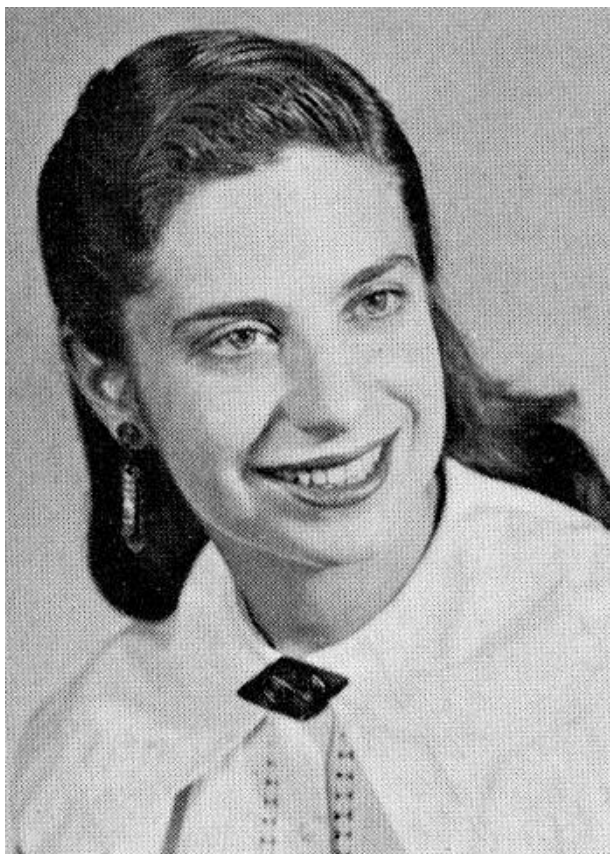


The Marjorie P. K. Weiser Papers, 1948 -1992
Finding Aid



Archives and Special Collections



TABLE OF CONTENTS

General Information	3
Biographical Sketch	4
Scope and Content Note	5
Series Description	6
Container List	7 - 11
Bibliography	12

GENERAL INFORMATION

Accession No.: 98-01

Size: 2.2614 cu. ft.

Provenance: Mr. Norman Weiser

Restrictions: None.

Location: Range 5 Section 1 Shelf 6

Archivist: Prof. Julio L. Hernandez-Delgado

Assistant: Ms. Dane Guerrero

Date: June 2010

Revised: November 2014

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Marjorie Phillis Pearle was born in the Bronx, New York on February 2, 1934. She was one of two children born to Joseph Pearle (a certified public accountant and attorney) and Cecelia (Klein) Pearle, both of whom were Hungarian. Marjorie graduated from Hunter College High School on June 21, 1951, and subsequently received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a concentration in English and Anthropology from Hunter College on June 16, 1955. Marjorie's academic success (Magna Cum Laude) enabled her to become a member of Phi Beta Kappa shortly after graduation. Marjorie continued her interest in Anthropology at Columbia University where she attended from 1955 to 1956, but failed to graduate from said university.

On January 5, 1957, Marjorie married Herbert M. Katz which resulted in the births of son Daniel Seth and daughter Nina Judith. The marriage lasted 16 years but dissolved in divorce in 1973. After 3 years as a divorcee Marjorie met and married Norman Weiser (a radio producer and public relations manager) on November 26, 1976. Marjorie and Norman remained as a couple until Marjorie passed away in 1996.

After leaving Columbia University in 1956 Marjorie accepted a post as an editorial trainee with The Rockefeller Foundation, Office of Publications, in New York City. Marjorie's next assignment was with Funk and Wagnalls where she worked as an associate editor in the trade book department from 1957 to 1960. Between 1960 and 1978 Marjorie became a free-lance writer, but she continued to work as a development editor through 1990 with Beard Glasser Wolf (independent packager producing books on food and cookery), Prentice-Hall (Book Project Division), Cambridge Book Company (Simon & Shuster Educational Division), Chelsea House, and Worth Publishers. Marjorie was attentive, meticulous, productive, and excelled in completing publisher related assignments.

While diligently working as a development editor with the aforementioned companies, Marjorie somehow managed to author and co-author a total of 16 books. Some of her key publications include *Pegs to Hang Ideas On* (1972), *Shaped by Hands* (1975), *Ethnic America* (1978), *Womanlist* (1981), and *Snapshots* (1984) to name a few. In a March 22, 1981, *New York Times Book Review of Womanlist* Marjorie explains the task of being an editor and writer:

For me, the challenge of being an editor and writer lies in the opportunity to explore a variety of subject areas, and to present information to specific audiences. The joy of working both with ideas and people can be found in few other occupations – and here it produces a useful lasting product.

Marjorie's work as a development editor and writer did not deter her from being actively involved with the Alumni Association of Hunter College (1982 - 1990?), the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association (1973 -1990?), and Temple Shaaray Tefilia in New York City (1974 - 1990?).

Marjorie P.K. Weiser passed away in 1996 and left a legacy of an individual who loved her family and friends and who cherished life with passion.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Marjorie P.K. Weiser Papers primarily document her affiliation with the Hunter College High School (Class of 1951) and with Hunter College of the City of New York (Class of 1955). It also highlights her active and simultaneous participation with the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association and with the Alumni Association of Hunter College.

The files that pertain to Weiser's years at Hunter College High School and her subsequent participation with the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association include, among other things, notebooks on Biology and Hygiene (1948 -1951), committee minutes (1986 - 1992), reminiscences by select alums of their years at the high school, and publications that Weiser either wrote for or actually spearheaded; these would include *Alumnotes* (1979 -1996), *An AlumNotes Extra* (1987 - 1988), *AlumNotes Reunion Extra* (1990 - 1994), *Hunter Hi-Lites* (n.d.), *That's What's Special* (1990 - 1991), and *What's What* (1951, 1980, 1987, 1990, 1992). The files that relate to Weiser's undergraduate years at Hunter College include awards, report cards, research papers, and copies of specific Hunter College publications. Documents that are associated with the Alumni Association of Hunter College consist of correspondence, financial reports, minutes, etc.

The Marjorie P.K. Weiser Papers provide researchers with an opportunity to comprehend the intricacies of student life by sifting through unique documents that were left by an extraordinary individual who attended and graduated from Hunter College High School and Hunter College during the first half of the 20th Century.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

SERIES I - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Series I consists of biographical entries in *Contemporary Authors* (1983) and in *Something About the Author Facts and Pictures about Authors and Illustrators* (1994). In addition there is a questionnaire from the University of California that Marjorie responded to in 1985. Lastly, there is a copy of a eulogy that was presented by Norman Weiser on May 21, 1996.

SERIES II - HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Subseries 2.1 – Notebooks

Subseries 2.2 – Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association

Subseries 2.1 includes Marjorie's Hunter College High School diploma, dated June 26, 1951, and several Biology and Hygiene notebooks spanning the years 1948 through 1951. In addition, there are materials regarding the Senior Show and Sing for 1951; there is also a Senior Proclamation dated April 1951. Series 2.2 documents Marjorie's active involvement with the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association. Of possible interest to researchers are the folders on the history of the school and reminiscences of former students Esther Hoffman Beller, Shirley Unger, and Edna Lewinson, which are recorded on cassette tapes. Also included are transcripts of interviews for Esther Hoffman Beller, Viola Herman Selling, and Edna Lewinson. Another interesting component of this subseries includes copies of *Alumnotes* (1979 - 1994), *An Alum Extra* (1987 - 1988), *AlumNotes Reunion Extra* (1990 - 1994), *Hunter Hi-Lites* (n.d.), *That's What's Special* (1990 - 1992), and *What's What* (1951, 1980, 1987, 1990, 1992) which Marjorie helped to produce.

SERIES III – HUNTER COLLEGE

Subseries 3.1 Alumni Association of Hunter College

Series III documents Marjorie's tenure as an undergraduate student and her outstanding academic achievement at Hunter College by graduating Magna Cum Laude. Marjorie's awards, report cards, and research papers provide a glimpse of an astute and disciplined individual who enjoyed her years at Hunter College and who was determined to succeed in life. Subseries 3.1 highlights Marjorie's active involvement with the Alumni Association of Hunter College.

CONTAINER LIST

SERIES I – BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	1	<p><i>Contemporary Authors A Bio-Bibliographical Guide to Current Writers in Fiction, General Nonfiction, Poetry, Journalism, Drama, Motion Pictures, Television, and Other Fields</i>. Vol. 103. Edited by Frances C. Locher. Detroit, Michigan: Gale Research Company, 1983, p. 540 - 541.</p> <p><i>Something About the Author Facts and Pictures about Authors and Illustrators For Young People</i>. Volume 33. Edited by Ann Commire. Detroit, Michigan: Gale Research Company, 1994, p.229.</p> <p>School of Education, Department of Counseling and Special Education, University of Southern California, Questionnaire, 1985.</p> <p>Margie: A Eulogy by Norman Weiser, May 21, 1996.</p>

SERIES II – HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Subseries 2.1 - Notebooks

1	2	<p>Commencement</p> <p>Diploma, June 26, 1951</p> <p>“Sara Maria Jones of Hunter High-Affectionately for Miss Louise M. Webster.” Lyric and Music by Charlotte Hochman, n.d.</p> <p>Senior Show, June 1951</p> <p>Senior Proclamation, April 1951</p> <p>The Sing, June 1951</p>
		<p>Notebooks</p>
	3	Biology Notes, December, 1948
	4	Biology 7 - B, September, 1950
	5	Biology 8 - A, February - June 1951
	6	Biology Notebook, n.d.
	7	Hygiene, January 1951

SERIES II – HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Subseries 2.2 – Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	8	By-Laws, n.d.
		Committee Minutes and Materials
	9	Executive Committee, 1989, 1991, 1992 Fund Raising Committee, 1988, 1989 Hall of Fame Awards, 1988 Long Range Planning Committee, 1987, 1988 Nominating Committee, 1988 Steering Committee, 1986, 1987
	10	Correspondence, 1988 - 1994
	11	Directory, 1993
	12	Distinguished Alumnae/i
	13	History of Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Highlights, n.d. Before (the) Coming of (the) Alumnae/i Association, n.d. Heads of the (Hunter College High) School, n.d. Hunter College High School and its Alumnae Association: A Chronology, n.d.
	14	Homecoming (Sing), Fall 1988
	15	Membership Receipts
	16	Miscellaneous Materials
2	1	Miscellaneous Materials
	2	Newspaper Articles and Clippings
		Oral History
		Cassette Tapes
	3	Esther Hoffman Beller (Class of 1911), October 20, 1984 Shirley Unger (Class of 1934), October 20, 1984 Esther Hoffman (Class of 1911), December 3, 1987 Edna Lewinson, February 16, 1988
		Transcripts
	4	Esther Hoffman Beller, December 3, 1987 Viola Herman Selling, December 9, 1987 Edna Lewinson, February 16, 1988

SERIES II – HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Subseries 2.2 – Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
		Photographs
2	5	Hunter College High School Reunion May 16, 1982
	6	1983
	7	Esther Hoffman, Edna Lewinson, Viola Selling, Mildred Speiser
	8	Unidentified Alums
		Publications
		<i>Alumnotes</i>
	9	Fall 1979 - Fall 1984
	10	Spring 1985 - Spring 1996
		Correspondence
	11	April 1986 - September 1988
	12	October 1988 - November 1990
	13	Logos and Drafts
3	1	Miscellaneous Materials
	2	Poetry Submissions, 1988, 1990 - 1992
	3	Reminiscences, 1987 - 1991
	4	<i>An AlumNotes Extra</i> , 1987 - 1988
		<i>AlumnNotes Reunion Extra</i> , 1990 - 1994
	5	<i>Argus</i> , 1989
	6	<i>Blue Muse: The Poetry of Doris I. Warren</i> , 1987
	7	<i>Hunter Hi-Lites</i> , n.d.
		<i>That's What's Special</i>
	8	Summer, 1990
	9	Minutes and Revisions, 1990
	10	Summer, 1991
	11	Correspondence and Revisions, 1991
	12	Edited Copy, 1991
	13	Pictures of Paintings by Claudia Markovich, ca. 1992
4	1	Correspondence, March 1990, February 1991

SERIES II – HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Subseries 2.2 – Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
		Publications
4	2	<i>What's What</i> June 15, 1951, March 1980, December 1987, February 28, 1990, April 27, 1992, May 15, 1992
	3	Questionnaire Class of 1948, 1953, 1954, 1958, 1966, 1970, 1971
		Reunions
	4	Class of 1950
	5	Class of 1951
	6	Class of 1952
	7	Class of 1965
	8	Class of 1984
	9	Roster of Students, 1930 - 1940
		Student Papers
	10	"The History of Sara Maria Jones," by Marian A. Goldhamer, 1952
	11	"The First Reunion: Best of All?" by Ted Louie, 1983

SERIES III – HUNTER COLLEGE

4	12	Undergraduate Years of Marjorie Pearle Awards and Membership Dean's List, Fall 1954, Spring 1955 Report Cards, June 1954, June 1955 Research Papers
	13	"Ashanti: The People, Their Nation, Religion, Art and Folklore." n.d. "Outline: Beginnings of Lexicography." n.d. "The Blessing." April 30, 1953 "Europe 1954." September 1954 "Madam Butterfly: Story, Play and Opera." n.d.
	14	Commencement Program, June 16, 1955 Hunter College Diploma, June 16, 1955

SERIES III – HUNTER COLLEGE

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
4	15	Hunter College, 1934 - 1984
		Publications
	16	<i>The Alumni Spectator</i> , March 1989, Winter 1990
	17	<i>At Hunter</i> October 1986 - March 1988
	18	<i>Chapter News: Special Libraries Association</i> , September 1985
	19	<i>Hunter Hall of Fame</i> , 1987 - 1992
5	1	<i>Hunter College Birthday Luncheon</i> , April 27, 1985
	2	<i>The Hunter Magazine</i> , 1987 - 1988
	3	<i>NewsHunter</i> , October 1973
	4	<i>The Renaissance</i> , Winter 1984
	5	<i>Report from the President</i> , 1980 - 1985
	6	<i>Wordbath '92</i> , ca. 1992
		Report
	7	“Early Identification of the Gifted and Talented: A Community Forum,” October 31, 1987

Subseries 3.1 Alumni Association of Hunter College

5	8	Birthday Celebration Seating List, April 27, 1991, May 2, 1992
	9	Constitution and By-Laws, February 1988
	10	Correspondence, November 1984 - November 1989
	11	Financial Reports, 1982 - 1987
	12	Hunter College Birthday Celebration Programs, 1985, 1988, 1990, 1991
	13	Inauguration of Dr. Paul LeClerc, November 20, 1988
	14	Memoranda, 1986, 1990
	15	Minutes, May 1987 - February 1988
		Reunions
	16	Class of 1955
	17	Class of 1955 Milestone Reunion Questionnaire
	18	Roster
	19	Class of 1959 (Silver Anniversary) April 28, 1984

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Colle, Vivienne, and Marjorie P. K. Weiser. *Vivienne Colle's Make-It-Yourself Boutique*. New York: M. Evans; distributed in association with Lippincott, Philadelphia, 1967.
- Katz, Herbert M.; Weiser, Marjorie P. and Peter Burchard. *Museum Adventures; an Introduction to Discovery*. New York: Coward-McCann, 1969.
- Schenk, Brian and Marjorie P.K. Weiser. *Snapshots: a Collection of Readings for Adults*. New York: Cambridge, 1984.
- Weiser, Marjorie P. and Herbert M. Katz. *Museums, U.S.A.: A History and Guide*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1965.
- Weiser, Majorie P.K. *Ethnic America*. New York: H.W. Wilson, 1978.
- . *Fingerprint Owls and Other Fantasies*. New York: M. Evans, distributed in association with Lippincott, Philadelphia, 1972.
- . *Grace Kelly*. New York: Coward-McCann, 1970.
- . *Instant-effect Decorating: Hundreds of Easy, Inexpensive Ways to Make Your Home Exciting and Livable*. New York: M. Evans; distributed in association with Lippincott, Philadelphia, 1972.
- . *Shaped by Hands: Indian Art of North America*. New York: Macmillan, 1975.
- Weiser, Majorie P.K. and Jean S. Arbeiter. *Pegs to Hang Ideas On; A Book of Quotations*. New York: M. Evans, 1973.
- . *Womanlist: A Book of Lists By, About, of Interest To, and Celebrating Women*. New York: Atheneum, 1981.
- Weiser, Marjorie P.K., Arbeiter, Jean S. and Taoko Hori. *Uman Risuto*. Japan, 1983.
- Weiser, Marjorie P.K. and Regina Avraham. *Consumer Education: Student Videotext*. New York: Cambridge, 1985.
- . *Rights and Citizenship: Student Videotext*. New York: Cambridge, 1985.
- Weiser, Marjorie P.K.; Jackson, Robert, and Carolyn Moy. *Boxes, Strings, and Things: Gifts You Can Make*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1975.
- Weiser, Marjorie P.K. and Edgar Allan Poe. *Tales of Mystery and Terror*. New York, N.Y.: Playmore Publishers under arrangement with I. Waldman & Sons, 1979.