

Ralph Ellison Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

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Latest revision: 2011 August

Collection Summary

Title: Ralph Ellison Papers

Span Dates: 1890-2005

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1930-1994)

ID No.: MSS83111

Creator: Ellison, Ralph

Extent: 74,800 items; 314 containers plus 25 overisize; 143 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: African-American author and educator. General correspondence, organizational correspondence and reports, family papers, drafts, notes, and production files for novels, essays, poetry, short stories, reviews, and other writings, speeches, lectures, and interviews, reference file, and miscellany documenting Ellison's career and development as a writer. Among the many works represented are *Going to the Territory* (1985), *Invisible Man* (1952), *Shadow and Act* (1964), and the second novel Ellison left unpublished at his death.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Bearden, Romare, 1911-1988--Correspondence.

Bellow, Saul--Correspondence.

Brooks, Harry, 1895-1970--Correspondence.

Calicutt, Harold--Correspondence.

Cheever, John--Correspondence.

Ciardi, John, 1916-1986--Correspondence.

Clark, Kenneth Bancroft, 1914-2005--Correspondence.

Davis, Henry B. O., 1911- --Correspondence.

Dawson, William Levi, 1899-1990--Correspondence.

Ellison family.

Ellison, Fanny McConnell. Fanny McConnell Ellison papers.

Ellison, Ralph.

Ellison, Ralph. *Going to the territory*. 1985.

Ellison, Ralph. *Invisible man*. 1952.

Ellison, Ralph. *Shadow and act*. 1964.

Engle, Paul, 1908-1991--Correspondence.

Fabre, Michel--Correspondence.

Harper, Michael S., 1938- --Correspondence.

Hersey, John, 1914-1993--Correspondence.

Hughes, Langston, 1902-1967--Correspondence.

Hyman, Phoebe--Correspondence.

Hyman, Stanley Edgar, 1919-1970--Correspondence.

Jackson, Shirley, 1916-1965--Correspondence.

Johnson, James Weldon, 1871-1938--Correspondence.

McConnell family.

McPherson, James Alan, 1943- --Correspondence.

Murray, Albert--Correspondence.

Newhall, Joseph F.--Correspondence.

Olmanson, Myron Donald--Correspondence.

Scott, Nathan A.--Correspondence.

Seagrave, Gordon Stifler, 1897-1965--Correspondence.
Warren, Robert Penn, 1905-1989--Correspondence.
Wright, Richard, 1908-1960--Correspondence.

Organizations

American Medical Center for Burma.
Bennington College.
Carnegie Commission on Educational Television.
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.
Federal Writers' Project.
Museum of the City of New York.
Negro People's Theatre (Chicago, Ill.)
New School for Social Research (New York, N.Y.)
Wake Forest University.

Subjects

African American authors.
African Americans--Illinois--Chicago.
American literature--African American authors.
American literature.
Art.
Civil rights.
Literature.
Music.
Political science.
Sports.

Occupations

Authors.
Educators.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Ralph Ellison, author and educator, were acquired by the Library of Congress from his widow, Fanny McConnell Ellison and her trustees, through a deposit, gift, and purchase, 1995-2009.

Processing History

Part I of the papers of Ralph Ellison was arranged and described in 1997. The finding aid was revised in 2006. Additional material received between 2006 and 2009 was processed as Part II in 2010.

Additional Guides

A description of Part I of the Ralph Ellison Papers appears in *Library of Congress Acquisitions: Manuscript Division, 1994-1995*, 56-60.

Transfers

Items have been transferred from the Manuscript Division to other custodial divisions of the Library. Books and some artifacts have been transferred to the Rare Book and Special Collections Division. Audio and video recordings have been transferred to the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division. Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs

Division. A flute and sheet music have been transferred to the Music Division. All transfers are identified in these divisions as part of the Ralph Ellison Papers.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Ralph Ellison in these papers and in other collections in the custody of the Library of Congress is reserved. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division for further information.

Access and Restrictions

Restrictions apply governing the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division for information concerning these restrictions. In addition, many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Roman numeral designating the Part followed by a colon and container number, Ralph Ellison Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Ralph Ellison

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1914, Mar. 1	Born, Oklahoma City, Okla.
1933-1936	Attended Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala.
1938-1942	Researcher, Federal Writers' Project, Works Progress Administration Married Rose Poindexter (divorced 1945)
1939	Published short story "Slick Gonna Learn" in <i>Direction</i>
1940	Published short story "The Birthmark" in <i>New Masses</i> Published short story "Afternoon" in <i>American Writing</i> , ed. Hans Otto Storm and others. Prairie City, Ill.: J. A. Decker
1941	Published short story "Mister Toussan" in <i>New Masses</i>
1942	Managing editor, <i>Negro Quarterly</i>
1943-1945	Seaman, merchant marine
1944	Published short story "Flying Home" in <i>Cross Section</i> , ed. Edwin Seaver. New York: L. B. Fischer Published short story "King of the Bingo Game" in <i>Tomorrow</i>
1945	Received Rosenwald Fellowship
1946	Married Fanny McConnell Buford
1948	Published short story "Battle Royal" in '48, <i>The Magazine of the Year</i>

- 1952 Published *Invisible Man*. New York: Random House
- 1953 Received National Book Award for *Invisible Man*
- 1955-1957 Received American Academy of Arts and Letters Fellowship for study in Rome
- 1958-1961 Instructor, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y.
- 1960 Published short story "And Hickman Arrives" in *The Noble Savage*
- 1961 Alexander White Visiting Professor, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
- 1962-1964 Visiting Professor of Writing, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J.
- 1964 Published *Shadow and Act*. New York: Random House
- 1964-1965 Visiting Fellow in American Studies, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
- 1966-1972 Honorary consultant in American Letters, Library of Congress
- 1967-1977 Trustee, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.
- 1968-1979 Board of Directors, Educational Broadcasting Corp.
- 1969 Decorated chevalier l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, France
Awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom
- 1969-1982 Trustee, New School for Social Research, New York, N.Y.
- 1970-1975 Trustee, Bennington College, Bennington, Vt.
- 1970-1979 Albert Schweitzer Professor of Humanities, New York University, New York, N.Y.
- 1970-1985 Board of Directors, Museum of the City of New York, New York, N.Y.
- 1971-1984 Trustee, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
- 1972-1985 Board of Visitors, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C.
- 1975 Opening of Ralph Ellison Branch, Metropolitan Library System, Oklahoma City, Okla.
- 1985 Awarded National Medal of Arts
- 1986 Published *Going to the Territory*. New York: Random House
- 1994, Apr. 16 Died, New York, N.Y.
- 1999 Posthumous publication, *Juneteenth*. New York: Random House

Fanny McConnell Ellison

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
[1911 ?], Nov. 27	Born, Louisville, Ky.
1932-1933	Attended Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.
1936	B.A., University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa Married Rodney G. Higgins (divorced 1937)
1938	Founded Negro People's Theatre, Chicago, Ill.
1939	Married Ligon Buford (divorced 1945)
1939-1941	Assistant to John Sengstacke and columnist, <i>Chicago Defender</i>
1942	Typist, Navy Yard, Washington D.C. Researcher, War Production Board, Washington, D.C.
1943-1945	Research assistant, National Urban League, New York, N.Y.
1945-1946	Director of publicity, New York City Housing Authority
1946	Married Ralph Ellison
1946-1953	Secretary to executive director, International Rescue Committee
1953-1966	Accounts manager, Harold L. Oram Associates, with a two-year absence from 1955-1957
1955-1957	Translator, Lampada della Fraternità (World Organization of the Lamp of Brotherhood), Rome, Italy
1963	Traveled to Namkham Hospital, Namkham, Burma, for Harold L. Oram, Inc.
2005, Nov. 19	Died, New York, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Ralph Ellison (1914-1994) span the years 1890-2005, with the bulk of the material dating from 1930-1994. The collection documenting Ellison's career as author and educator is organized into two parts. Part I is arranged in nine series: [Family Papers](#); [General Correspondence](#); [Organizations File](#); [Writings File](#); [Speeches, Lectures, and Interviews](#); [Reference File](#); [Miscellany](#); [Closed](#); and [Oversize](#). Part II is arranged in eight series: [Family Papers](#); [General Correspondence](#); [Organizations File](#); [Writings File](#); [Reference File](#); [Miscellany](#); [Addition](#); and [Oversize](#). The papers are in English.

Part I

Part I of the Ellison Papers spans the years 1890-1996, with most of the papers concentrated between 1933 and 1990.

The [Family Papers](#) contain personal material pertaining to Ellison, his wife Fanny McConnell Ellison, and their parents, siblings, former spouses, and other relatives. A substantial file relating to Ellison's employment includes material from his many teaching appointments. Of particular interest are the notes and reports he compiled for the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Fanny's employment papers document her work for the American Medical Center for Burma through the Harold L. Oram, Inc., fund-raising agency and her contribution as one of the founders of the Negro People's Theatre in Chicago. Also noteworthy are her drawings pertaining to the history of costume executed as a WPA project for the Chicago Board of Education. Household papers contain material on the Ellisons' property in New York, Key West, Florida, and Plainfield, Massachusetts. The latter includes insurance records of the fire which destroyed the first drafts of Ellison's unpublished Hickman novel. Other material in the family papers consists of biographical information, financial, legal, and medical records, school and military records, newspaper and magazine articles about Ellison, travel documents, notes, and printed matter.

The [General Correspondence](#) series contains Ralph and Fanny Ellison's incoming and outgoing letters to friends and business associates. Correspondents include institutions and businesses as well as individuals. Chief among them are Saul Bellow, John Cheever, John Ciardi, Kenneth Bancroft Clark, William Dawson, Paul Engle, Langston Hughes, Stanley Edgar Hyman, Shirley Jackson, Albert Murray, Robert Penn Warren, and Richard Wright. Several of Ellison's letters to friends and acquaintances such as Harry Brooks, Harold Calicutt, and Henry B. O. Davis contain reminiscences of his childhood, college years, and early adulthood.

The [Organizations File](#) concerns a wide range of cultural, educational, and charitable institutions in which Ellison participated as an officer, advisor, or trustee. For example, he served on the governing boards of Bennington College, the Carnegie Commission on Educational Television, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the Museum of the City of New York, the New School for Social Research, and Wake Forest University. Material in the file consists primarily of correspondence and reports.

The [Writings File](#) contains drafts, notes, and production material for Ellison's literary works. The material in an essays and essay collections file, arranged alphabetically by title, appeared as journal articles or chapters published in compilations by others. Material pertaining to Ellison's own collections, *Shadow and Act* and *Going to the Territory*, is also included in this section. Many of his essays were reworked and republished several times. Ellison also wrote poetry, reviews of books, films, and recordings, short stories, and forewords, introductions, and endorsements for literary works of others. There is evidence that Ellison wrote book reviews in the 1940s under the pseudonym David Wilson. An incomplete draft of his memoirs also contains notes and outlines. Dates in parentheses in the container list refer to the publication date; other dates refer to the creation and span of the material in the folder.

Material relating to Ellison's novels makes up the bulk of the [Writings File](#). In order to show Ellison's approach to writing, his system of filing drafts alphabetically by title of episode rather than final story sequence has been maintained. Quotation marks are used to indicate episode titles devised by Ellison. A section relating to *Invisible Man* includes production material, publicity items, reviews, opera and film proposals, correspondence with publishers regarding various editions, foreign rights and translations, and the comments and criticism of others. A miscellany section in the Writings File contains bibliographies and literary criticisms of Ellison's works, plot ideas, notes, royalty statements, and information regarding copyrights, permissions, and reprints.

The [Speeches, Lectures, and Interviews](#) series demonstrates Ellison's popularity as a speaker at special events, club meetings, and university seminars. His customary subjects were literary, but also included music and art. During his fellowship at the American Academy in Rome, Ellison lectured at several European seminars. Ellison also held numerous teaching positions ranging from one semester as a visiting professor to appointments lasting for several years. Courses included the contemporary American novel and Russian literature. He was frequently interviewed for radio

programs, magazines, and newspapers. Among his interviewers were Michael S. Harper, Irving Howe, and Robert Penn Warren. The three sections of this series, containing texts, correspondence, notes, and printed matter, are arranged chronologically.

The [Reference File](#) includes newspaper and magazine articles and other printed matter on subjects ranging from music, art, and literature to sports, politics, and civil rights. A large biographical section includes material on individuals whom Ellison either knew or considered interesting.

The [Miscellany](#) series contains address books, appointment calendars, invitations, programs, and ephemera. Also included are papers relating to the awards, citations, and honorary degrees awarded to Ellison. The [Closed](#) series consists primarily of correspondence, writings, and drawings which are too fragile for handling. Photocopies of each item have been placed where the original would have appeared in the collection. Material too large for the document boxes has been moved to the [Oversize](#) series.

Part II

Part II of the Ellison Papers spans the years 1896-2005, with most of the papers concentrated between 1930 and 1995.

The [Family Papers](#) contain biographical information, correspondence between family members, employment, financial, household, legal, medical and school records, newspaper clippings, and notes. Among the household papers for Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is a 1933 receipt for the cornet Ellison bought with hopes of launching a music career. There is also a file on the funeral and many tributes paid to Ellison upon his death in 1994.

A substantial section of the [Family Papers](#) pertains to Fanny McConnell before her marriage to Ellison. Correspondence between her mother, grandmother, and stepfather document employment and living conditions for African Americans in Chicago from the 1930s through the 1960s, including detailed descriptions of the family's move to a housing project in 1959. McConnell's social, educational, and professional life is revealed through correspondence with her friends, colleagues, and mentors. The latter group includes James Weldon Johnson. McConnell's employment records document her involvement with the Namkham Hospital in northern Burma as part of her work at the Harold L. Oram, Inc., fund-raising agency. Correspondence with Gordon Stifler Seagrave, the "Burma Surgeon," and Tun Shein, head and administrator of the hospital respectively, describes daily activities and the nationalization of the hospital in 1965.

The [General Correspondence](#) series contains Ralph and Fanny Ellison's incoming and outgoing letters to friends and business associates. Chief correspondents include Romare Bearden, Michel Fabre, Michael S. Harper, John Hersey, Langston Hughes, Phoebe Hyman (second wife of Stanley Edgar Hyman), James Alan McPherson, Joseph F. Newhall, Myron Donald Olmanson, and Nathan A. Scott.

The [Organizations File](#) documents Ellison's involvement in cultural, educational, and charitable institutions as an officer, advisor, or trustee. Most of the material consists of correspondence and reports.

The [Writings File](#) contains drafts, notes, and production material for Ellison's literary works, speaking engagements, and interviews. The material in an essays and essay collections file, arranged alphabetically by title, appeared as journal articles or chapters published in compilations by others. Material pertaining to Ellison's own collected writings, *Shadow and Act* and *Going to the Territory*, is also included in this section. Other files concern *Invisible Man* and *Juneteenth*, edited by John F. Callanan; drafts of the Hickman novel; and shorter works such as poetry, short stories, book reviews, and forewords and introductions to the writings of others. Typescripts of Ellison's memoirs are accompanied by notes and outlines. Speeches, lectures, and interviews in the series are arranged chronologically.

The [Reference File](#) includes newspaper and magazine articles and other printed matter on subjects ranging from music, art, and literature to sports, politics, and civil rights. A large biographical section includes material on individuals whom Ellison either knew or considered interesting.

The [Miscellany](#) series contains address books, appointment calendars, invitations, programs, and ephemera. Also included are papers relating to the awards, citations, and honorary degrees awarded to Ellison. An [addition](#) contains Ellison's notes for a 1964 lecture. Material too large for the document boxes has been moved to the [Oversize](#) series.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is arranged two parts and therein seventeen series:

Part I:

- [Family Papers, 1890-1996](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1930-1996](#)
- [Organizations File, 1939-1994](#)
- [Writings File, 1935-1995](#)
- [Speeches, Lectures, and Interviews, 1945-1993](#)
- [Reference File, 1901-1995](#)
- [Miscellany, 1904-1994](#)
- [Closed, 1932-1994](#)
- [Oversize, 1923-1993](#)

Part II:

- [Family Papers, 1896-2005](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1935-2004](#)
- [Organizations File, 1946-2000](#)
- [Writings File, 1935-2001](#)
- [Reference File, 1933-2004](#)
- [Miscellany, 1934-2002](#)
- [Addition, 1964](#)
- [Oversize, 1896-2002](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX I:1-34	<p><u>Part I: Family Papers, 1890-1996</u></p> <p>Correspondence between family members, vital records, school papers, military records, household, financial, and legal papers, employment records, diaries, notes, newspaper articles, and printed ephemera relating to Ralph and Fanny Ellison and other family members.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by name of family member and alphabetically by type of material therein. Correspondence between Ralph Ellison and other family members has been placed under his name.</p>
BOX I:35-79	<p><u>Part I: General Correspondence, 1930-1996</u></p> <p>Incoming and outgoing correspondence of Ralph and Fanny Ellison with friends, colleagues, and business associates.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein</p>
BOX I:80-94	<p><u>Part I: Organizations File, 1939-1994</u></p> <p>Correspondence, reports, and printed matter relating to Ellison's participation in professional and social organizations as an officer, trustee, or advisor.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by name of organization and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX I:95-169	<p><u>Part I: Writings File, 1935-1995</u></p> <p>Drafts of essays, novels, reviews, short stories, and other material written by Ellison. Correspondence and material relating to the production, publicity, and reception of his works are included. Dates in parentheses in the container list refer to the publication date; other dates refer to the period covered by the material in the folder.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by type of work and by title therein.</p>
BOX I:170-178	<p><u>Part I: Speeches, Lectures, and Interviews, 1945-1993</u></p> <p>Texts of speeches, lectures, and interviews along with related correspondence, notes, and printed matter.</p> <p>Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX I:179-211	<p><u>Part I: Reference File, 1901-1995</u></p> <p>Printed matter, primarily newspaper and magazine clippings, on topics of interest to Ellison, such as jazz, blues, photography, art, and prominent individuals.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by subject.</p>
BOX I:211-219	<p><u>Part I: Miscellany, 1904-1994</u></p> <p>Appointment books and calendars, awards and citations, honorary degrees, invitations to social, cultural, and charitable events, mailing addresses, notes, printed ephemera, and memorabilia.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.</p>

- BOX I:220-231 Part I: Closed, 1932-1994
Fragile material consisting mostly of correspondence, drawings, and writings, which has been removed and replaced with photocopies. Organized and described according to the series and folders from which the items were removed.
- BOX I:OV 1-OV 22 Part I: Oversize, 1923-1993
Oversize material consisting mostly of drawings, financial and legal records, writings, and printed material. Organized and described according to the series, folders, and boxes from which the items were removed.
- BOX II:1-25 Part II: Family Papers, 1896-2005
Correspondence between family members, household papers, financial, legal, employment, and school records, notes, newspaper articles, and printed matter relating to Ralph and Fanny Ellison and other family members.
Arranged alphabetically by name of family member and alphabetically by type of material therein.
- BOX II:26-34 Part II: General Correspondence, 1935-2004
Incoming and outgoing correspondence of Ralph and Fanny Ellison with friends, colleagues, and business associates.
Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.
- BOX II:35-42 Part II: Organizations File, 1946-2000
Correspondence, reports, and printed matter relating to Ellison's participation in professional and social organizations as an officer, trustee, or advisor.
Arranged alphabetically by name of organization and chronologically therein.
- BOX II:43-72 Part II: Writings File, 1935-2001
Drafts and typescripts of essays, novels, reviews, short stories, speeches, lectures, interviews, and other material written by Ellison.
Correspondence relating to the production, publicity, and reception of his works is included.
Arranged alphabetically by type of work and by title therein, except for speeches, lectures, and interviews, which are arranged chronologically.
- BOX II:72-74 Part II: Reference File, 1933-2004
Printed matter, primarily newspaper and magazine clippings, on topics of interest to Ellison, such as jazz, blues, photography, art, and prominent individuals.
Arranged alphabetically by subject or name of person or organization.
- BOX II:74-82 Part II: Miscellany, 1934-2002
Appointment books and calendars, awards and citations, honorary degrees, invitations to social, cultural, and charitable events, mailing addresses, notes, printed ephemera, and memorabilia.

Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.

BOX II:83

Part II: Addition, 1964

Lecture notes, 1964

BOX II:OV 1-OV 3

Part II: Oversize, 1896-2002

Oversize material consisting mostly of awards, citations, honorary degrees, legal records, and printed matter.

Organized and described according to the series, folders, and boxes from which the items were removed

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX I:1-34	Part I: Family Papers, 1890-1996 Correspondence between family members, vital records, school papers, military records, household, financial, and legal papers, employment records, diaries, notes, newspaper articles, and printed ephemera relating to Ralph and Fanny Ellison and other family members. Arranged alphabetically by name of family member and alphabetically by type of material therein. Correspondence between Ralph Ellison and other family members has been placed under his name.
BOX I:1	Bell, Ida Ellison Correspondence, 1912, 1921-1937 Miscellany, 1918-1938 Buford, Ligon Citizens' Committee for Reemployment, 1938 Miscellany, 1938-1945 Ellison, Alfred, undated Ellison, Fanny McConnell Correspondence Buford, James A., 1943-1944 Buford, Ligon, 1934-1945, 1963, 1980 (3 folders) General, 1930-1996 (4 folders)
BOX I:2	Warren, Billy ("Willie") and George, 1932-1967 (3 folders) Warren, John, Rosanna, and Sue, 1968-1971, 1989-1992 Waugh, Eliza ("Ella"), 1952-1963 Waugh, Robert Harold and Mary, 1955-1957, 1967-1978 Employment <i>Chicago Defender</i> , 1939-1941 (2 folders) Chicago, Ill., Board of Education, Visual Education Project "Ancient Roman and Byzantine Costume," undated <i>See also Oversize</i> (3 folders)
BOX I:3	Correspondence, 1938-1939 "Costume of the Eighteenth Century," undated <i>See also Oversize</i> (5 folders) Costume of the Middle Ages and seventeenth century, undated <i>See also Oversize</i> (5 folders)
BOX I:4	(12 folders)

Part I: Family Papers, 1890-1996

Container

Contents

BOX I:5	Costume of the Middle Ages and seventeenth century, undated <u><i>See also Oversize</i></u> (1 folder) "Egyptian Costume," undated <u><i>See also Oversize</i></u> (7 folders) "Greek Costume," undated (4 folders)
BOX I:6	(1 folder) Miscellany, 1938-1939 Persian and Chinese costume, undated Harold L. Oram, Inc. (fund-raising agency), 1950-1970, 1980-1981 (3 folders) Miscellany, 1933-1955, 1967 National Urban League, 1943-1946 <u><i>See also Oversize</i></u> Negro People's Theatre, Chicago, Ill. Constitution and organization, 1939 Correspondence, 1937-1940 (4 folders)
BOX I:7	Financial papers, 1938-1939 Meetings, 1938-1939 Membership and officers, 1938-1939 Miscellany, 1936-1940 (2 folders) Proposals, 1939 New York City Housing Authority, New York, N.Y., 1945-1946 Résumés, 1929-1956 United States Navy, Bureau of Yards and Docks, 1941-1942 War Production Board, Traffic Section, 1937-1944
BOX I:8	Works Progress Administration, 1937-1941 World Organization of the Lamp of Brotherhood, 1956-1963 Young Women's Christian Association, 1937-1941 Legal records, 1937, 1944-1954, 1963-1981 (2 folders) Medical records, 1938-1984, 1995 (4 folders) Miscellany, 1929, 1937-1944, 1958-1963
BOX I:9	Notes 1942-1995 (5 folders)
BOX I:10	Undated (5 folders)
BOX I:11	(7 folders)
BOX I:12	(1 folder)
	School papers Elementary and high school, Chicago, Ill., 1921-1932 <u><i>See also Oversize</i></u> Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn Creative Literature, 1933

Part I: Family Papers, 1890-1996

Container

Contents

	General, 1931-1938
	General, 1931, 1936-1949 (3 folders)
	University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa
	Contemporary British drama, 1933-1936
	Fundamentals of speech, 1936
	General, 1934-1942
BOX I:13	Miscellaneous notes (2 folders)
	Modern drama, 1934-1935
	Stagecraft, undated
	Writings, 1930-1943 (5 folders)
	Ellison, Herbert M.
	Correspondence, 1934-1937
	Miscellany, 1928-1944
	School papers, undated
BOX I:14	Ellison, Ralph
	Biographical information, 1943-1994 (6 folders)
	Correspondence
	Bell, Ida Ellison 1933 (2 folders)
BOX I:15	1934-1937 (6 folders)
	Bell, John, 1933-1935
	Brown, Lewis Thomas and Othello Albertha, 1953-1980
	Buford, Ligon, 1980
	Ellison, Fanny McConnell 1944-1959 (4 folders)
BOX I:16	1961-1963, 1970, 1984-1990 (2 folders)
	Ellison, Herbert M., 1933-1993 (6 folders)
	Ellison, Rose Poindexter, 1939-1943
	Johnston, May Belle DeWitt, 1936-1953
BOX I:17	Miscellaneous family members, 1937-1983
	Diaries, 1934-1936
	Drawings, 1932
	Employment
	Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y., 1956-1984 (2 folders)
	Bennington College, Bennington, Vt., 1958, 1964, 1974, 1982-1983
	City University of New York, New York, N.Y., 1959, 1965-1993 (2 folders)

Part I: Family Papers, 1890-1996

Container

Contents

	General, 1937-1942
	New York University, New York, N.Y.
	1960-1971
	(2 folders)
BOX I:18	1972-1995
	(10 folders)
BOX I:19	Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., 1959-1969, 1984-1992
	(2 folders)
	Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., 1953-1954
	University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill., 1959-1962
	Works Progress Administration, Federal Writers' Project
	Assignments, 1938-1941
	Correspondence, 1938-1942, 1976-1980
	Miscellany, 1938-1942
	Reports
	Anti-Semitism, undated
	"Cultural Contributions of the American Negro," 1940
BOX I:20	"Famous Trials," 1941
	Folklore, circa 1938
	(2 folders)
	History of New York, N.Y., undated
	"Jews in American Theatre," circa 1939
	"The Negro and the War," circa 1940
	(3 folders)
	"Negro Leadership," undated
BOX I:21	"Negroes of New York"
	Outline and comments, 1940
	Chapters II, V, VI, VII, XVII, XVIII, 1940
	(6 folders)
	Notes, undated
	Radio, undated
	Religion and abolitionism, undated
	Sociological studies, 1929, 1938
	(2 folders)
	Financial records
	Income and expenses
	1936-1937, 1945-1970 <i>See also Oversize</i>
	(3 folders)
BOX I:22	1971-1992 <i>See also Oversize</i>
	(5 folders)
	Income taxes
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	Miscellaneous text, 1964-1966
	Miscellany, 1964-1967, 1995
	Reviews, 1964-1967
	Royalty statements, 1966-1974
	"Society, Morality, and the Novel," <i>The Living Novel</i> (1957), 1956-1963 (3 folders)
	"Speaking for You: Ralph Ellison's Cultural Vision" (1987), 1981-1988 <u>See also Container 171, Speeches, 1975, 21 June</u>
BOX I:107	"The Swing to Stereo," 1958
	"Tape, Disks, and Coexistence," ghostwritten by Ellison, 1955
	"Tell It Like It Is, Baby" (1965)
	Drafts, 1965-1969, 1990
	(4 folders)
	Galleys, notes, and general material, 1965-1969, 1990
	"Three Southern Novels," 1944
	"Twentieth Century Writing and the Black Mask of Humanity" (1953), 1946, 1953 <u>See also Container 172, Lectures, 1953, 3-5 Aug.</u>
BOX I:108	Unidentified fragments, undated
	(2 folders)
	"The Uses of History in Fiction," with William Styron, Robert Penn Warren, and C. Vann Woodward, 1969 <u>See also Container 170, Speeches, 1968, 6 Nov.</u>
	"The Way It Is," 1942
	"What America Would Be Like Without Blacks," 1970
	(2 folders)
	"What's Wrong with the American Novel?" 1955
	"When Does a Black Join the Middle Class? 'Not When He Has a Good Paying Job,'" 1975
	"The World and the Jug" (1963) <u>See also Container 104, "Rejoinder"</u>
	Correspondence, 1963-1964
	Drafts and draft fragments, undated
	Notes, undated
BOX I:109	Forewords, introductions, and endorsements
	Crane, Stephen, <i>The Red Badge of Courage</i> , 1959-1961, 1988
	(3 folders)
	General, 1953-1974, 1981, 1990
	Kouwenhoven, John , <i>The Beer Can by the Highway</i> , 1987-1988
	<i>Romare Bearden: Paintings and Projections</i> , The Art Gallery, State University of New York, Albany, N.Y., 1968-1969
	Valentine, Charles A., <i>Culture and Poverty</i> , 1967-1968
	Walker, Scott, ed., <i>Buying Time</i> , 1985
BOX I:110	Memoirs

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Container

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	Typescript draft, circa 1981 (3 folders)
	Draft fragments, undated
	Notes and outlines, 1938, 1968, 1981-1985
	Miscellany
	Bibliographies, 1968-1977, 1986 (2 folders)
	Copyrights, 1963-1979, 1989
	Literary criticism about Ellison 1943-1959
BOX I:111	1960-1994 (7 folders)
BOX I:112	Undated (2 folders)
	Notes, 1941-1988 <u><i>See also Container 142, Invisible Man</i></u> (4 folders)
BOX I:113	(3 folders)
	Permissions and reprints 1956-1970 (5 folders)
BOX I:114	1971-1992 (4 folders)
	Plot ideas, undated
	Royalty statements, 1956-1958, 1964-1992 <u><i>See also Oversize</i></u>
	Unidentified fragments, circa 1940, 1963 (3 folders)
BOX I:115	Novels
	Airman novel, 1942-1945
	Hickman novel
	Contract, 1965
	Drafts
	Episodes
	“As Hickman Turned the Corner,” undated (2 folders)
	“Backwacking, A Plea to the Senator,” 1976
	Bliss and Hickman at the Circus, undated
	Bliss and Hickman at the movies, undated <u><i>See also Container 116, Bliss, Body, and Meatwhistle</i></u>
	Bliss and Severin's mother, undated
	Bliss and Sister Georgia, undated
BOX I:116	Bliss and the coffin, undated
	Bliss, Body, and Meatwhistle, 1959, 1981 <u><i>See also Container 115, Bliss and Hickman at the movies</i></u>
	Bliss recalls making the movie, undated
	Bliss relates the tale of Reverend Eatmore, undated
	Bliss runs away to the movie house, undated
	Bliss's kidnaping from church, undated

- Briscoe and Silvester in the barbershop, undated
 "Cave of the Winds," undated
 "Charlee," undated
 Cliofus and Miss Janey, undated
 Cliofus describes "whooping," undated
 (1 folder)
- BOX I:117 (1 folder)
 "Cliofus Recalling Halloween," undated
 Cliofus relates tale of "Big Mama and the Six Little Children" and Russian novel, 1982
 (2 folders)
 Cliofus relates tale of castration and the movie scene, undated
 (3 folders)
- BOX I:118 (3 folders)
 Cliofus relates tale of Miss Kindly and the whale, undated *See also Container 130, "A Song of Innocence"*
 Cliofus relates tale of the elephant, 1983
 Cliofus talks with McIntyre, undated
 (3 folders)
- BOX I:119 Cliofus talks with Severin, undated
 (2 folders)
 "Epigram for Novel," undated
 Hickman and his congregation at the Lincoln Memorial, undated
 Hickman and McIntyre: "How dare you force yourself into my secrets..." undated
 Hickman and Milsap, undated
 (2 folders)
 Hickman and Miss Janey, undated
 Hickman and the birth of Bliss
 1965, 1976
- BOX I:120 1985
 Hickman and Wilhite at Mister Jessie's
 Complete sequences, 1968
 (6 folders)
 Detective tells of scam, undated
- BOX I:121 Junk room, circa 1985
 (3 folders)
 Lonnie Barnes's speech, 1972
 Maud, the cross-eyed lady, undated
 McMillen speaks to Hickman and Wilhite, 1976, 1990
 Miscellaneous scenes, undated
 Police interrogate Hickman and Wilhite, undated
- BOX I:122 Hickman and Wilhite leave the Lincoln Memorial, undated
 Hickman and Wilhite search for the senator's mistress, undated
 Hickman arrives in Oklahoma, circa 1987
 (2 folders)
 Hickman at Mr. Jessie's, undated
 (3 folders)

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	Hickman dreams about a funeral, undated
	Hickman encounters Leroy, undated (2 folders)
BOX I:123	(2 folders) "Hickman in Paris," 1989 "Hickman Reaches Decision to See Janey," undated "Hickman Reminiscing," undated <u><i>See also Container 124, "Ish Is Not a Fish"</i></u> (3 folders)
BOX I:124	Hickman studies the tapestry, undated Hickman with Bliss at the hospital, undated <u><i>See also Container 164, "Night Talk"</i></u> (3 folders) Hickman witnesses the shooting, undated "Ish Is Not a Fish" and "Reconciliation," undated <u><i>See also Container 123, "Hickman Reminiscing"</i></u> It Always Breaks Out," undated "Juneteenth," 1965
BOX I:125	Lee Willie and the car burning, undated <u><i>See also Container 162, "Cadillac Flambé"</i></u> "Love. Two," 1987-1988 (3 folders) McIntyre and Laura, undated McIntyre at Mister Jessie's, undated (3 folders)
BOX I:126	McIntyre in Salzburg, undated McIntyre witnesses the shooting, undated McIntyre's cousin, Gertrude, Buster, and the mother-in-law, undated "McIntyre's Dream" Hitching post boy, undated Mother Strothers, 1971 (4 folders)
BOX I:127	Sam, undated (2 folders) McIntyre's letter from Vannec, undated "Milsap's Report," undated Miss Janey tells Hickman about the "smoking" incident, undated Miss Janey's letter to Hickman, undated Mother Strothers, undated
BOX I:128	Mr. Love New, undated Mr. Love New and Hickman, 1987-1988 (3 folders) Mr. Love New and McIntyre, undated Mr. Love New and Severin, undated (2 folders)
BOX I:129	"Prologue," undated <u><i>See also Container 162, "And Hickman Arrives"</i></u> (5 folders)

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	"The Roof, the Steeple, and the People," undated
	Senator and the Canadian River hunting party, undated
	Senator's delirium
	(1 folder)
BOX I:130	(2 folders)
	"The Senator's Practical Joke," undated
	"The Senator's Secretary," undated
	Severin and Clifus as youths, undated
	Severin and Miss Janey, undated
	Severin and the shooting of the senator, undated
	Severin in Europe, undated
	"Severin Remembers," undated
	"A Song of Innocence," 1978 <u><i>See also Container 118, Clifus relates tale of Miss Kindly and the whale</i></u>
	(2 folders)
BOX I:131	Sunraider and the old gentleman, undated
	Sunraider and the telephones, undated
	"Sunraider Remembering," 1983
	"Sunraider Visits a Hospital...," undated
	Sunraider's speech on the Senate floor, undated
	"They Beat You, Bliss," undated
	"Through the Lilt and Tear," 1971, 1978
	(3 folders)
	"Uncle Bud with the Portable Radio," 1987
	Unidentified pages, undated
	(2 folders)
BOX I:132	Original typescript
	Book I, Apr. 1972
	(3 folders)
	Book II, 1972
	(3 folders)
BOX I:133	Revised typescript
	Book I, July 1972
	(2 folders)
	Book II, July 1972
	(3 folders)
	Sequential fragments, 1990-1991
	(1 folder)
BOX I:134	(6 folders)
BOX I:135	(6 folders)
BOX I:136	(6 folders)
BOX I:137	(6 folder)
BOX I:138	(1 folder)
	Notes and notebooks, 1956-1989
	(5 folders)
BOX I:139	(6 folders)
BOX I:140	(7 folders)
BOX I:141	(6 folders)

BOX I:142

Novels

Invisible Man [See also Container 113, Miscellaneous notes](#)

Drafts

Episodes

“At Mary's” undated

(2 folders)

“Bar Scene, Downtown,” undated

“Bar Scene, El Toro,” undated

“Battle Royal,” undated

“Blind Man,” undated

“Blues,” also titled, “Something About Blues,” undated

“Brockaway (Paint Factory),” undated

“Brotherhood,” undated

(1 folder)

BOX I:143

(5 folders)

“Brotherhood, Arena Speech,” undated

“Brotherhood, Bear in Window,” undated

“Brotherhood, Chtonian,” undated

“Brotherhood, Clifton,” undated [See also Container 210, Times Square](#)

“Brotherhood, Fired Tenement,” undated

“Brotherhood, Louise,” undated

BOX I:144

“Campus,” undated

(2 folders)

“Chapel,” first draft and notes, undated

“Cleo and Mt. Morris Park,” undated

“Emerson,” undated

“Eviction,” undated

“Factory Hospital,” undated

“Fat Man on a Bridge,” undated

“Golden Day-True Blood,” undated

“Harlem,” undated

“Hattie and Julius Franklin,” undated

“Hospital Alley Scene,” also titled, “Nigger, What Kinda Man Am I?” undated

Hospital and Escape,” 1949

“Hospital and St. Mary's” (in continuity), undated

(2 folders)

BOX I:145

“Hospital Scene”

General, undated

(3 folders)

Working copy, undated

“Jazz Music,” undated

“Leroy's Journal,” undated

“Lostness,” undated

“Manhole,” undated

“Men's House,” undated

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	Miscellaneous scenes, undated
	“Money Changers,” undated
	“New York,” first draft and notes, undated
	“New York Arrival,” undated
	“Norton in the Subway,” undated
	“Old Barbee,” undated
	“Paint Factory,” undated
BOX I:146	“Perception,” original draft titled “Eviction, Priest, Parade, Party, Bank, and Apartment,” undated (2 folders)
	“Priest Scene,” undated
	“Prologue,” undated
	“Ras,” undated
	“Red Robe,” undated
	“Revenge in Mt. Morris Park,” undated
	“Rhinehart,” undated
	“Riot,” undated
	“Sea Cook,” also titled, “One-Eyed Cook,” undated
	“Sybil,” undated
	“Uncle Charles,” undated
	“Vet,” undated
	“Wheelchair,” undated
	“White Man in Harlem,” undated
	“Woodridge,” undated
BOX I:147	Original typescript, undated (6 folders)
BOX I:148	Novels <i>Invisible Man</i> Drafts Final typescript, undated (6 folders)
BOX I:149	Corrected carbons Set I, undated (4 folders) Set II, undated (3 folders) Set III, undated (1 folder) (3 folders)
BOX I:150	Preface to the Franklin Library edition, circa 1980 Foreword to the thirtieth anniversary edition, 1982 (3 folders) Fragments and partial drafts, 1951 (1 folder)
BOX I:151	(5 folders) Notes, 1942-1950 (5 folders)

Part I: Writings File, 1935-1995

Container

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BOX I:152	(7 folders) Author's first proof, 1951 <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX I:153	Uncorrected proof, 1952 Blue lines for thirtieth anniversary edition, 1982 Film proposals, 1960-1971, 1978-1990 (2 folders) Foreign rights and translations 1952-1978
BOX I:154	1980-1989 Literary agents, 1943-1953, 1989-1990 Opera proposal, 1964-1965 Publicity, 1952-1953, 1981, 1992-1994 Published editions Franklin Library, 1976-1980 New American Library of World Literature, 1951-1971 Random House Correspondence, 1947-1988 (2 folders) Royalty statements, 1951-1980 <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX I:155	Westinghouse Learning Corp., 1970-1977 Reviews General, 1947-1955, 1964-1971, 1985 (6 folders) Scrapbook, 1952 (2 folders)
BOX I:156	Writings by others Balmer, Simone, 1968 Bourrel, Anne-Marie, 1973 Brown, Daniel Webster, II, 1977 Ducornet, Guy, 1962 Giza, Joanne, 1972-1974 Jordet, Brit Harstad, 1969 Mebane, Mary E., 1961
BOX I:157	Miscellaneous authors, 1954, 1961-1982 (6 folders)
BOX I:158	Reith, Emma A., undated Thomas, Gwendolyn A., 1974 Ulle, Carol H., 1971
BOX I:159	Slick novel Drafts Episodes Booker's reveries, undated "Mister Mac" or "Tale of a Southern Road," undated Slick and Booker above the drugstore, undated Slick and Booker hunting, undated Slick and Bostic, undated Slick and Callie at the hospital, undated

	Slick and Liles, undated
	Slick and Lilly-Mae, undated
	Slick and Snodgrass, undated
	Original typescript, sections I and II, circa 1939 (2 folders)
	Miscellaneous pages, circa 1939
	Notes, undated
	Poetry, 1935-1937, (2 folders)
	Reviews
	1937-1939
BOX I:160	1940-1946 (10 folders)
BOX I:161	1947-1980 (8 folders)
BOX I:162	Short stories
	“Afternoon,” undated
	“And Hickman arrives,” 1959-1960 <i>See also Container 129, “Prologue”</i>
	“Battle Royal,” 1947-1948, 1975
	“The Birthmark,” 1940
	“The Black Ball,” undated
	“Bullfighting,” undated
	“Butler Boy and the TV Set,” undated
	“Cadillac Flambé,” 1972-1973, 1984 <i>See also Container 125, LeeWillie and the car burning</i>
	“A Coupla Scalped Indians,” 1956
	“Did You Ever Dream Lucky?” 1953, 1975-1980
	“The Dream,” 1941 (3 folders)
BOX I:163	“Flying Home,” 1944, 1971-1974, 1992 (3 folders)
	“Gann Wilson,” undated
	“A Gari in Karachi,” undated
	“Goodnight Irene,” undated
	“A Hard Time Keeping Up,” (posthumous title), undated
	“Hymie’s Bull,” (posthumous title), undated <i>See also Oversize</i>
	“I Did Not Learn Their Names,” circa 1940
	“I’m in New York But New York Ain’t in Me,” undated
	“In a Strange Country,” also titled, “Black Yank in Britain,” 1944
BOX I:164	“The Initiation,” undated (5 folders)
	“Jake Smith,” undated
	“The King of the Bingo Game,” 1944, 1970-1974, 1980, 1988-1992
	“A Lament for Tod Clifton,” <i>This Is My Best</i> (1970), 1968-1969
	“Last Day,” undated
	“Mister Toussan,” 1941-1947, 1971
	“Myth Mood,” circa 1937

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- BOX I:165 "Night Talk," 1969 *See also Container 124, Hickman with Bliss at the hospital*
"Norman," 1983
Notes, 1978-1980, 1988-1990
"Out of the Hospital and Under the Bar," *Soon, One Morning* (1963), 1961-1968
"Rabid Dog," undated
"The Red Cross at Morriston, Swansea, S.W.," undated *See also same container, "A Storm of Blizzard Proportions"*
"Sanctuary," undated
"Slick Gonna Learn," 1939
"A Song of Innocence," 1969-1971
"A Storm of Blizzard Proportions," 1944 *See also same container, "The Red Cross at Morriston, Swansea, S.W."*
"That I Had the Wings," undated
(3 folders)
Tillman and Tackhead, undated
(3 folders)
BOX I:166 "You Can't Get Around It," undated
Untitled, undated
(3 folders)
Writings by others
Bone, Robert, 1972
Burgest, David R., 1980
Callahan, John F., 1977, 1995
Crouch, Stanley, 1986
BOX I:167 Eckels, Jon, 1972
Hyman, Stanley Edgar, 1946, 1970
Jenkins, Betty, and Susan Phillis, 1973
Long, Charles H., 1971-1976
Lucas, John, 1981-1988
McKay, W. Colin, 1993
McPherson, James Alan, undated
Miscellaneous authors
1936-1989
(2 folders)
BOX I:168 Undated
(2 folders)
Mooreland, Marc, 1969-1974
Murray, Albert, undated
Oden, Gloria C., 1976
Piel, Gerard, 1974
Rodman, Selden, 1971
Schor, Edith, 1973
(2 folders)
BOX I:169 Scott, Nathan A., 1963-1966, 1979-1989
(2 folders)

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- Stuckey, Elma, 1975
Thomas, Bettye J., 1986
Thorne, Hillery C., Jr., 1977
Ward, Theodore, undated
Webb, Constance, 1966-1967
Wright, Richard, undated
Yust, Larry, 1971
- BOX I:170-178 Part I: Speeches, Lectures, and Interviews, 1945-1993
 Texts of speeches, lectures, and interviews along with related
 correspondence, notes, and printed matter.
 Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein.
- BOX I:170 Speeches
 1953, 27 Jan., acceptance speech, National Book Award, New York, N.Y.,
 1953
 1963, 5 Sept., "What These Children Are Like," Seminar on Education for
 Culturally Different Youth, 1963-1965
 (3 folders)
 1964, 1 Apr., National Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, N.Y., 1964
 1965
 [May], presentation of Howells Medal to John Cheever, American
 Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, N.Y., undated
 Aug.-Sept., scripts for National Educational Television, "Arts USA:
 Music," 1965
 1966, 26 May, American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New
 York, N.Y., 1966
 1968, 6 Nov., "The Uses of History in Fiction," Southern Historical
 Association, New Orleans, La., 1968 [*See also Container 108, "The Uses
of History in Fiction"*](#)
 1970, 23 Feb., remarks on Duke Ellington, NAACP, New York, N.Y.,
 1969-1970
 1972, 4 June, commencement address, College of William and Mary,
 Williamsburg, Va., 1972
 (2 folders)
- BOX I:171 1974, 12 June, address to class of 1949, Associated Harvard Alumni,
 Cambridge, Mass., 1974, 1992 [*See also Container 214, Harvard
University, Cambridge, Mass.*](#)
 1975
 10 May, "The Little Man Behind the Stove," Curtis Institute of Music,
 Philadelphia, Pa., 1974-1978
 (4 folders)
 21 June, dedication speech, Ralph Ellison Branch, Metropolitan Library
 System, Oklahoma City, Okla., 1975
 1976
 28 Apr., "American Music: A Personal Glance After Two Hundred Years,"
 Society for the Libraries, New York University, New York, N.Y., 1976
 30 Apr., "Perspective of Literature," School of Law, New York
 University, New York, N.Y., 1975-1976

Part I: Speeches, Lectures, and Interviews, 1945-1993

Container

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- 1978, 17 May, introduction of newly-elected members, American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, N.Y., undated
- BOX I:172 1979, 19 Sept., Ralph Ellison Festival, Brown University, Providence, R.I., 1979-1980
(2 folders)
- 1983, 18 May, presentation of Gold Medal for Fiction to Bernard Malamud, American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, N.Y., 1966-1973, 1979-1983
(2 folders)
- 1988, Apr. 6, "Bearden," Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, New York, N.Y., 1988
- 1992, "Intellectuals and Writers Since the Thirties," *Partisan Review* conference, 1992
- 1993, Apr., American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, 1993
- Lectures
- 1945, 1 Nov., "American Negro Writing, A Problem of Identity," Bennington College, Bennington, Vt., 1945
- 1953
- 27 May, "Invisible Man," Hunter College, New York, N.Y., 1953
- 3-5 Aug., class on the contemporary novel, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., 1952-1954 [See also Container 107, "Twentieth Century Writing and the Black Mask of Humanity"](#)
- BOX I:173 1954
- Aug.-Sept., "The Role of the Novel in Creating the American Experience," Salzburg Seminar in American Studies, Salzburg, Austria, 1953-1955, 1961-1966, 1976
(4 folders)
- Sept.-Oct., Symposium on North American Studies, El Escorial, Spain, 1954
- 1969
- 26 Mar., lecture on *Invisible Man*, United States Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., 1968-1974
(3 folders)
- BOX I:174 18 Apr., "The Negro Writer: His Contributions, His Problems," Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., 1968-1969 [See also Container 105, "Remembering Richard Wright"](#)
- 1971, 18 July, "Remembering Richard Wright," University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, 1971-1972
(2 folders)
- Undated
- Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y.
- "Hidden Name and Complex Fate," Library of Congress
- "The Meaning of American Diversity," Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio
- New York University, New York, N.Y.
(2 folders)
- University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
- Interviews
- 1952, *Denver Post*, Denver, Colo., 1952

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- 1953, 8 Feb., "Faulkner, *The Bear*," radio broadcast, Irving Howe and Lyman Bryson, 1953
- BOX I:175 1955, "Ralph Ellison, The Art of Fiction," *Paris Review*, Spring 1955
(3 folders)
- 1960, 11 May, "A Talk with Ralph Ellison," Richard G. Stern, 1960-1961
- 1964, "An Interview with Ralph Ellison," Allen Geller, *Tamarack Review*, Summer, 1964
- 1965
May, *Umbra*, 1965-1966
(2 folders)
- 4-18 Nov., National Educational Television, 1965
- Pierre Dommergues, 1965-1967
- Richard Kostelanetz, 1965, 1989
- BOX I:176 *Who Speaks for the Negro?* Robert Penn Warren, 1964-1965
(2 folders)
- 1966
1 Feb., National Educational Television, 1966
- 30 Aug., United States Senate, Subcommittee on Reorganization of the Committee on Government Operations, 1966-1967
(3 folders)
- 1967
Mar., "A Very Stern Discipline," *Harper's Magazine*, 1966-1967
(4 folders)
- BOX I:177 May, *America* (Russian edition), 1967
- Radio broadcast, WGBH, Boston, Mass., Richard H. Lee, 1966-1967
- 1969, "Ralph Ellison, La Invisibilidad del Negro y el Pluralismo Cultural," Esther Tusquets, *Triunfo*, Spring 1969
- 1970, "The Scholar's Bookshelf," radio broadcast, John Graham, 1970-1973
- 1971, 30 Sept., "Ralph Ellison, 20 Years After," David L. Carson, 1971-1974
(3 folders)
- 1972
Dec., "Interview with Ralph Ellison," John O'Brien
- circa 1972, John Hersey, 1972-1973
- 1976
27 Jan., "Interview with Ralph Ellison," Ron Welburn, *Grackle*, 1976-1977
- 7 Mar., "Ralph Ellison: An Interview," Michael S. Harper and Robert B. Stepto, 1975-1977
(2 folders)
- BOX I:178 "An Interview with Ralph Ellison: Visible Man," Howard Sage, *Pulp*, Summer 1976
- Ishmael Reed, Steve Cannon, and Quincy Troupe, *Yardbird Reader*, 1976-1978
(2 folders)
- 1982
Oct., *Playboy*, 1982

Part I: Speeches, Lectures, and Interviews, 1945-1993

Container

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- No month, John Hersey, 1982
Undated, "An Interview with Ralph Ellison," N. A. Samstag and Ted Cohen
Miscellaneous notes and fragments, circa 1940, 1954-1960, 1966-1969
(4 folders)
- BOX I:179-211 Part I: Reference File, 1901-1995
Printed matter, primarily newspaper and magazine clippings, on topics of
interest to Ellison, such as jazz, blues, photography, art, and prominent
individuals.
Arranged alphabetically by subject.
- BOX I:179 A. Philip Randolph Institute, New York, N.Y., 1969-1972
Abortion, 1983, 1993
Africa, 1943-1989 *See also Oversize*
African-American leadership, 1943-1981
African-American organizations, 1972-1989
African-American studies, 1917, 1940-1994 *See also Oversize*
(2 folders)
American Indians, 1949-1993 *See also Oversize*
Animals, 1936-1982
Anti-Semitism, 1939-1992
- BOX I:180 Architecture and interior design, 1948-1987
Art
African art, 1970-1992
Catalogs, 1947, 1959-1982
(2 folders)
Institute of Negro Art, 1929
Miscellany, 1937-1991
(2 folders)
- BOX I:181 (1 folder)
Sculpture, 1951-1973
Audio equipment and technology, 1940-1958
Biographical information
Agee, James, 1949-1991
Ali, Muhammad (Cassius Clay), 1963-1969
Anderson, Marian, 1958-1993
Armstrong, Louis, 1954-1983
"A" miscellaneous, 1949-1989
Baker, Josephine, 1950-1994
Baldwin, James, 1953, 1971-1994
Baraka, Imamu Amiri (LeRoi Jones), 1964-1968, 1983-1990
- BOX I:182 Barry, Marion, 1988-1990
Bearden, Romare, 1967-1981, 1991
Bellow, Saul, 1953, 1970-1987
Berryman, John, 1972, 1982
Branam, Virgil, 1973
Brown, Lewis Thomas, 1979-1980

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- BOX I:183
Burke, Kenneth, 1959-1987
"B" miscellaneous, 1935-1990
(3 folders)
Chambers, Whittaker, and Alger Hiss, 1930, 1948-1952, 1970
Cheever, John, 1968-1982
Clark, Kenneth Bancroft, 1973-1985
Cleaver, Eldridge, 1968-1976
Cowley, Malcolm, 1939-1947, 1973, 1989
Crouch, Stanley, 1980-1991
"C" miscellaneous, 1936-1993
(3 folders)
- BOX I:184
Davis, Angela Yvonne, 1970-1971
Dawson, William L. and Cecile, 1934-1936, 1963-1993
(2 folders)
Deren, Maya, 1948
"D" miscellaneous, 1934-1991
(3 folders)
Einstein, Albert, 1955-1972
Eliot, T. S., 1949-1954, 1961-1966
- BOX I:185
Ellington, Duke, 1944-1976, 1992
(2 folders)
"E" miscellaneous, 1946-1992
Faulkner, William, 1946-1993
(3 folders)
Fiedler, Leslie A., 1951-1964
Fitzgerald, F. Scott, 1945-1970
Forrest, Leon, 1972-1988
"F" miscellaneous, 1945-1988
(2 folders)
Gandhi, Mahatma, 1946-1948
Garfield, John, 1952
Gide, André, 1944-1951
"G" miscellaneous, 1944-1993
(2 folders)
- BOX I:186
Hearst, William Randolph, 1951
- BOX I:187
Hemingway, Ernest, 1935-1978 *See also Oversize*
(5 folders)
- BOX I:188
Hersey, John, 1985-1987
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	General, 1937-1940, 1946, 1957, 1966-1999 (4 folders)
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BOX II:82	Memberships and licenses, 1986-1988, 1996
	Personal papers, placement of, 1963-1982
	Printed matter, 1934-1938, 1944, 1961, 1968-1993, 2000 (3 folders)
	Programs, 1961-1973, 1982-1987, 1994-1998
BOX II:83	Part II: Addition, 1964
	Lecture notes, 1964
BOX II:83	Lecture notes, 1964
BOX II:OV 1-OV 3	Part II: Oversize, 1896-2002
	Oversize material consisting mostly of awards, citations, honorary degrees, legal records, and printed matter.
	Organized and described according to the series, folders, and boxes from which the items were removed
BOX II:OV 1	Family Papers
	Ellison, Ralph
	Legal records
	Marriage certificate, 1946 (Container II:22)
	Waugh family
	Marriage certificate, 1896 (Container II:25)
	Organizations File
	John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C., Appointment to the Board of Trustees, 1967 (Container II:40)
	National Council on the Arts
	Appointment, 1965 (Container II:40)
BOX II:OV 2	Oklahoma Ambassador Corps, Oklahoma City, Okla.
	Appointment, 1966 (Container II:42)
	Writings File
	Novels
	Hickman novel
	Outlines, undated (Container II:66)
	Speeches and lectures
	Poster, "The Novelist and His Form," 1964 (Container II:68)

Part II: Oversize, 1896-2002

Container

Contents

University of Maryland, College Park, Md., commencement program, 1974 (Container II:68)

Poster, "The Novelist As Definition of Experience," undated (Container II:68)

Reference File

Biographical information

Johnson, Lyndon B. and Lady Bird

Statement, undated (Container II:73)

Miscellany

Awards, citation, and honorary degrees

American Academy of Rome, Rome, Italy, 1957 (Container II:79)

Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, France, 1968 (Container II:79)

Harold Washington Literary Award, 1992 (Container II:80)

Long Island University, Brooklyn, N.Y., 1971 (Container II:80)

Oklahoma Hall of Fame, 2002 (Container II:80)

Presidential Medal of Freedom, 1969 (Container II:80)

Presidential recognition, 1985 (Container II:80)

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., 1966 (Container II:80)

University of Maryland, College Park Md., honorary degree and program, 1974 (Container II:80)

BOX II:OV 3