGE

| <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents</u>  |
|------------|---------------|--|
| 4          | 5             | Hunter College Opera Association and Opera Workshop, 1955 - 1956 |
|            | 6             | Professional Conferences Attended, 1949 - 1959                   |
|            | 7             | Programs, 1951 - 1959  |
|            | 8             | Roosevelt House League, 1950 - 1951                              |
|            |               | Writings   |
|            | 9             | 1939, 1950, 1957, 1959   |
|            | 10            | Undated  |
|            | 11            | Miscellaneous Materials  |
|            | 12            | Newspaper Articles, 1939 - 1951                                  |

### SERIES IV – EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

|   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 4 | 13 | Board of Higher Education, 1935 - 1936, 1942                     |
|   | 14 | Metropolitan Association for the Study of the Gifted, 1952, 1957 |

### SERIES V – PUBLICATIONS

|   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 5 | 1  | <i>The Alumnae News</i> , 1946 - 1957  |
|   |    | <i>Association for Childhood Education International Hunter College Newsletter</i> ,<br>February 6, 1956 |
|   |    | <i>Curriculum and Materials</i> , May, 1953  |
|   | 2  | <i>The Guidance Bureau of Hunter College</i> , 1931 - 1956   |
|   | 3  | <i>Hunter College Newsletter</i> , January, 1955   |
|   | 4  | <i>Jobs Now and Then</i> , February, 1951  |
|   |    | <i>The Municipal College Personnel Association Newsletter</i> , January, 1957                            |
|   | 5  | <i>RCTA Newsletter</i> , November, 1958  |
|   |    | <i>The Silver Quill</i> , May 28, 1953   |
|   | 6  | <i>South Eastern Zone Bulletin</i> , September 1956, 1957  |
|   | 7  | <i>Teacher Education News and Notes</i> , 1950 - 1958  |
|   |    | <i>Tens Years of Triumph</i> , 1946 - 1956   |
|   | 8  | <i>T.E.P. Topics</i> , 1957 - 1959   |
|   | 9  | <i>Views of the New York World's Fair</i> , 1939   |
|   | 10 | <i>V.P.T.A. Bulletin</i> , March - August 1939   |

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Articles:

Farrell, Muriel. "Play with Clay." *Vacation Playground Teachers Association Bulletin*, Vol. II, No. 1, March, 1939, p. 3.

---. "The Nursery School in Perspective." *Rho Journal, Pi Lambda*, Mid-Century Issue, Vol. 20, April, 1951.

---. "Creative Art Experiences in Childhood Literature." Association for Childhood Education, Washington, D.C., n.d.

### Books:

Kravetz, Nathan and Muriel Farrell. *The Dog on the Ice*. New York: L.W. Singer, 1968.

---. *Is there a Lion in the House?* New York: H.Z. Walck, 1970.

### Dissertation:

Farrell, Muriel. Understanding of Time Relations by Five, Six, and Seven Year Old Children of High IQ. New York University, School of Education, 1950.